



October 31, 2021 at 9:30am
23rd Sunday after Pentecost



**"You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart, and with all
your soul, and with all your mind,
and with all your strength."**

MARK 12:30

richfieldumc.org

bold = in unison

ENTRANCE

- Prelude **"Variations"** [from: Organ Concerto Op. 4, No. 1] by G. F. Handel
- Welcome Rev. Nate Melcher
- Call to Worship Rev. Hope Hutchison

The trick to living well is loving well.
It is a treat to be loved by you, O God!
Your teachings lack a disguise and need no costume.
Let love go from door to door in our neighborhoods, O Jesus!
May we knock on the door and may the door be opened.
Keep the light on and burning bright, O Spirit!

Gathering Hymn

“We, Thy People, Praise Thee”

UM Hymnal No. 67

1. We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee,
God of every nation!
We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee,
Lord of Hosts eternal!
Days of wonder, days of beauty,
days of rapture filled with light
tell thy goodness, tell thy mercies,
tell thy glorious might.
We, thy people praise thee, praise thee,
praise thee evermore.
2. We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee,
God of every nation!
We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee,
Lord of Hosts eternal!
For thy blessings, for thy bounty,
joyful songs to thee we sing,
songs of glory, songs of triumph
to our God and King.
We, thy people praise thee, praise thee,
praise thee evermore.

Centering Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit, come into our midst. We are here to worship with our whole being, and we call upon you to move our hearts. Move our hearts, so we may love God. Move our souls and minds and strength, so we may love God. A time of worship together now heaps coals to light a fire of faith. May we carry this fiery faith into the world and do so in your name. 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 “Any Dream Will Do” by A. Lloyd Webber
[from: “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”]
Paige Armstrong and Brad Gardner, soloists

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Mark 12:28-34

NRSV

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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

Sermon

“Grounded by Gratitude”
“Overture” Worship Series 2 of 4

Rev. Nate Melcher

THANKSGIVING

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

“The Song of the Birds”
Pat Norton, cello

Trad. Catalan

Doxology

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 God, you call us to love you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We seek to focus on you as our highest priority. Help us to make lifestyle decisions based on your commandments. We, your kingdom-seekers, offer you this money as a means of placing you first in our lives. May these gifts provide ministries of love and compassion to our neighbors. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn

“Help Us Accept Each Other”
Vs. 1 and 2

UM Hymnal No. 560

1. Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us
and bring us to believe:
we are ourselves accepted
and meant to love and live.
2. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may become.

Benediction

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

Postlude

“Toccatà in d minor”

J. S. Bach



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

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—October 31

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

Fall Worship Series #2 - "OVERTURE" Continues

Adding up the moments of feeling and sharing God's love is an exercise of celebrating the power of our faith and its fruitfulness. We look back to our history, reflect on our present today, and look boldly into our future as we steward our resources and share our gifts as the church. This worship series is supplemented by the video series, "The Generosity Challenge: 28 Days of Gratitude, Prayer, and Faith," available free to watch at on Amplify Media. To get signed up for this resource, visit <https://www.richfieldumc.org/ministries/amplify/>.

Homelessness in Minnesota

The Church & Society Team is partnering with Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative to do interviews with members who will share what they know, think, and wonder about homelessness in Minnesota. To be interviewed, contact the church office 612-861-6086 or the interviewers, Jen P. (jen@pacyga.com) and Sarah M. (SarahMus13@gmail.com) directly.

MCCI Update

richfieldumc.org/mcci now features examples of MCCI success stories from United Methodist Churches in Minnesota and FAQ Frequently Asked Questions about the process, report, and church conference for in-person and online voting procedures for our first hybrid church conference. The requests for local stories and FAQ are based on the latest Town Hall discussion.

Town Hall Meetings—Meeting Next Sunday

There are three town hall meetings to discuss the MCCI report that we received in worship on October 17. The remaining town hall meetings are:

Next Sunday, November 7, 10:35-11:15 am, Sanctuary
Thursday, November 18, 7:00-8:00 pm Online via Zoom

Next Sunday—November 7

UMW Shopping Sunday—November 7, 10:30 am, Fellowship Hall

Get a start on your holiday shopping and support some great causes. Shop Walker Jewelry, UMW crafts, and Pottery. Sunday November 7th after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall.

Town Hall Meetings—November 7, 10:35-11:15 am, Sanctuary

There will be a town hall meeting next Sunday to discuss the MCCI report that we will received in worship on October 17.

Ongoing and Open

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

Nov. 1: *Virgil Wander* by Leif Enger

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, Sara Watne's sisters, Hope and Lora, Laurel Lien, Marilyn Dodge, Tim, son of Roxie and Bill Hillger, and Caroline Riley.

Prayers for Comfort: Molly Reko's brother, Dr. Robert Wilson, and all those in hospice and their families.

Prayers for those who are Grieving: Destiny, great-granddaughter of Roxie and Bill Hillger

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, October 31, 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

Monday, November 01, 2021

1:30 pm Women Who Read

Tuesday, November 02, 2021

9:00 am CFC Children's Church

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 03, 2021

9:00 am Men's Bible Study

9:00 am CFC Soccer

6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:00 pm Youth Group

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 04, 2021

Friday, November 05, 2021

Saturday, November 06, 2021

8:30 am Men's Group

10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, November 07, 2021

9:30 am Worship

(+Live streamed & archived)

9:45 am Outdoor Sunday School

10:30 am Indoor Fellowship

10:30 am Shopping Sunday—Hosted by
the UMW

10:35 am Town Hall Meeting to discuss
the MCCI Report

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Paige Armstrong, Nancy Dierauer, Brad Gardner

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech Crew: Garrett Johnson, TY Moore, Dale Olson

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