



December 6, 2020 at 9:30am - Second Sunday of Advent  
[youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc)



## ENTRANCE

(bold = in unison)

Prelude	<b>“In dulci jubilo”</b> Nancy Dierauer, organ	by J. S. Bach
Introit	<b>“Comfort Ye My People”</b> [from: “Messiah”] Paige Armstrong, soloist	by G. F. Handel
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher
Call to Worship		

Lift up your voice. Lift it up, do not fear.

**Feeding, gathering, carrying, leading: This is how God will come.**

The old will pass away. A new world will dawn.

**Love, faithfulness, righteousness, peace: These will mark God’s new day.**

Love needs a path. Peace needs a highway.

**Even as we wait, let us make a way for God: In our hearts and in our world.**

I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.

*Refrain:*

In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Sometimes, we are not ready for things to be made new. Help us, God, to imagine the new earth that you envision for our world. Help us to see ourselves in it. Give us wisdom and courage to hasten the coming of your day. Hear us now in our silent confession to you...

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

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.*

Lighting the Advent Wreath II: The Candle of Peace

Steve and Rexi Warner

Celebration Music

"In the Bleak Midwinter"  
Paige Armstrong, soloist

by G. Holst/arr. R. Walters

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

NRSV

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.  
A voice cries out:  
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.  
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”  
A voice says, “Cry out!”  
And I said, “What shall I cry?”  
All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.  
The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand forever.  
Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
“Here is your God!”  
See, the Lord God comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“The Heart of Peace”  
“Heart of the Holy” Worship Series

Rev. Ruth Phelps

## THANKSGIVING

Sacrament of Holy Communion

*You are invited to gather elements for Holy Communion with care and delight.*

The LORD be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the LORD.**  
Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...proclaiming the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

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](http://richfieldumc.org/give) supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church. Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

## Receiving the Sacrament

*There is no barrier between you and the table. All who seek the grace of Jesus are welcome.*

## Music During Communion

"People Look East"  
Paige Armstrong, soloist

arr. N. Grundahl

## Prayer After Receiving the Sacrament

## 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.*

## 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

"Love Came Down at Christmas"  
Vs. 1 and 3

UM Hymnal No. 242

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.

Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;  
love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

## Benediction

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

## Postlude

Carillon on 'Ding, Dong! Merrily on High'

arr. M. Setchell



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

## Worship Team:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation  
Musicians: Paige Armstrong, Nancy Dierauer  
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 fellow MCCI church, Coon Rapids UMC. 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 for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marybeth Stull, Marylee Fithian, Bonnie Freese, Maxene Schwanke, Jan Falk, Sharon Keen's sister-in-law, Barb Rogers, Jan Hansen, Joyce Walls, Becca Whitaker, Agnes Danzl, Jack Exline, Russ Ruona, Robert McCoy, Steve Restemayer, Sue Restemayer, Helen Restemayer, Dick Novak, Linda Novak, and Ruth Davis.

### Prayers for Comfort:

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

### Prayers for Those Who are Grieving:

- Sandra Overland and loved ones as they grieve the death of Sandra’s mother, Marilyn Overland. Read Marilyn’s [obituary here](#). Read a letter Sandra wrote to the Star Tribune [here](#).
- The family and friends of Norma Luettinger who passed away on November 12. A private family service was held Monday, November 23. Read Norma’s [obituary here](#).
- Sandy Nelson and the family and friends of Rev. Jim Nelson. Rev. Nelson passed away November 15. A memorial service will be at a later date. Read Jim’s [obituary here](#).
- Jack Exline and the family and friends of Jeanne Exline who passed away November 14. A memorial will be at a later date. Please respect Jack’s privacy and only contact him by email or postal mail at this time. Read Jeanne’s [obituary here](#).

## 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](http://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

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#### 10:45 am | CAFÉ-O-RAMA

Meeting ID: 843-4704-2137, Passcode: 5835 A relaxed, inviting opportunity to spend time with new and old friends. It's like coffee in The Commons...except you bring your own coffee! CAFÉ-O-RAMA is held on the 1st & 3rd Sundays.

#### 8:00 pm | Youth Group

Contact [Garrett Johnson](#)

### This Week

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#### A Service of Hope and Healing Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00pm

[youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc)

You are invited to a time of music, reflection, and release centered on the spirituality of hope and the practice of healing.

#### Lunch and Learn Online Series

##### Musical Memories at Christmas

#### Thursday, December 10th, 1:00 - 2:00 PM

Meeting ID: 813 2660 1056 , Passcode: 5835  
To participate by phone, call 1-312-626-6799.

Join us as we welcome singers from MPLS (imPulse), a local choral ensemble. These gifted vocalists will lead us in singing and share stories from their most treasured musical memories at Christmas.

### Next Sunday, December 13

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#### Children's Christmas Pageant

#### Sunday, December 13, 9:30 am

We have a variety of roles for children of all ages. Our children will lead us in remembering the story of Jesus' birth, and in celebrating the Advent season. If you have any questions, or would be interested in helping with this, please contact Rev. Hope at

[hhutchison@richfieldumc.org](mailto:hhutchison@richfieldumc.org)

#### Winter Gear Drive

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Winter Gear Drive for Fond du Lac reservation children runs through Dec. 18. Learn more at [twincitieslogistics.org/material-support](https://twincitieslogistics.org/material-support).

### Ongoing and Open

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#### Mondays at 7:00 pm, Through Dec. 21 |

##### Advent Book Study: Love Is the Way

Meeting ID: 6122501736, No password required  
"Love is The Way" by Bishop Michael Curry

#### 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.



#### Check-In

Help your church track online worship trends, thank you. [richfieldumc.org/hereiam](https://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](https://richfieldumc.org/live).

Your generous gift  
supports the ministry, outreach, and  
operations of your church.

[richfieldumc.org/give](https://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](mailto:worshiptech@richfieldumc.org).

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