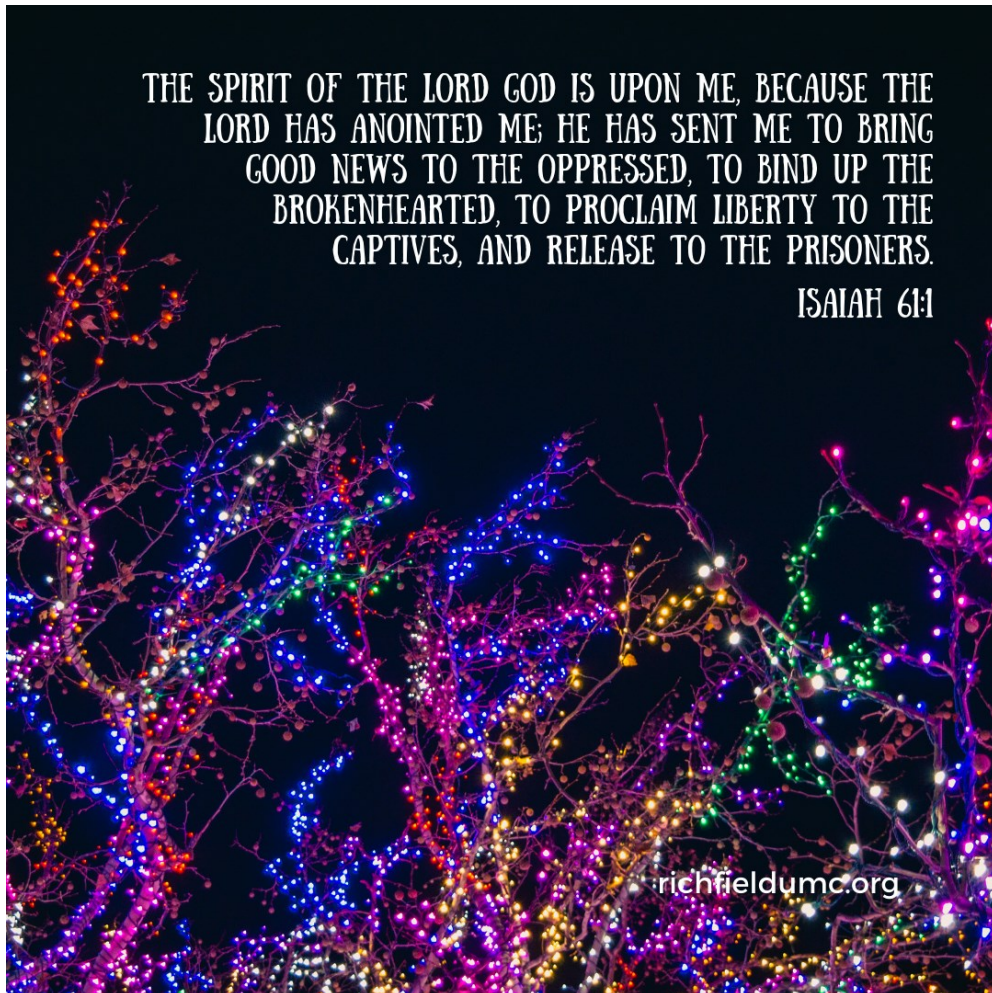




December 13, 2020 at 9:30am - Third Sunday of Advent  
[youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc)



THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD GOD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE THE  
LORD HAS ANOINTED ME; HE HAS SENT ME TO BRING  
GOOD NEWS TO THE OPPRESSED, TO BIND UP THE  
BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE  
CAPTIVES, AND RELEASE TO THE PRISONERS.

ISAIAH 61:1

richfieldumc.org

## ENTRANCE

(bold = in unison)

Prelude

“The First Noel”  
London Owens, piano

Trad. English carol

Welcome

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Call to Worship (from Zephaniah 3 and Isaiah 12)

Rev. Nate Melcher

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; do not be afraid.

**God is indeed my salvation; I will trust and won't be afraid.**

The Lord has removed your judgment, has turned away your enemy,  
is a warrior bringing victory.

**The Lord is my strength and my shield and has become my salvation.**

**I will thank the Lord and call on his name!**

The Lord your God is in your midst, will calm you with love, will rejoice over you with singing.

**We shout and sing for joy, because the holy one of Israel is among us.**

**We will trust and not be afraid!**

Gathering Hymn

“The Trumpet In the Morning”

by B. F. White/Rory Cooney

O the weary world is trudging t’ward the year of jubilee,  
When we’ll hear the trumpet sound in the morning.  
Far and wide we hear the clarion announce that all are free  
When we hear the trumpet sound in the morning.

*Refrain:*

Lowly eyes shall be lifted, while the tyrants taste their fear,  
For that sound is both a gospel and a warning.  
When we rise as a people who proclaim that God is near,  
Who will dare to sound the trumpet in the morning?

Ev’ry prison wall will crumble, ev’ry chain will fall away  
When we hear the trumpet sound in the morning.  
And the debts that stole our dreaming we will no more have to pay  
When we hear the trumpet sound in the morning. *Refrain*

Centering Prayer

Ever-present God: as we open your word, open our eyes so that we might see both ourselves and the truth of your life-changing promises more clearly. And if, for some reason, your word does not seem to apply to us today, give us the special gift of your Spirit so that we might store it up in our hearts for when we need it the most. In the name of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray 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.*

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 61:1-3, 8-11

NRSV

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;

I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.  
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.  
The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Time with Adults

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

Rev. Hope Hutchison

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 III: The Candle of Joy

Bumgarner Family

Christmas Pageant Welcome

Christmas Pageant

Luke 1:26-35

Angels appear to Mary

Sun-Saenz Family, Owens Family

Hymn

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”  
vs. 1

UM Hymnal No. 196

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

Matthew 1:18-24

Angels appear to Joseph

Callahan Family, Currie Family

Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
vs. 4

UM Hymnal No. 211

**O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;  
before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Luke 2:1-7

Birth of Jesus

Klosinski Family

Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”  
vs. 1

UM Hymnal No. 230

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

Luke 2:8-14	Shepherds appear to Angels	Gaertner Family
Hymn	“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” vs. 1	UM Hymnal No. 251

*Refrain:*

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.**

**While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light. Refrain**

Luke 2:15-20	Shepherds go to see Jesus	Watne Family
Hymn	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” vs. 4	UM Hymnal No. 234

**See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Matthew 2:1-12	Wise People	Melcher Family, Jackson Family
Hymn	“We Three Kings” vs. 1	UM Hymnal No. 254

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.  
O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

Prayers of the People: A Prayer for the Dissatisfied

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.*

Offertory	“Simple Season”	by Barbara McAfee
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Doxology		UM Hymnal No. 94
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**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

**Rejoicing God, we offer you thanks and praise for this season of anticipation, this season of Advent. As we prepare for the birth of your son, we share our tithes and offerings with the joy and excitement that is common as one anticipates the birth of a new child. Bless these gifts in your Holy Name. 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

“What Child Is This”  
Vs. 1 and 2

UM Hymnal No. 219

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

*Refrain:*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain*

Benediction

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

Postlude

“Christmas Time Is Here”

by Vince Guaraldi



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

### Worship Team:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation  
Musicians: 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 fellow MCCI church, First UMC, in Austin. 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:

Gratitude for the children and families who shared the Christmas story through the Virtual Christmas Pageant.

### 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, Robert McCoy, Dick Novak, Linda Novak, Ruth Davis, and John Meeker.

### 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](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, December 13

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

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

### Next Sunday, December 20

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.

**POSTPONED:** Christmas Caroling scheduled for Dec. 20 is postponed due to safety reasons. Thank you for your understanding.

7:00 pm-8:30 pm | Youth Group Zoom  
Christmas Party  
Christmas related games/trivia/activities. Fun and safe by social distancing. Contact [Garrett Johnson](#)

### Winter Gear Drive

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

### Ongoing and Open

**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.

### Christmas Eve Worship

Thursday, December 24

4:00 pm | Family Worship

9:00 pm | Traditional Worship

Online at [youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc) and by touch tone phone: 1.888.650.5835.

Both services are intended for all ages and feature the same sermon and end with singing "Silent Night." They each have a different atmosphere and musicians, and the Family Worship has elements specifically designed for young children to experience the Nativity story at their level. You're welcome to experience both services.



### Check-In

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

## Worshiping 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](http://richfieldumc.org/live).

**Your generous gift** supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church.  
[richfieldumc.org/give](http://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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