



September 12, 2021 at 9:30am
16th Sunday after Pentecost
Rally Day!



bold = in unison

ENTRANCE

Prelude	"Na Golici"	Trad. Slovenian Polka
	Victor Zupanc, Slovenian button accordion	
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher
Call to Worship (Proverbs 1)		Rev. Hope Hutchison

Wisdom shouts her warnings in the street.
We have come to forsake our foolish ways.
Wisdom longs to pour out her Spirit on all flesh.
We will not shrink from her blessings.
Wisdom imparts holy knowledge to save us.
We will not shut out the lessons she teaches.
Let us worship in spirit and in truth.

Gathering Hymn

“Gather Us In” Faith We Sing Hymnal No. 2236 Vs. 1 and 4

Here in this place new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Centering Prayer (Psalm 19)

Eternal God, the heavens declare our glory, even as Wisdom proclaims your precepts to all people. Set our minds on the things that are above rather than the things that are below, that when the journey becomes hard, we may have the courage to follow you to the bitter end. Be with us in our hour of need, that we may be found faithful when Wisdom comes to call. 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

Blessing of the Backpacks

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

“This Little Light of Mine”
Chancel Choir

arr. J. Helgen

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Mark 8:27-38

NRSV

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

Sermon

“By Our Prayers”
“Church Is a People” Worship Series 1 of 5

Rev. Nate Melcher

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

“Trumpet Tune in D Major, Op. 15”
Nancy Dierauer, organ

by C. S. Lang

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

Creator, you challenge us to deny ourselves in order to follow you. We are not accustomed to denying ourselves often. You call us to give in return for life, to deny ourselves to follow you, to set our minds on divine things rather than human things. Help us in this offertory moment to focus on you as we sacrificially give our tithes and offerings. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today—September 12

Rally Sunday Fellowship time with donuts immediately follows worship in the Commons Area.

Fall Worship Series Begins - “Church Is a People” - Sept. 12 - Oct. 10

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.

Welcome Whirl for Children, Youth, and Families

Children’s Welcome Whirl celebration outside immediately following the service. This is our Sunday School Registration Fair, and we will have some cool snacks, and a photo booth to celebrate!

Confirmation Parent/Guardian Meeting

Today at 11am upstairs in the youth room. Confirmation is open to any student who is in at least 7th grade. At this meeting we will discuss a few options of what confirmation can look like for this year. If you can’t make it to the meeting, contact Garrett at gjohnson@richfieldumc.org.

Next Sunday, September 19

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

MCCI Resource Refocus Sunday

Next Sunday, Sept. 19, 10:45 am-12:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

An MCCI coach meets with the church as we name our current ministry activities, organization, partnerships, and resource areas that make up who we are and how we operate as a church today. This is your opportunity to lift up and celebrate the resources God has given our church! Please RSVP at richfieldumc.org/mcci.

Upcoming

God’s Hands Thrift Store: The Great Giveaway

Sat., Oct. 2, 9:00 am-12:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Open to the public, all pre-pandemic stock will be given away for free, one-day only! Servant volunteers are needed for set-up that week, and hospitality/clean-up that day. To register, contact Sharon Hall at (952) 894-3722 or blessings325@gmail.com.

Save the Date: Sunday, October 3

•World Communion Sunday •Bible Sunday •Celebrating Servant Volunteers

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.

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.

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: Paige Armstrong, Nancy Dierauer, Greg Locke, Devon Olson,
Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Wayne Albertson, Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech Crew: Rev. Bill Johnson, TY Moore, 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 heart 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 journey toward vitality. May we experience God breaking 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, Lori Claussen, Bev Crandall's brother-in-law, Howard, and Rev. Kent Johnson.

Prayers for Comfort:

All those in hospice and their families.

Prayers for those who are Grieving:

Randy Matheus and his spouse, Jan, in the death of Jan's father, James York.

This Week's Calendar

Call the church office Tues.-Thurs., 8am-4pm for more info about groups/events

Sunday, September 12, 2021

8:30 am –11:30 am *Middle Office reserved for nursing mothers*

9:30 am Worship
(+Live streamed & archived)

10:30 am Indoor Fellowship

10:40 am Welcome Whirl Outdoors

11:00 am Confirmation
Parent/Guardian Meeting

Monday, September 13, 2021

1:30 pm Women Who Read

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

9:00 am CFC Children's Church

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

7:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Men's Kowakan Trip

9:00 am Men's Bible Study

9:00 am CFC Soccer

6:00 pm Children's Ministry Council Meeting

6:15 pm Church & Society Meeting

7:00 pm Youth Group

Thursday, September 16, 2021

Friday, September 17, 2021

Saturday, September 18, 2021

8:30 am Men's Group

10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, September 19, 2021

9:30 am Worship
(+Live streamed & archived)

9:45 am Outdoor Sunday School

10:30 am Indoor Fellowship

10:45 am MCCI: Resource Refocus
Sunday

8:00 pm Youth Sunday Night
Check-In

Permissions and Acknowledgements:

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