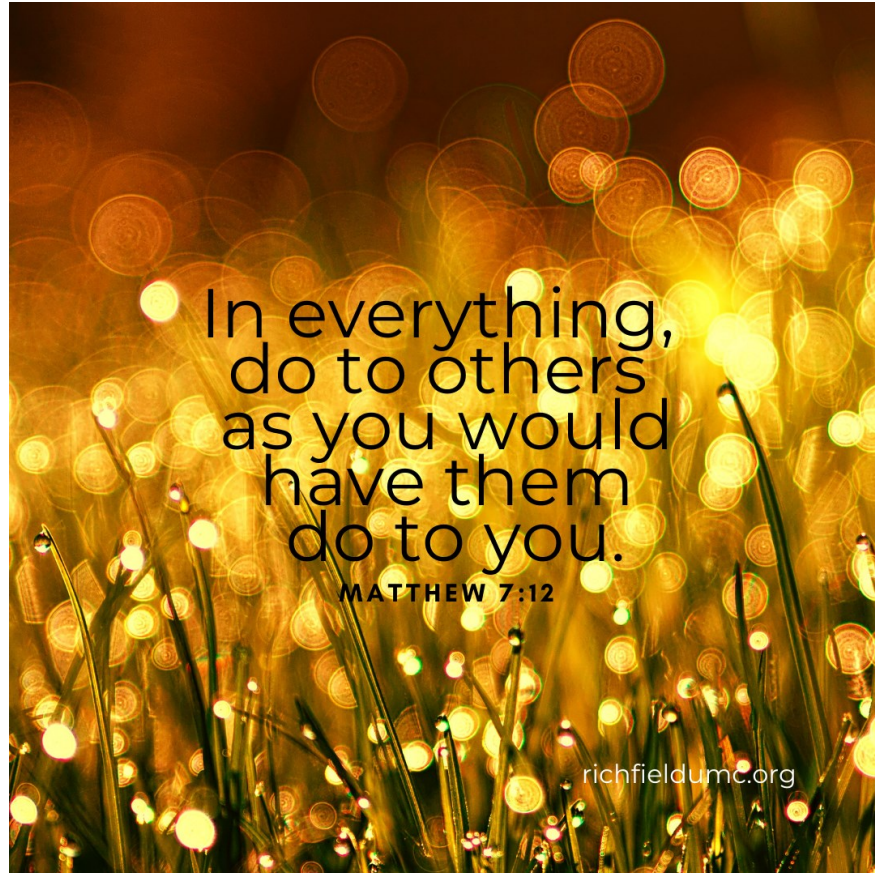




November 8, 2020 at 9:30am - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
youtube.com/richfieldumc



ENTRANCE

(bold = in unison)

Prelude

“Melody of Jigs”

Traditional

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship

God despises evil and builds up goodness.

Holy love is inclusive.

Jesus dismantles divide and builds up neighbors.

Holy love is expansive.

The Holy Spirit tears down walls and builds up trust.

Holy love is for you and for me and for them.

Gathering Hymn

“The Summons”

TFWS Hymnal #2130

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, Will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Centering Prayer

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Gracious and loving God, you are the God of the friend and God of the stranger. You embrace us with a love of wholeness, taking us in as we are and inviting us to the next step. We confess the days when we join you in sharing this love brings joy and hope to the world. We confess the days we refuse to love as we are loved wounds this world, and we need your presence to awaken us. May your love be an everyday feeling and our everyday action. Hear us now 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.

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls and Blankets

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 Music

“Steal Away to Jesus”

Spiritual/arr. W. Farley Smith

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Matthew 7:12-14

NRSV

“In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.

“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Trust God's Story in Our Hospitality”
“Trust God's Story” Worship Series

Rev. Nate Melcher

Welcoming New Members of the Church

John Meeker
Dan Bur & Luzia Tavares
Steve and Rexi Warner

To the Congregation: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

To the Congregation: Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Prayers 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

“Ivory and Dan”

by Dick Hensold

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

Lord of Wisdom, we faithfully believe in the promise of your Heavenly Kingdom. Yet, we allow our personal living to determine our personal giving. Enable us to be generous givers whose giving is not controlled by our personal wants. Awaken our spirit to the knowledge that we have a limited time to give to your ministries. We pray in the name of your Son, who will come again as Jesus the Christ. 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

“Christ Beside Me”

TFWS Hymnal #2166

1. Christ beside me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me - King of my heart;
Christ within me, Christ below me,
Christ above me - never to part.
2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me - shield in the strife;
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising - light of my life.

Benediction

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

Postlude

“Both Sides Now”

by Joni Mitchell



Thank you for worshiping 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: Dick Hensold (Northumbrian Smallpipe and Celtic Whistle), Greg Locke, Devon Olson, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison and Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech Crew: TY Moore, Rev. Bill Johnson, Dale Olson

An Everyday Prayer Life Is for Everyone

You are invited to devote time and energy to God and neighbor every day to pray for:

- Open minds and hearts for “conflux moments.” May all experience God in their lives.
- People in need of a loving church home. May they be embraced as beloved children of God.
- Our church’s MCCI journey. May the Spirit break through.
- Children near and far, all beloved of God. May all be shown safety, stability, and care.
- People facing the brokenness of inequities, poverty, loneliness, racism, toxic politics, complex family systems, and other pressing challenges amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. May all who do justice and love mercy rise up as active, partnered signs of God’s healing love.
- Our church’s people, elected leaders, paid staff, and partners. May the Spirit break through.
- Ourselves in this moment here and now. May we feel God’s creativity, Jesus’s hope, and the Holy Spirit’s call in our struggles, our celebrations, and our whole lives.

Prayers of Celebration:

We celebrate welcoming new members into the congregation. May they feel the love of this community around them.

Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marybeth Stull, James Wegscheid, Marylee Fithian, Bonnie Freese, Maxene Schwanke, Liam B., neighbor of Michele Wegscheid, Jan Falk, Sharon Keen’s sister-in-law, Barb Rogers, Jan Hansen, Joyce Walls, Elizabeth Runge, Klaus Runge, SK Johnson, Sherree Stratton, Jim Nelson, and Becca Whitaker.

Prayers for Comfort:

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

Worship Online

In-person worship and gatherings in the building are suspended through 2020 and we continue on an open-ended timeline. Read the latest information at richfieldumc.org/statements.

Campus and Administration

Campus is closed, including God’s Hands Thrift Store (no donations as this time, thank you).

Church staff is available by email or phone

[Rev. Nate Melcher](#), Senior Pastor | 612.399.6272

[Rev. Hope Bentley Hutchison](#), Director of Children and Family Ministries | 626.261.1429

[Catherine Mahler](#), Caring For Children Director

[Garrett Johnson](#), Youth Leader

[Pat Noonan](#), Facilities Coordinator

[Nancy Dierauer](#), Organist / Music Director

[Kay Bergeland RN](#), Parish Nurse

[Paige Armstrong-Hetterick](#), Chancel Choir Director

[Victor Zupanc](#), Living Waters Worship Coordinator

[Kathy Gertsema](#), Business and Administration Coordinator

[Linda Schmidt](#), Program and Communications Coordinator

Connect as Richfield UMC

All gatherings happen through Zoom online video conferencing unless otherwise noted.

Today

10:45 am | Children's Sunday School
Contact [Rev. Hope Hutchison](#)

8:00 pm | Youth Group
Contact [Garrett Johnson](#)

This Week

Mondays at 7:00 pm, Nov. 9 - Dec. 14 | Advent Book Study: Love Is the Way
Meeting ID: 6122501736, No password required
"Love is The Way" by Bishop Michael Curry
We will discuss 12 questions (chapters) such as, "How do I find God's love?" "I'm just a regular person, so how can my love have an impact?" "How can love overcome what divides us and move us forward together?" Come, read, and hear about this message of living the way of love. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Johnson (gailjohnson417@gmail.com).

Thursday, Nov. 12, from 1:00 - 2:00 PM | Lunch and Learn Online Series
My Life in Music with Victor Zupanc
Meeting ID: 834 1070 8483, passcode: 5835.
To participate by phone only, call 1-312-626-6799.
We welcome our very own Living Waters Band Leader, the gifted Victor Zupanc, who will entertain us with his program, My Life in Music.

Preparing for Advent

Advent Devotional Submissions Sought
This Advent, your church is making an all-new Advent daily devotional written by you and others in this worshipping community. The Advent theme is Heart of the Holy. Think of how we experience the heart of God in our own hearts and throughout our lives using the classic Advent framing of hope, peace, joy, and love. You are invited to write about any of these ways of experiencing the Heart of God.
Submission Guidelines: 1. Your reflection, poem, or prayer should be 250 words or less.
2. It must be your own original writing.
3. Submit your writing by today, Sunday, November 8 to nmelcher@richfieldumc.org.

Advent Community Art Project Participants Needed

Help create a community art project for our church this Advent season! Our whole church will be helping to make a large poster this fall for our Advent season. Each person, or each family can color one tile of a larger poster, and return the completed tile at Drive Thru Joy on November 22. The whole poster will be unveiled during worship in Advent. To participate, please contact Rev. Hope Hutchison at (626)261-1429 or hhutchison@richfieldumc.org

Continued >

Ongoing and Open

Tuesdays, 9:30 am | Women's Bible Study
Contact [Molly Reko](#) to get connected.

Wednesdays, 9:00 am | Men's Bible Study
Contact [Kent Johnson](#) to get connected.

Saturdays, 8:30 am | Men's Support Group
Contact [Kent Johnson](#) to get connected.

Saturdays, 10:30 am | Brené Brown Study
Contact [Gail Johnson](#) to get connected.

Charge Conference - Tue., Nov. 24 at 7:00 pm
Meeting ID: 886-0975-2661, Passcode: 5835
The charge conference is for the purpose of setting 2021 clergy compensation packages. All worshipers may attend, church members have voice, Ad Board elected leaders have vote.



Check-In

Help your church track online worship trends, thank you. richfieldumc.org/hereiam



Worship by Touch Tone Phone

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.



Latest from Richfield UMC

Weekly announcements, events, worship preparation, and reflection, [sign up](#).



Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is available from the clergy team, Parish Nurse, and care ministry volunteers. You don't have to go through times of sickness, loneliness, or hurt alone. If you need prayer or other pastoral care, please contact [Kay Bergeland](#).

Worshipping from Home

Prepare your worship space with care and delight.

Download or print a bulletin and safely light a candle or lamp.
Find more tips at richfieldumc.org/live.

Your generous gift

supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church. richfieldumc.org/give

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). For more help, reach out: worshiptech@richfieldumc.org.

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