



*** Please stand in body or spirit.**

Prelude	“Partita in E Major for Solo Violin, BWV 1006”	J. S. Bach
	III. Gavotte en Rondeau	
	Ben Lenzmeier, violin	
	Groth Scholarship recipient	

Welcome Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship* Rev. Hope Hutchison

When we co-create abundance,
the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.
When we pull back the curtain on the lie of scarcity,
the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.
When we make the shared table of nourishment accessible,
the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.
Let us Gather in the Spirit of the Living Christ.

1. Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God’s re-creation of the new day!

Centering Prayer

Wholly Present God, we yearn for a day when the needs of our planet and all creatures are met. We long for nourishing food, clean water, bodily safety, rejuvenating rest, and ordinary delight for all beings everywhere. Until we make it so, hold us in our grief and guide us in our transformation. 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 “Partita in E Major for Solo Violin, BWV 1006” J. S. Bach
IV. Minuets I and II
Ben Lenzmeier, violin
Groth Scholarship recipient

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

Scripture in Context

Scripture Readings

Meg Spicher

Ephesians 6:5-8

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart, as you obey Christ; not only while being watched, and in order to please them, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. Render service with enthusiasm, as to the Lord and not to men and women, knowing that whatever good we do, we will receive the same again from the Lord, whether we are slaves or free.

Luke 18:18-30

A certain ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother.’” He replied, “I have kept all these since my youth.” When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very rich. Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” He replied, “What is impossible for mortals is possible for God.”

Then Peter said, “Look, we have left our homes and followed you.” And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, who will not get back very much more in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”

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

Sermon

“Why is the Bible used as a weapon?” Rev. Nate Melcher
“So Many Questions!” Worship Series 6 of 9

Special Music

“A Plowshare Prayer”

by Spencer LaJoye

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

“When the Poor Ones Who have Nothing”

A. Olivar and M. Monzano

Tiffany Holt, soloist

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*

Holy Spirit, bless what we have brought forth to meet the spiritual and physical needs of our community. May we have fortitude when we feel weary. May we be surprised by moments of connection and delight. When we feel resentment toward others or when we feel judgment towards ourselves, may compassion usher us more deeply toward each other, where our freedom intertwines. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn✱

“Make Me a Servant”

The Faith We Sing Hymnal No. 2176

Sing twice

**Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant,
Make me a servant today.**

Benediction✱

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

Postlude

“Prelude in Classic Style”

G. Young



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

Welcome Groth Scholarship recipient Benjamin Lenzmeier! Ben will be a junior at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. He will be studying violin performance and is a graduate of St. Agnes High School, St. Paul.

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, August 21

So Many Questions Worship Series continues with “Which version of the Bible is the best?”

Blessing of the Animals

Many of us who have pets see them as members of our family, embodying love and joy. Our pets are part of God’s good creation, and so we will gather to bless them on **Sunday, August 21 at 9:30 am**. Bring your pets, bring your friends, bring your friend’s pets, and join in a grace-filled and love-filled worship service.

Youth Summer Field Trip

The National Eagle Center!

Tuesday, August 16, 9:00am-4:30pm Youth Cost: Snacks, Souvenirs
Youth, RSVP to Rev. Hope by Friday, August 12!

30 Days of Prayer for CFC Continues

All church members are called to pray for CFC families and staff. We have a critical need for more CFC staff and are hiring for part-time and full-time positions. Spread the word and share our ad on [Facebook](#) and the [church website](#). If you know a person who would be interested, please get us connected, thanks.

Online-Only Worship September 4

youtube.com/richfieldumc or 888.650.5835

As announced at the church conference on January 30, the elected leaders of Ad Board approved a proposal to intentionally hold online-only worship with no in-person option on September 4, 2022 (Labor Day weekend).

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, September 11, 9:30 am worship service

Another fall is approaching. It is a time for students to return to the classroom and for other fall schedules to resume. We will be having a Blessing of the Backpacks celebration on September 11 at the 9:30 am worship service. We are asking that all students come with backpacks or another kind of student bag. Every caregiver wants their child to have all the advantages possible for a good education, that includes a blessing.

Craft and Vender Fair at Richfield UMC

Saturday November 5th, 10am to 2pm

If you are interested in having table please contact Rhonda at rhonda.s.olson@gmail.com or Toni at toni@ggrrreegg.com

Ongoing and Open

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

September 12: In the Night of Memory by Linda LeGarde Grover
(Note date change because of Labor Day Holiday)

Contact Fern Albertson, wfalbertson@gmail.com, to get connected.

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

Note: Women's Bible Study is not meeting in the month of August 2022

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.

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, Agnes Danzl, Connie Gillespie, Scott, son-in-law of Cori and Jill Williamson, John Darling, Sara W.'s sister, Hope, Phyllis Killam, the Melcher family, and Ann Johnson.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

We pray for those who grieve:

- * The family and friends of John Cogan who died last year. A memorial service will be held on Mon. Aug. 15 at 2:00 pm. Visitation the hour prior to the service.
- * The family and friends of Jan Hansen who died in January. A memorial service will be held on Mon. Aug. 22 at 11:00 am. Visitation the hour prior to the service.

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, August 14, 2022

Women's Canoe Trip Week

- 9:30 am In-person Worship Service
Richfield Bandshell
- 9:30 am Online/Phone Worship Service

Monday, August 15, 2022

- 1:00 pm Cogan Visitation/Fellowship
- 2:00 pm John Cogan Memorial Service

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

- 9:00 am Youth Group Field Trip

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

- 9:00 am CFC Soccer
- 9:00 am Men's Bible Study

Thursday, August 18, 2022

Friday, August 19, 2022

Saturday, August 20, 2022

- 8:30 am Men's Group
- 10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, August 21, 2022

- 9:30 am Worship Service
Blessing of the Animals
(+Live streamed & archived)

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Nancy Dierauer, Tiffany Holt

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher, Meg Spicher

Tech Crew: Rev. Bill Johnson, Garrett 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 August 14 is Merry Rendahl.

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