



August 16, 2020 at 9:30am - 11th Sunday after Pentecost
youtube.com/richfieldumc



(bold = in unison)

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Trumpet Dialogue”

by F. Couperin

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship

What is the greatest commandment of all?

To love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our being, and with all our mind.

What is the second great commandment?

To love our neighbor as ourselves.

Who teaches us how to live these commands perfectly?

Jesus, our Lord. Thanks be to God!

Gathering Hymn

“Stand By Me”

Vs. 1 and 2

UMH No. 512

by Charles Albert Tindley

1. When the storms of life are raging, stand by me; (stand by me)
when the storms of life are raging, stand by me. (stand by me)
When the world is tossing me, like a ship upon the sea,
thou who rulest wind and water, stand by me. (stand by me)
2. In the midst of tribulation, stand by me; (stand by me)
in the midst of tribulation, stand by me. (stand by me)
When the host of hell assail, and my strength begins to fail,
thou who never lost a battle, stand by me. (stand by me)

Centering Prayer

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Eternal God, we thank you for the gift of your holy scriptures, whose timeless truths always bring a relevant word to our ears. Prepare our hearts and minds with a ready willingness to hear its truths, heed its calling, and enact its lessons. Hear us, Holy One of Love, in our Breakthrough Prayer...

Breakthrough Prayer

Loving God of all, renew our hearts and minds.
Reveal your wildest dreams, break through to each of us.
Unite us in your vision, equip us for your work.
Transform us by your song, create our harmony.
May we embrace your future, and be your loving church. Amen.

Please join your church in praying the Breakthrough Prayer daily at 8:35.

Time with Children

Sharing the Peace

May the peace of God be with you.
And also with you.

Please greet your neighbor with a sign of peace.

Lighting Our Conflux Candles

You are invited to safely light a candle or lamp to celebrate the moments this week where your life's journey met God's heart.

Celebration of Music

“Subito” for Violin and Piano
Catherine Carson, violin
Groth Scholarship recipient

by Witold Lutoslawski

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not

give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“What does the Bible say about hell?”
“So Many Questions!” Worship Series

Rev. Nate Melcher

Prayer of the People

LORD in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The LORD's Prayer

Our God, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Giving Our Tithes, Offerings, and Ourselves

*Your gift by mail, phone, or through the secure online portal at richfieldumc.org/give supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church.
Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

Offertory

“My Lord, What a Mornin’”
Brad Gardner, soloist

Spiritual/arr. H. Burleigh

Doxology

UMH No. 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Gratitude

Loving God, your grace provides us with secure shelter even amid our times of doubt and despair. Our lives periodically seem adrift from the refuge of your unwavering love. Lift us from the depths of selfishness and greed. Restore our hope and help us to find contentment in you so that we may offer these financial gifts as devoted disciples of Jesus Christ. In his name, we pray. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

Gracious and loving God, thank you for the precious moments in which we felt you close to us this week. Continue to break through to each of us with your Holy Spirit and reveal your amazing love to as many people as possible. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”
Vs. 1, 2, and 4

UMH No. 581
by Alfred F. Bayly

1. Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
offered mercy’s perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
every gift which you impart.
2. Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles
still to save and make us whole.
4. Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know, and live.

Benediction

...And until we meet again, let us live...
in faith, justice, and joy! Amen.

Postlude

“Trumpet Dialogue”

by L. Clérambeault



Thank you for worshipping as Richfield United Methodist Church.
We hope you had a good experience. Worship is over. Service begins.

Livestream Worship: youtube.com/richfieldumc
richfieldumc.org | [Richfield UMC on Facebook](#)
Get on the email list: richfieldumc.org/signup

Worship Team:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Paige Armstrong, Nancy Dierauer

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: TY Moore, Dale Olson

Your Guide to Online Worship as Richfield United Methodist Church		
<p>Check-In Help your church track online worship trends, thank you. richfieldumc.org/hereiam</p>	<p>Make Your Gift Your generosity helps your church reach your neighbors. richfieldumc.org/give</p>	<p>For Children Families can get fun, faithful resources for children. richfieldumc.org/children</p>
<p>Worship Bulletins View, download, or print a bulletin to fully participate. richfieldumc.org/bulletins</p>	<p>NRSV Holy Bible Read the New Revised Standard Version for free. biblegateway.com</p>	<p>United Methodist Hymnals Get music and lyrics to sing: hymnary.org/hymnal/umh hymnary.org/hymnal/tfws</p>
<p>Conflux Candles You are invited to safely light a candle or lamp during worship. richfieldumc.org/candles</p>	<p>Holy Communion This sacrament for all people is celebrated online on 1st Sundays. richfieldumc.org/worship</p>	<p>Feedback Your loving feedback about online worship is appreciated. nmelcher@richfieldumc.org</p>

Community Joys and Concerns

Celebrations:

- Congratulations Groth Scholarship recipient Catherine Carson! Catherine will be a freshman at Eastman Conservatory of Music in Rochester, New York. She will be studying violin performance and is a graduate of Shattuck St. Mary's and Northfield High School.

Today and throughout this week you are invited to pray for:

- People in need of a loving church.
- Openness to the "conflux moments" of experiencing God.
- The spiritual journey of our fellow MCCI church, Brooklyn UMC.
- Our church's teams, elected leaders, and paid and unpaid servants.
- Our church and all churches making tough decisions about our fall season of ministry.
- All who are in physical, emotional, and/or spiritual isolation.
- Public servants, care workers, and behind-the-scenes support people.
- The people of hope who care for those who have none.
- Teachers, students, families, staff, and administrators who look to authorities to help them discern how to responsibly and safely move forward for school this fall.
- All who face challenges of inequities, poverty, loneliness, racism, complex family systems, toxic politics, and all the other pressing issues that are being amplified by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The children.

Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marybeth Stull, James Wegscheid, Marylee Fithian, Inez Gustafson, Bonnie Freese, Bev Crandall, Margaret Kersteter, Elaine Peterson, Sharon Morrow, Maxene Schwanke, Dan Freese, father of Bonnie Freese, Liam B., neighbor of Michele Wegscheid, John Darling, and Rev. Sue Nilson Kibbey (our MCCI Coach)

Prayers for Comfort:

Jan Hansen, Hans Olson, father of Dale Olson, and all those in hospice and their families.

Announcements - Community Connections:

- **Today: DOC-O-RAMA**
This evening, **August 16th, 7:00 pm**
View the documentary, [Hellbound?](#)
The filmmaker **Kevin Miller** joins our discussion of his documentary about the wide variety of viewpoints about the existence of hell.
([Zoom Meeting](#) ID: 869-2018-1239 passcode: 5835)
- **Next Sunday: Summer worship Series #3, “So Many Questions, Part 2” Continues**
If you have wondered about these topics, be sure to mark your calendar and experience worship. The question next Sunday is, **Why aren’t there dinosaurs n the Bible?**
- Brené Brown Study, Saturdays, 10:30am. Contact [Gail Johnson](#).
- Women’s Bible Study, Tuesdays at 9:30am. Contact [Molly Recko](#).
- Men’s Bible Study, Wednesdays at 9:00am. Contact [Kent Johnson](#).
- Men’s Support Group, Saturdays at 8:30am. Contact [Kent Johnson](#).
- Children’s Ministry, public and sign-up content. Contact [Rev. Hope Hutchison](#).
- Youth Group, various content throughout the summer. Contact [Garrett Johnson](#).
- Pastor Care, by phone or electronically. Contact [Kay Bergeland](#).
- Friends and family who aren’t online can listen to worship live by touchtone phone. Call toll-free at 1.888.650.5835. “Press 1” to opt-in to receive an automatic call on Sundays as worship begins.
- Please keep reaching out to one another, it matters!

Announcements - Campus and Administration:

- In-person worship and gatherings in the building are suspended through 2020 and we continue on an open-ended timeline. You can read the latest statements at richfieldumc.org/statements.
- Campus is closed until further notice, thank you.
- God’s Hands is closed until further notice. No donations at this time, thank you.
- You can still reach out by phone and also to paid staff by email.
- If you have church communications needs, contact [Linda Schmidt](#).
- Your generous giving matters for your church in these unprecedented times. Please give online at richfieldumc.org/give or contact [Kathy Gertsema](#).

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Livestream Troubleshooting:

- Try refreshing the page, restarting your device or the YouTube app, using a different web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc.), clearing your browser cache, or adjusting your settings (ex: lower your resolution quality from 1080p HD to 720p HD).