



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 26, 2021 at 9:30 am
First Sunday after Christmas Day

**" D O N O T
B E A F R A I D . "**

Matthew 1:20a

richfieldumc.org

ENTRANCE

Prelude	"Christmas Time Is Here" Living Waters Band, Richfield UMC (Minneapolis)	by Vince Guaraldi
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher
Greeting and Opening Prayer		Rev. Dan Johnson, Twin Cities District Superintendent
	"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" (Edmund Sears and Richard Storrs Willis) Eileen Miller, Hamline UMC (St. Paul)	

Gathering Hymn “Go Tell It On the Mountain” by J.W. Work Jr.
Dr. Marcus Simmons, Camphor Memorial UMC (St. Paul)

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens
there shown a holy light. (Refrain)
2. The shepherds feared and trembled,
when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed the Savior's birth. (Refrain)
3. Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Gospel Reading Luke 1:26-38 (CEB) Rev. Laurie Kantonen
North Star
District Superintendent

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom."

Then Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen since I haven't had sexual relations with a man?"

The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God’s Son. Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled ‘unable to conceive’ is now six months pregnant. Nothing is impossible for God.”

Then Mary said, “I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

Speaker #1	Mary	Rev. Riva Tabelisma Filipino Outreach Ministry and Community UMC (Columbia Heights)
Hymn	“Lo How a Rose E’er Blooming” Hamline Church Choir (St. Paul)	arr. M. Praetorius
Gospel Reading	Matthew 1:18-24	Rev. Cynthia Williams River Valley District Superintendent

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn’t want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, don’t be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

*Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,
And they will call him, Emmanuel.*

(Emmanuel means “God with us.”)

When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife.

Speaker #2	Joseph	Rev. Yolanda Williams Glenwood United Parish
Hymn	“Carol of the Drum” Hamline University A Cappella Choir (St. Paul)	by K. Davis
Gospel Reading	Luke 2:1-7	Rev. Fred Vanderwerf Southern Prairie District Superintendent

In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. Since Joseph belonged to David’s house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David’s city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom.

Speaker #3	Innkeeper	Rev. Brian Cornell Northwood UMC (Esko) & Norton Park UMC (Duluth) Rev. Katherine Cornell Asbury UMC (Duluth)
Hymn	“Sweet Little Jesus Boy” Dr. Marcus Simmons, Camphor Memorial UMC (St. Paul)	by R. MacGimsey

THANKSGIVING

Closing Reflection		Rev. Cindy Gregorson Director of Connectional Ministries & Clergy Assistant to the Bishop
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SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn

“O Holy Night”

by A. Adam

Rev. Yolanda Williams and Martial Besombes

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior’s birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope- the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!

Truly He tells us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our neighbor,
And in His name let all oppression shall cease.
Behold your King, this lies in lowly manger.
In all our trials, He was born to be your Friend.
For He knows your needs— to our weakness He is no stranger.
Behold him come! Before him lowly bend.
Behold him come! before him lowly bend.

Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night, O night divine!

**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

Next Sunday, January 2

We return to both in-person and online worship as Minnesota's interim bishop, Bishop David Alan Bard, preaches a sermon of grace and welcome for our new year serving God together. We celebrate Holy Communion, as well. While its content won't be covered in worship, you're encouraged to get acquainted with *Three Simple Rules* by reading the introduction, pages 7-18.

Pickup your copy of *Three Simple Rules* the next time you are on the church campus.

A Fresh Worship Series to Kick-off 2022: "FIRST THING FIRST"

When we let our faith lead how we make our decisions, we put God first. By first doing no harm, then doing good, and all along the way staying in love with God, may you live a life that reflects the love of God to everyone you meet. This worship series is supplemented by the book *Three Simple Rules* by Bishop Reuben Job. Pick up your copy today and read in preparation for worship this January.

January 2 Preface/Introduction, pages 7-18

January 9 Do No Harm, pages 19-32

January 16 Do Good, pages 33-50

January 23 Stay in Love with God, pages 51-64

Join in a **Book study** for *Three Simple Rules* on Sundays in January, in-person and online, beginning January 9, 10:40 am -11:15 am. All are welcome.

Youth Group Resumes January 12

Wednesdays, 7:30pm-8:30pm in the Youth Room

Join Rev. Hope, Pastor Nate, and your fellow teens and other servant volunteers for an evening of games, guest speakers, video discussion, check-in, and building community together. Contact: Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org.

All Children are welcome

Sunday School runs during the worship service. Children leave worship following the Time with Children. Children's Ministry Calendar:

Sunday, January 2: No Sunday School

Sunday, January 9, 16, 23, 30: Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall

Contact: Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org.

Time for LIFE: Learning, Inspiration, and Fellowship for Everyone

Program: "Trends in Fraud & Identity Theft: A Perfect Storm"

Thursday, January 13th, 1:00-2:00 pm - Note: Online only this month!

[Zoom link](#): Meeting ID: 813-2660-1056 Passcode: 5835 OR Call-In: 312-626-6799, then enter Meeting ID and Passcode (standard rates may apply)

Contact Parish Nurse, Kay, 612-861-6086, or kbergeland@richfieldumc.org.

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, to get connected.

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

Contact Molly Reko, mollyreko@comcast.net, to get connected.

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

Contact Kent Johnson, kentjmn@gmail.com, to get connected.

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

Contact Kent Johnson, 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 when worshipping in the Sanctuary:

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, 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 Comfort: Jan Hansen and all those in hospice and their families.

Prayers for those who are Grieving:

- * The family, especially Anne and Russ Ruona, and friends of Peggy Hamilton who died December 4, 2021.
- * Barb and Dave Rogers and family in the death of Barb's mother, Betty Donovan.

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 26, 2021
9:30 am Online-Only Worship Service

Thursday, December 30, 2021
Last day for 2021 in-person giving

Monday, December 27, 2021

Friday, December 31, 2021

Tuesday, December 28, 2021
9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Saturday, January 1, 2022
Happy New Year!

Wednesday, December 29, 2021
Last day for 2021 online giving

Sunday, January 2, 2022
9:30 am Worship
(+Live streamed & archived)

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Martial Besombes, Hamline Church Choir, Hamline University A Cappella Choir, Greg Locke, Eileen Miller, Pat Norton, Devon Olson, Dr. Marcus Simmons, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Brian Cornell, Rev. Katherine Cornell, Rev. Cindy Gregorson, Rev. Dan Johnson, Rev. Laurie Kantonen, Rev. Nate Melcher, Rev. Riva Tabelisma, Rev. Fred Vanderwerf, Rev. Cynthia Williams, Rev. Yolanda Williams

Tech Crew: Rev. Nate Melcher (editing/adaptation), Rev. Cullen Tanner (curator/original editor)

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richfieldumc.org

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