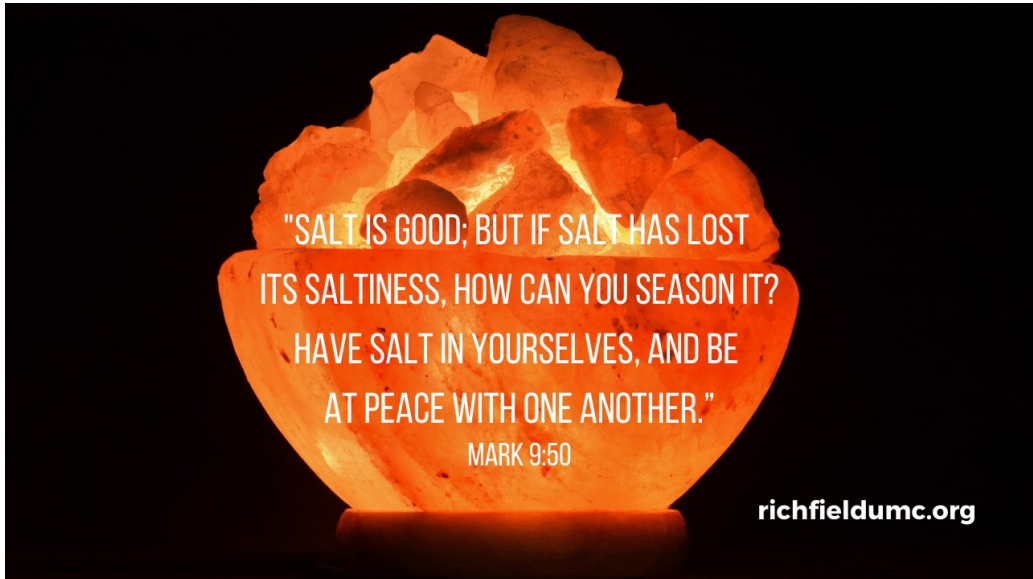




September 26, 2021 at 9:30am  
18th Sunday after Pentecost



bold = in unison

## ENTRANCE

Prelude "Allegro" by J. Carvalho  
Welcome Rev. Nate Melcher  
Call to Worship Rev. Hope Hutchison

Everything is held in the Memory of God --  
**Our childhoods, our dearest connections, our deepest pain.**  
Everything is held in the Love of God --  
That which feels broken beyond repair, that which is healing,  
**the hard-earned and gritty flourishing.**  
Everyone is held in the Great Web of Connection --  
Our thriving is bound up in one another's.  
**Let us gather in the Spirit of Interdependence.**

## Gathering 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.

## Centering Prayer

**Living Christ, you protect young people fiercely. If we are young, may we feel deeply your delight in us just as we are. If we are no longer young, may we live in a way that honors our truest childhood self. Thank you for the open-heartedness of children and the creative power of adolescents. 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.*

## Sacrament of Baptism

*Evelyn Louise, child of Laura and Jon Gilmore*

Members of the household of God, I commend Evelyn Louise to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love.

**Child of God, by water and the Spirit, we welcome you into God's new creation. May you and we learn from one another, share in the love of Jesus, and grow in faith as the Body of Christ. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## 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            "The Rainbow Connection" by P. Williams/K. Ascher

## Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

# PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

## Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:42-50

NRSV

Jesus said, "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

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

Sermon

"By Our Gifts"  
"Church Is a People" Worship Series 3 of 5

Rev. Nate Melcher

Prayers of the People

Randy Matheus

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

Offertory

"No Sweeter Name"

by Kari Jobe

## 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

Gracious Lord, we join together in prayer. We recognize that daily prayer impacts our spiritual health. Likewise, offering our tithes to you impacts our spiritual health. The acts of praying and giving unify our church community and place our collective attention on you. As we practice these spiritual disciplines, we hope to draw even closer to you. We pray in the name of the Jesus Christ who offers salvation to all throughout our world. Amen.

# SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

The Faith We Sing Hymnal No. 2120

Vs. 1 and 4

*Refrain:*

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness  
calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,  
wind, wind on the sea.

1. You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing:  
“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.” *Refrain*
4. You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,  
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,  
with bold new decisions your people arise. *Refrain*

Benediction

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

Postlude

“Be Thou My Vision”

traditional



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

We celebrate this morning the baptism of Evelyn Louise Gilmore, child of Jon and Laura Gilmore. Sponsors are Matt and Kristina Melsen. Grandparents are Steve and Jan Kirchner and Kent and Patty Gilmore.

The quilt presented to Evelyn Louise was created by Common Threads, church quilting, sewing, knitting, and crocheting group, as a reminder of our communal call to live our baptismal vows.

**Hello, guests!** Welcome to worship as Richfield UMC. It's a big step to come to a new church and we're glad you're here. If you have questions, please ask any church member, and we hope you have a good experience.



## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Today—September 26

**Outdoor Sunday School** at 9:45 am. Children go to Sunday School after the Time with Children during the worship service.

**Youth Sunday Check-in** at 7:00 pm. Contact Garrett at [gjohnson@richfieldumc.org](mailto:gjohnson@richfieldumc.org) to get connected.

### Saturday, October 2

**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](mailto:blessings325@gmail.com).

### Next Sunday, October 3

**World Communion Sunday**

On World Communion Sunday your giving helps provide scholarships for U. S. and international graduate students whom God gifts to learn and to serve.

**Bible Sunday**

We present Bibles to our 3rd graders and 3+ year old children, who have not already received one. Contact Rev. Hope at [hhutchison@richfieldumc.org](mailto:hhutchison@richfieldumc.org).

**Servant Volunteer Sunday**

The church honors and thanks all who have been a servant volunteer since we began distanced gatherings and ministry. We will lift you up in prayer in worship. Thank you for sharing God's blessings in the life of your church!

**Flu Shot Clinic—9:00 am -11:30 am** in the Middle Office

The standard flu shot and high dose flu shot (ages 65+) will be available. Bring your insurance card or cash/check payment of \$41.00 for standard shot or \$90.00 for high dose. Checks made out to Hennepin Healthcare. Questions? Email the Parish Nurse at [kbergeland@richfieldumc.org](mailto:kbergeland@richfieldumc.org).

### Homelessness in Minnesota

The Church & Society Team is partnering with Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative to do "inreach" interviews with any member of the congregation who will share what they know, think, and wonder about the challenge of homelessness in Minnesota. If you want to be interviewed, contact the church office 612-861-6086 or [rumc@richfieldumc.org](mailto:rumc@richfieldumc.org).

## Ongoing and Open

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

Oct. 4: *Afterlife: A Novel* by Julia Alvarez

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.

## Families with Young Children are always welcome in worship!

Here are some options to help your family have a good experience today:

**The Nook** - A space connected to the Sanctuary perfect for having a quiet or wiggly moment.

**Art Cart** - Children can fill a bag with items in The Nook to bring with them to worship with their families in the pews.

**Sacred Ground** - This space is temporarily closed. Please feel free to sit together as a family in the pews, or use the Nook instead.

**Time with Children** - Children of all ages are invited to experience a message just for them while seated with their parents/guardians.

**Sunday School** - Following the Time with Children, from September-May, children may worship or go to Sunday School. Meet your teachers in the Nook. There is no Sunday School on "Children First" Sundays, the 1st Sunday of the month.

**Nursing Mothers** - You may nurse wherever you like. There is also a reserved Nursing Room available near the Library area.

## **An Everyday Prayer Life Is for Everyone**

**May we devote time and energy to God and neighbor and pray every day for:**

- Open minds and hearts for "conflux moments."
- People in need of a loving church home.
- Our church's journey toward vitality.

### **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, and Bev Crandall's brother-in-law, Howard.

### **Prayers for Comfort:**

All those in hospice and their families.

## This Week's Calendar

The church office/Campus is open Tues.-Thurs., 8am-4pm.  
The Church Library is open when the campus is open.

### Sunday, September 26, 2021

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

9:30 am Worship  
(+Live streamed & archived)  
9:45 am Outdoor Sunday School  
10:30 am Indoor Fellowship  
7:00 pm Youth Sunday Night  
Check-In

### Monday, September 27, 2021

### Tuesday, September 28, 2021

9:00 am CFC Children's Church  
9:30 am Women's Bible Study  
7:00 pm Administrative Board Meeting

### Wednesday, September 29, 2021

9:00 am Men's Bible Study  
9:00 am CFC Soccer  
6:00 pm Leadership Institute Watch Party  
6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Youth Group  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, September 30, 2021

8:00 am Leadership Institute Group  
Watch Party

### Friday, October 01, 2021

8:00 am Leadership Institute Group  
Watch Party

### Saturday, October 02, 2021

8:30 am Men's Group  
9:00 am God's Hands Thrift Store:  
The Great Giveaway

### 10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

### Sunday, October 03, 2021

*World Communion Sunday, Bible Sunday,  
Servant Volunteer Sunday*

9:00 am Flu Shot Clinic  
9:30 am Worship  
(+Live streamed & archived)  
10:30 am Indoor Fellowship  
7:00 pm Youth Sunday Night  
Check-In

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Greg Locke, Devon Olson, Jason Hansen

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Randy Matheus, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech Crew: Rev. Bill Johnson, TY Moore, Dale Olson

### Permissions and Acknowledgements:

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