



July 25, 2021 at 9:30am—9th Sunday after Pentecost
youtube.com/richfieldumc



ENTRANCE

(bold = in unison)

Prelude

“Capricko Arabe”
 Andrea Kloehn, flute
 Groth Scholarship recipient

by Francisco Tárrega

Welcome

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Call to Worship (John 6)

Why have you come to this place?

We are tired in body and spirit.

Why have you come today?

We have come to follow Jesus.

Come and eat your fill.

But there are only five barley loaves and two fish.

There is plenty for all.

Jesus gathers the fragments of our lives, that nothing may be lost.

Come! Let us worship!

Gathering Hymn

“Now Praise the Hidden God of Love”

The Faith We Sing Hymnal No. 2027

1. Now praise the hidden God of love,
In whom we all must live and move,
Who shepherds us at ev’ry stage,
Through youth, maturity, and age.
2. Who challenged us, when we were young,
To storm the citadels of wrong;
In care for others taught us how
God's true community must grow.
3. Who bids us never lose our zest,
Though age is urging us to rest,
But proves to us that we have still
A work to do, a place to fill.

Centering Prayer (Psalm 14)

Rev. Nate Melcher

God of steadfast love, may our words and our very lives prove that we are not foolish. May our faith be as constant as the North Star, and may others know that we are Christians by our love. 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.

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

“Chardonnay”
Andrea Kloehn, flute
Groth Scholarship recipient

by Reena Esmall

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:1-19a

NRSV

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now

as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

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

Sermon

Soul: "How do I live my best life?"
"Summer at the Movies" Worship Series 4 of 5

Rev. Hope Hutchison

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

"Fire and Rain"

by James Taylor

Doxology

UM Hymnal 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!**

THANKSGIVING

Prayer of Gratitude

Awesome God, Jesus fed thousands of people with seemingly little effort. Yet, we have grave difficulty feeding children in our own country -- let alone the entire world. Even while we are praying this prayer, someone has died from starvation and the lack of food. When we share resources with care-giving ministries, your hand is upon our shoulders, just like it was upon Jesus' shoulders the day he fed his followers. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to change lives by becoming generous caregivers of the resources that you first gave to us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn "All Who Hunger" The Faith We Sing Hymnal No. 2126

1. All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
2. All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered, in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
3. All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

Benediction

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

Postlude

"Blue Monk"

by Thelonious Monk



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

Welcome Groth Scholarship recipient Andrea Kloehn! Andrea will be a senior at The University of Colorado - Boulder. She will be studying flute performance and is a graduate of Southwest High School, Minneapolis.

Worship Team:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Musicians: Greg Locke, Devon Olson, Victor Zupanc
Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher
Tech Crew: Garrett Johnson, Dale Olson

Richfield UMC gathers on Dakota land. More at richfieldumc.org/land.

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, Southern Hills UMC. May the Spirit break through.
- We pray for all Minnesota Annual Conference churches leading into General Conference 2022. This week we pray for: Silver Lake UMC (Oakdale), Simpson UMC (Minneapolis), Slayton UMC, South Ridge UMC (Caledonia), Spirit of Hope UMC (Golden Valley), Spirit River Community UMC (Isanti), Springfield UMC, St Charles UMC, St Francis UMC, St James UMC.
- We pray for all Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church leading into General Conference 2022. This week we pray for: South-West Katanga Annual Conference, Southwest Philippines Annual Conference, Susquehanna Annual Conference, Switzerland-France-North Africa Annual Conference
- 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, Marylee Fithian, Maxene Schwanke, Jan Hansen, Joyce Walls, Agnes Danzl, Sara Watne’s sisters, Hope and Lora, Laurel Lien, Lenny Klosinski, uncle of Steve Klosinski, James York, father-in-law of Randy Matheus, Dorothy Holland, John Cogan, and Lori Claussen.

Prayers for Comfort:

Betty Donovan, mother of Barb Rogers, and all those in hospice and their families.

Prayers for Those Who are Grieving:

Christie and Win Neuger and family in the death of Christie’s brother, Doug Cozad.

Worship Online

In-person worship and gatherings in the building are suspended 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](mailto:nate@richfieldumc.org), Senior Pastor | 612.399.6272

[Rev. Hope Bentley Hutchison](mailto:hope@richfieldumc.org), Director of Children and Family Ministries | 612.568.6774

[Kathy Newbauer](mailto:kathy@richfieldumc.org), Caring For Children Director

[Garrett Johnson](mailto:garrett@richfieldumc.org), Youth Leader

[Pat Noonan](mailto:pat@richfieldumc.org), Facilities Coordinator

[Nancy Dierauer](mailto:nancy@richfieldumc.org), Organist/Music Director

[Kay Bergeland RN](mailto:kay@richfieldumc.org), Parish Nurse

[Paige Armstrong-Hetterick](mailto:paige@richfieldumc.org), Chancel Choir Director

[Victor Zupanc](mailto:victor@richfieldumc.org), Living Waters Worship Coordinator

[Kathy Gertsema](mailto:kathy@richfieldumc.org), Business and Administration Coordinator

[Linda Schmidt](mailto:linda@richfieldumc.org), Program and Communications Coordinator

Connect as Richfield UMC

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

Summer Worship Series #2

“SUMMER AT THE MOVIES” July 4-August 1
You do not have to watch the movie beforehand to get something out of the sermon, though it will certainly enhance your experience. Invite your “movie buff” friends to worship with you!
July 25: Soul

How do I live my best life?

August 1: My Girl

How do we move on?

See the [Heartline Newsletter](#) for more info.

Next Sunday, August 1

In-person worship at 9:30am in the Sanctuary. Outdoor fellowship immediately follows the service. Visit with friends and meet some new folks. There will be water and individually wrapped treats available as we celebrate this return to worship in the beautiful sanctuary at Richfield UMC. Please bring your mask. Worship will continue to livestream, so you can worship in-person when you're ready!

Drive-Thru Community Carnival & School Supply Collection

Saturday, August 21, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
Get ready for a Drive Thru Community Carnival! There will be carnival games, single serve snacks, a photo booth and lots of fun... all from the comfort of your car!
We will also be collecting supplies for the VEAP School Supply Drive.

Your Help is Needed

You can: Set-Up, Direct traffic, Greet Cars, Run Games & Hand out prizes, Clean Up
If you are able to help please contact Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org with questions, or to volunteer [click here!](#) Or visit <https://tinyurl.com/54m4fcze>

Sunday, August 8, 9:30 am

Worship Service at the Richfield Bandshell in Veterans Park, 636 E 66th Street, Richfield MN
Blessing of the Animals and Non-Perishable Food Drive

Bring your beloved pet (or a photo, if crowds and/or outdoors is too much for them) to receive a special blessing of God's love upon them! For safety and inclusivity, all pets must be well-supervised by your gathered household (i.e. dogs must be on a leash, use a pet carrier, etc.), thank you for your cooperation.

The Church Office/Campus Is Open

The church office and campus is open, with operating hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The Church Library is open during these hours.

Ongoing and Open

1st Mondays, 1:30 pm | Women Who Read
August 2: *What You Have Heard Is True* by Carolyn Forché. Contact, email [both Fern Albertson](#) and [Molly Reko](#)
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.



Check-In

Help your church track 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.

Permissions and Acknowledgements

- “Call to Worship” and “Prayer of Gratitude” by B.J. Beu, B.J. and Mary Scifres, ed., *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021*. © 2020 Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN. Used by permission. 165.
- “Prayer of Gratitude” © 2021 David S. Bell; reprinted with permission from davidsbell.org.
- Scripture quotations marked NRSV are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.
- Lyrics published by special permission, public domain, reprinted under OneLicense.net #A704105, or CCS WORSHIPcast License #8155.