

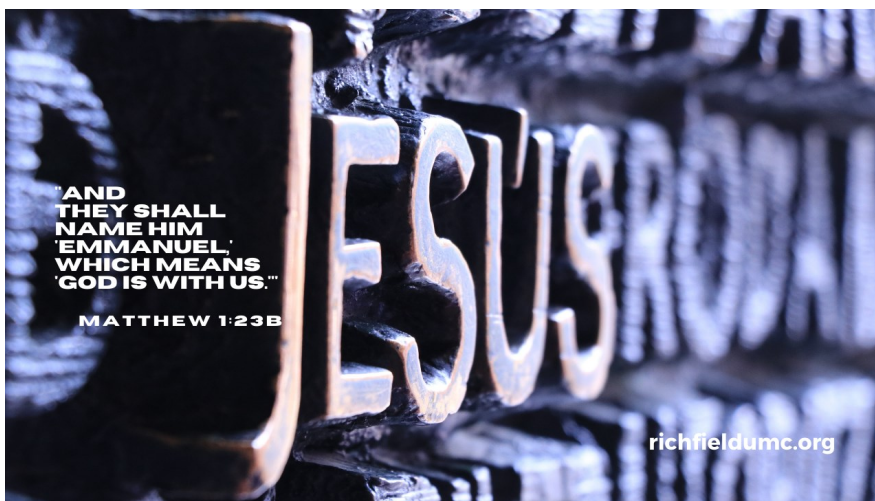


# RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**December 19, 2021 at 9:30am**

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Lessons and Carols



## ENTRANCE

**bold = in unison**

Prelude

“Or nous dites, Marie” M. Charpentier/arr. Clark  
“Shepherd’s Song” from Catalan Trad./arr. Clark  
String quartet

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Time with Children

Lighting the Advent Wreath IV The Candle of Faith Jen Pacyga & Fern Albertson

The season of Advent bids us to give;  
Our gifts are humble, yet the star burns bright.

The Wise witness their vision:

“The child is born king of the Jews! We observe his star, we know its rising,  
we come to pay him homage!”

It is a witness of the gifts of the Gentiles.  
It is a witness for a people who put faith in God.  
In the wide skies, in the vast lands, God is in this.

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Faith. The Light of Faith for you, for me, and for this beautiful, broken world. May faith burn bright in every corner of our lives. Amen.

# PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Gathering Hymn                    “Once in Royal David’s City”                    by Alexander/Gauntlett

*Please remember that we are not singing as a church during  
in-person worship due to pandemic concerns. Thank you for your cooperation.*

First Lesson    Jeremiah 23:5-6 (NRSV)    Paul Watne

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

Carol    “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”    French, 15th cent.  
Pat Norton, cello

Second Lesson    Isaiah 11:1-5 (NRSV)    Michael Watne

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

Hymn    “Lo, How a Rose e’er Blooming”    Trans. by T. Baker

Third Lesson    Isaiah 9:2-7 (NRSV)    Rev. Nate Melcher

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.  
For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,



Carol "The Angel Gabriel" Basque Carol/arr. J. Leavitt

Sixth Lesson Luke 2:1-12 (NRSV) Brennan Currie

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

Carol "To Thee My Heart I Offer" by E. Hagenberg

Text: Oh Christ-Child sweet and dear;  
Upon Thy love relying, be Thou ever near.  
Oh take my heart and give me Thine and may it be forever mine,  
Oh Jesus, holy, undefiled, My Saviour meek and mild.

What brought Thee to the manger, Oh Christ-child sweet and dear?  
Thy love from a stranger, be Thou ever near,  
Oh Lord how great Thy perfect Love,  
that reaches from the heavens above.  
Thy love for us, by sin defiled, That made Thee, God, a child.

Let me be Thine forever, Oh Christ-child sweet and dear;  
Uphold me with Thy mercy, be Thou ever near.  
Thy hand bestows Thy gifts to me and all I have, I offer Thee.  
My heart, my soul, and all I own; Let these be Thine alone.

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Seventh Lesson Luke 2:13-20 (NRSV) London Owens

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and

found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Anthem I. “*Gloria in excelsis*” [from: “Gloria”] by A. Vivaldi

### 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.*

Eighth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11 (NRSV) Mitchell Wilson

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Hymn “We Three Kings” by J. H. Hopkins

Ninth Lesson John 1:1-4 Buerkley Owens

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Carol “Go Tell It on the Mountain” Trad./arr. N. Vangeloff

Sermon “Advent Gifts”  
Sara Watne, Scott Clarke, and Orlean Kovach  
“Nativity Now” Worship Series 4 of 4

# THANKSGIVING

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

## SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn

“See Amid the Winter’s Snow”

by J. Goss/arr. D. Wilcocks

Benediction

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

Postlude

“In Dulci Jubilo”

by J. S. Bach



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

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Christmas Eve Worship

Friday, December 24 at 4:00 pm—Family Worship

Friday, December 24 at 9:00 pm—Traditional Worship

In-person and online at [youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc)  
or by touch tone phone: 1.888.650.5835.

All ages are welcome for either service. Nursery is available at the 4:00 pm service. Both services feature the same sermon and end with singing “Silent Night.” The Family Worship has elements specifically designed for young children to experience the Nativity story at their level.

### Online-Only Worship on December 26

[youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc) or 888.650.5835

After this long season of distanced worship from necessity, we will experiment with distanced worship with intentionality. Please do not come to campus that day and thank you for your grace.

### Assisting Tornado Survivors

The United Methodist Church is responding to help those affected by recent tornadoes in parts of the Midwest. Visit [umcmmission.org](https://umcmmission.org) to make a donation. Visit [www.umnews.org](https://www.umnews.org) to read about the UM Church in these areas.

## Ongoing and Open

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

January 3: Share book recommendations for future meetings

February 7: *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell

Contact Fern Albertson, [WFalbertson@gmail.com](mailto:WFalbertson@gmail.com), to get connected.

### **Tuesdays, 9:30 am | Women's Bible Study**

Contact Molly Reko, [mollyreko@comcast.net](mailto:mollyreko@comcast.net), to get connected.

### **Wednesdays, 9:00 am | Men's Bible Study**

Contact Kent Johnson, [kentjmn@gmail.com](mailto:kentjmn@gmail.com), to get connected.

### **Saturdays, 8:30 am | Men's Support Group**

Contact Kent Johnson, [kentjmn@gmail.com](mailto:kentjmn@gmail.com), 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, Caroline Riley, Bill Hillger, Sharon Morrow, David Couillard, Susan (SK) Johnson, and Lori Mosher Claussen's son, Sean.

### **Prayers for those who are Grieving:**

- \* Barb and Dave Rogers and family in the death of Barb's mother, Betty Donovan.

**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.

### **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, December 19, 2021**

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

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

9:45 am Sunday School

10:30 am Indoor Fellowship

#### **Monday, December 20, 2021**

#### **Tuesday, December 21, 2021**

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

#### **Wednesday, December 22, 2021**

9:00 am Men's Bible Study

7:00 pm Youth Group

#### **Thursday, December 23, 2021**

#### **Friday, December 24, 2021**

##### **Christmas Eve**

4:00 pm Family Friendly Worship Service

9:00 pm Traditional Worship Service

#### **Saturday, December 25, 2021**

Merry Christmas!

#### **Sunday, December 26, 2021**

9:30 am Online -Only Worship Service

Please do not come to campus  
this day. Thank you.

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Paige Armstrong, Nancy Dierauer, Carolyn Liptak- violin, Rachel Jensen - violin II, Ginny Bement - viola, Pat Norton - cello

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher, Jen Pacyga

Tech Crew: Rev. Bill Johnson, Dale Olson, Steve Warner

### **Permissions and Acknowledgements:**

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**Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational.**

Richfield UMC gathers on Dakota land. More at [richfieldumc.org/land](http://richfieldumc.org/land).