



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 20, 2022 at 9:30 am
3rd Sunday of Lent



ENTRANCE

bold = in unison

***Rise in body or spirit**

Prelude

“Fire and Rain”
Living Waters Band

by James Taylor

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship* (Psalm 63, Isaiah 55)

O God, our souls thirst for you, our spirits long for you,
for we are parched and weary
in these desert times, these wilderness places.

But your love, O God, is better even than life.

Our words will praise you, our actions will bless you.

We will bless you as long as we live.

We will lift up our hands and call on your name.

Gathering Hymn* “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” UM Hymnal No. 57

Please remember to wear your mask when we are singing as a church during in-person worship due to pandemic concerns. Thank you for your cooperation.

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.
3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.
4. He breaks the power of canceled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

Centering Prayer (Psalm 63)

Holy One, when we are alone in the desert, wandering through the wilderness, we call to you, for you are our help. Our souls cling to you. Come, God, and hold us up. Come, bring your presence and fill us with your peace. In the shadow of your wings, we will sing for joy. 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 when your life's journey met God's heart.

Celebration Music

“He Carries My Cross”
Chancel Choir
Pat Norton, cello

by H. Sorenson

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9 (NRSV)

Gail Johnson

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

Sermon

“Failure, Disappointing Others, and Insignificance”
Unafraid” Worship Series 3 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

“Stand By Me”
Living Waters Band

by Ben E. King

THANKSGIVING

Doxology*

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
UM Hymnal No. 95, alternate words
Please wear your mask.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

Prayer of Gratitude*

Holy God, we offer these gifts in gratitude for the blessings you bestow upon us. Despite our unfruitful ways, we have endless opportunities to reflect your glory in our lives. We turn our hearts and minds to the commitment that you have made to us through your son Jesus Christ. May these gifts become symbolic of our desire to renew our covenant relationship with you, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”
Please wear your mask.

UM Hymnal No. 64

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“Toccata in b minor”

by E. Gigout

**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, March 20

Sunday School

Today children leave worship following the Time with Children for Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall. As always, children are welcome in worship. Contact: Rev. Hope, hhutchison@richfieldumc.org.

Lent Devotional

Copies of the 2022 Lent Devotional are available today in the Commons area. Copies are also available online at richfieldumc.org/devo. Daily entries are posted on the [church's Facebook page](#).

Youth Group This Wednesday, March 23

Wednesdays, 7:30pm-8:30pm in the Grace Room Come on Wednesday evenings for games, guest speakers, video discussion, check-in, and building community together. Contact: Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org.

Next Sunday, March 27

UMCOR Sunday: The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church. This special offering is collected on the fourth Sunday in Lent and provides major support for immediate assistance in the wake of natural and human-caused disasters and helps support ongoing ministries of food, shelter, health and peace. This offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business," allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs.

2022 Easter Flower Donations

You are invited to honor your loved ones by giving towards the flowers that will be used to beautify the church for this year's Easter celebration. An order forms can be found in the Commons Area or on the back of the March/April edition of the Heartline newsletter. Please return the form with your payment by Sunday, April 10 to ensure the loved ones you are honoring are listed in the bulletin.

Easter Egg Hunt

Come join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 9 from 2-4pm! Servant Volunteers are needed to help stuff eggs ahead of time or donate candy. On 4/9, you can help with crafts, games, or welcoming new people onto our beautiful campus. Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/5853c9ct>. If you have questions contact Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org.

Ongoing and Open

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

April 4: *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict

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.

Time with Children - Children of all ages are invited to experience a message just for them. Parent/guardians are welcome to join their children too.

Sunday School - Following 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.

Our prayers are a beautiful expression of care and solidarity for each other.

We pray in celebration.

We pray with gratitude.

We pray for those who are ill: Paula Milani, Marylee Fithian, Joyce Walls, Laurel Lien, Caroline Riley, Bill Hillger, Jane Parry, Sandy Nelson, and Curtis Stull's stepson, Robert McCoy.

We pray for those who seek comfort: Maxene Schwanke.

We pray for those who grieve.

We pray for our neighbors.

We pray for all in the RUMC community.

Please call the church office to be included in any of the prayers of our church.

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, March 20, 2022

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

9:45 am Sunday School

Monday, March 21, 2022

4:30 pm Girl Scout Troop 18437

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

9:00 am CFC Children's Church

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

7:00 pm Administrative Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

9:00 am Men's Bible Study

9:00 am CFC Soccer

6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm Youth Group

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Friday, March 25, 2022

10:00 am CFC Soccer

Saturday, March 26, 2022

8:30 am Men's Group

10:00 am Groth Music Scholarship
Auditions

10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, March 27, 2022

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

9:45 am Sunday School

10:40 am Confirmation

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, Lyra Olson, Pat Norton, The Chancel Choir

Liturgists: Gail Johnson, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech Crew: Rev. Bill Johnson, Dale Olson

Please let the church office know if you or someone from the church is hospitalized or immediately pre or post hospitalization. As care team member in-person visits are on hold, the care extended by the Parish Minister team will come in a phone call or hand-written note. The Parish Minister for the week of March 20 is Mary Martha Butler.

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.