



August 22, 2021 at 9:30am
13th Sunday after Pentecost



bold = in unison

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Canticle of the Turning” arr. T. Lauer/N. Gardner
Tesslynn Lauer, flute
Groth Scholarship recipient
Noel Gardner, guitar

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship

Rev. Hope Hutchison

God is shade from August heat,
the sweetness of a blackberry right off the bush,
a drink from the corner store pressed to our foreheads.

God is the ripe belly of a rain cloud to parched soil;
They are the soil itself, rich brown whispering of blooming.
God is the dark purple leaves of a cherry plum tree.

They are the invitation to rest found in the ink of night sky.
God loves melanin, shade, the wonder of deep hues.
Let us gather in the shadow of God’s wings!

Gathering Hymn

“How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely”

The Faith We Sing Hymnal No. 2042

1. How lovely, Lord, how lovely is your abiding place;
my soul is longing, fainting, to feast upon your grace.
The sparrow finds a shelter, a place to build her nest;
and so your temple calls us with in its walls to rest.
2. In your blest courts to worship, O God, a single day
is better than a thousand if I from you should stray.
I'd rather keep the entrance and claim you as my Lord
than revel in the riches the ways of sin afford.
3. A sun and shield forever are you, O God most high;
you shower us with blessings no good will you deny.
The saints, your grace receiving, from strength to strength shall go,
and from their life shall rivers of blessings overflow.

Centering Prayer

Sacred Mystery, we know the logic of empire influences our thoughts. Make vivid imagery beyond that of battle fields, breastplates, and waging war. Teach us of ecosystems and of solidarity. School us in softness, intimacy, and soulful communication. Empower us as we seek your wisdom so we may live a life of emboldened peace. 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 mutual 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

“Maid of Mt. Kisco Reels”
Tesslynn Lauer, flute
Groth Scholarship recipient
Noel Gardner, guitar

by Coen

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:25-30

Jerry Schilling

The Message

Abruptly Jesus broke into prayer: “Thank you, Lord of heaven and earth. You’ve concealed your ways from sophisticates and know-it-alls, but spelled them out clearly to ordinary people. Yes, Father, that’s the way you like to work.”

Jesus resumed talking to the people, but now tenderly. “God has given me all these things to do and say. This is a unique operation, coming out of intimacies and knowledge. No one knows the Son the way God does, nor God the way the Son does. But I’m not keeping it to myself; I’m ready to go over it line by line with anyone willing to listen.

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

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

Sermon

“Does God give you more than you can handle?”

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Rev. Nate Melcher

“So Many Questions!” Worship Series 6 of 9

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.

Sharing Our Gifts

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

Offertory

“Only Love”

by Patrick D. Bradley

THANKSGIVING

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!

Prayer of Gratitude

O Lord of Hosts, we are so happy to offer you these monetary gifts. We recognize that we are able to worship here because of the generous giving of this congregation. Yet, our giving and our prayer extend beyond us. We pray that these offerings and tithes will be used to reach out to others in the community and around the world who need to find a joyful trust in you. “Happy is everyone who trusts in you.” All praise and glory to you! Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn

“Great is the Lord”

The Faith We Sing Hymnal No. 2022

Refrain:

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just;
by his power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true;
by his mercy he proves he is love

1. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory!
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice,
now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord! *Refrain*

2. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory!
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice,
now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

3. Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory!
Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great are you, Lord; I lift up my voice,
I lift up my voice: Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!

Benediction

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

Postlude

“The Nearness of You”

by Hoagy Carmichael



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

Welcome Groth Scholarship recipient Tesslynn Lauer! Tess will be a senior at the University of Michigan. She is studying flute performance and music education. She graduated from Eden Prairie High School, Eden Prairie.



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VEAP Back to School Supply Drive—Now through Sunday, Aug. 22

What supplies are most needed?

Backpacks and calculators (scientific or otherwise) are high-demand items and the most impactful as they're expensive for families to purchase on their own. Traditional supplies like spiral notebooks, flash drives, headphones, and washable markers are needed as well. Please make sure all items are new. Please, no gift cards at this time.

Where and when should I drop off supplies?

Today is the final day to donate Supplies through the church! Thank you to all who contributed.

Next Sunday—August 29

In-person worship at 9:30am in the Sanctuary. Please wear your mask. Outdoor fellowship immediately follows the service. Worship will continue to livestream, so you can worship in-person when you're ready!

SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES "SO MANY QUESTIONS, PART 2" Continues

Aug. 29: Has the pandemic changed church forever?

Sept. 5: How can I really believe all of this stuff?

Upcoming

September 5: Online-Only Worship

youtube.com/richfieldumc or 888.650.5835

September 12: Rally Sunday with Blessing of the Backpacks in worship, Welcome Whirl for Children and Youth, and Donuts for outdoor fellowship time.

Fall Worship Series Begins - "Church Is a People"

September 12 - October 10

As the old hymn goes, "The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, **the church is a people.**" Most importantly, the church is people who rely on God and each other. As we regather and rally this fall season, we remember our vows as members of the church to "faithfully participate in its ministries by [our] prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness." Each week, affirm the power of each vow and explore what they mean to you.

Confirmation Coming Soon

We will be starting our next round of confirmation classes this fall for any youth who are in at least 7th grade and older who wish to become full members of the church. For more information please contact Garrett at

gjohnson@richfieldumc.org.

Ongoing and Open

1st Mondays, 1:30 pm | Women Who Read

Sept. 13: (note date change) *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett

Contact both [Fern Albertson](#) and [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.

Women's Bible Study is taking a break and will resume on Tues., Sept. 14.

An Everyday Prayer Life Is for Everyone

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

- Openness for “conflux moments.” May all experience God in their lives.
- People in need of a loving church home. May they be embraced.
- Our fellow MCCI church, First UMC: Austin . May the Spirit break through.
- We pray for all Minnesota Annual Conference churches leading into General Conference 2022. This week we pray for: Wesley UMC: Crookston, Wesley UMC: Hibbing, Wesley UMC: Winona, West Bethel UMC (Cedar), West Concord UMC (West Concord), Wheelock UMC (Saint Paul), White Bear Lake UMC, Willmar UMC, Wood Lake UMC.
- We pray for all Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church leading into General Conference 2022. This week we pray for: Western North Carolina Annual Conference, Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference, Wisconsin Annual Conference, Zambia Annual Conference.
- Children near and far. 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.

Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marylee Fithian, Maxene Schwanke, Jan Hansen, Joyce Walls, Agnes Danzl, Sara Watne's sisters, Hope and Lora, Laurel Lien, James York, father-in-law of Randy Matheus, Lori Claussen, and Bev Crandall's brother-in-law, Howard.

Prayers for Comfort:

Betty Donovan, Barb Rogers's mother, and all in hospice and their families.

Prayers for those who are Grieving:

Jodi and Jim Young in the death of Jodi's father, Harold M. Fratt, Sr.

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 when the campus is open.

Stop by to look through the new books and check-out a book to read.

We thank those who help make this worship a ministry of grace:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Greg Locke, Devon Olson, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher, Jerry Schilling

Tech Crew: Rev. Bill Johnson, Garrett Johnson, Dale Olson

Greeters: Mick and Marlys Hudson

Driver: Jason Teal

Permissions and Acknowledgements:

- “Call to Worship” and “Centering Prayer” by Rev. Molly Bolton. © 2021 enfleshed.com.
- “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.

5835 Lyndale Ave. S., Mpls., MN 55419

612-861-6086

richfieldumc.org

Like and Follow [Richfield UMC on Facebook](#)

Get on the email list: richfieldumc.org/email

Livestream Worship and Subscribe: youtube.com/richfieldumc

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