



**December 11, 2022 at 9:30 am
Third Sunday of Advent**



bold = in unison

*** Please rise in body or spirit.**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer”
Buerkley Owens, piano

“Aurora Borealis”
London Owens, piano

by Ricker

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Lighting the Advent Wreath

The Candle of Joy

Britney and Tyler Stidham, Poppy

We gather in the season of Advent, a season of Joy.

God who made heaven and earth and keeps faith forever,
champion justice, uplift the forgotten, bring freedom to all.
In the tempest storm and wind, your message remains clear.
We rejoice in this journey to seek the holy around us.
Tidings of comfort and joy fill the winter air.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Joy.
The LORD is here forever, known for all generations!
May Joy light up this world. Amen.

Anthem “Savior of the Nations Come” arr. Cathy Moglebust
Chancel Bell Choir

Centering Prayer

Joyful Spirit who speaks to us in the trees, in the waves, in the words of children, and in scripture, speak to us today through the message of joy. Align our hearts and minds with the Advent Promise and increase the joy we practice among us. 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.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Time with Adults “Tidings of Joy” Rev. Hope Hutchison
“Tiding of Comfort and Joy” Worship Series 3 of 4

Christmas Pageant “Star Trip”

Hymn “The First Noel” UM Hymnal #245

- 1. The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

Scripture John 1:1-5

Scene #1 Long, Long Ago

Anthem “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. Kevin Bryant
Chancel Bell Choir

Scripture Micah 5:1-2, 4-5a

Hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem” UM Hymnal #230

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Scene #2 Star Trip

Anthem “Away In a Manger”
Sunday School Choir

Scripture Matthew 1:18-25

Hymn “Joy to the World” UM Hymnal #246

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Scene #3 The Dark Side

Scripture Matthew 2:1-3, 7-8

Hymn “We Three Kings” UM Hymnal #254

1. We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Scene #4 The Lord Be With You

Scripture Matthew 2:9-12

Hymn “O Come, All Ye Faithful” UM Hymnal #234

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

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.

Sharing Our Gifts and Lighting Our Conflux Candles

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.

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

“Simple Season”
The Living Waters Band

by Barbara McAfee

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

THANKSGIVING

Prayer of Gratitude / 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.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn★ “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” UM Hymnal 196

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Benediction★

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

Postlude “Christmas Time Is Here” by Vince Guaraldi



Thank you for worshiping 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, December 11

UWF Bake Sale and Walker Jewelry Sale—Get your holiday baking done the easy way today. Cookies, breads and other items, gluten-free items available.

Advent Devotional available in the Commons Area—The devotional appears on our Facebook page daily (facebook.com/RichfieldUnitedMethodistChurch) and is available in its entirety on the church website at richfieldumc.org/devo.

Christmas Poinsettias - You are invited to honor your loved ones by giving towards the flowers for this year's Christmas celebration. Please see the insert in today's bulletin or the back page of the November/December Newsletter for a form. **Please return the form with your payment by today, Dec. 11, 2022** to ensure the loved ones you are honoring are listed in the bulletin.

Confirmation Class—10:45 am today in the Grace Room.

Worship Service of Hope and Healing (In-Person Only)

This Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 pm in the Chapel

The long winter nights, the coming of special holidays, and the close of the year can stir up many emotions, including loss, joy, wonder, exhaustion and grief. Let us gather in solidarity and support in this worship service featuring gentle music, prayer, candle lighting and interactive moments. This service is in-person only.

Next Sunday, December 18

Lessons and Carols featuring the Chancel Choir and a string quartet.

Sunday School Christmas Party—Following Time with Children.

Muffins available on Sunday, December 18. Muffins are \$3 or 2 for \$5. The proceeds above the cost of the muffins goes toward funding for Children and Youth scholarships (VBS, camp, mission trips, etc.).

Christmas Eve Worship
Saturday, December 24, 2022

Worship on Christmas Eve in-person, online, and by phone and let us remember we are connected as one worshipping body on this glorious day. Both services feature the same sermon, the Nativity story, prayers of hope and peace, wonderful music, and "Silent Night" by candlelight.

4:00 pm Family-Friendly Worship features Victor Zupanc, a guest harpist and a special time with children. Nursery care available.

9:00 pm Traditional Worship features music from the Chancel Choir and a string quartet.

Online-Only Worship on Christmas Day and New Year's Day

youtube.com/richfieldumc or 888.650.5835—As approved by the RUMC Administrative Board, there will be online-only worship with no in-person option on Sundays December 25, 2022 and January 1, 2023.

Ongoing and Open

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

January 9th: discussion of potential books for the 2023 schedule
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 in a sensory friendly environment.

Art Cart - Children can use items from the cart while worshipping in the Nook or can fill a bag with items to take into the sanctuary during worship

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

Sunday School - Following the Time with Children, children may go to Sunday School or stay in the sanctuary to worship. Children meet Sunday school teachers in the Nook. Sunday school is held in the Fellowship Hall or outside (weather-dependent). There is no Sunday School on 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 Paula Milani, Marylee Fithian, Joyce Walls, Laurel Lien, Caroline Riley, Bill Hillger, Jane Parry, Agnes Danzl, Connie Gillespie, Derek, nephew of Susan and SK Johnson, Bill Mosher, brother of Lori Claussen, Ann, niece of David Butler, Joanne Green, Dottie Gilkeson, and Dolores Anderson.

We pray for those who seek comfort: Pat Steffer.

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, December 11, 2022

UWF Bake Sale and Walker Jewelry Sale

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

10:45 am Confirmation Class

Monday, December 12, 2022

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

9:00 am CFC Children's Church

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

9:00 am Men's Bible Study

6:30 pm Worship Service of Hope and
Healing

6:30 pm Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm Youth Group Christmas Party

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 15, 2022

7:00 pm RUMC Foundation meeting

Friday, December 16, 2022

4:00 pm CFC/Pre-School/Pre-K
Christmas Party

Saturday, December 17, 2022

8:30 am Men's Group

10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, December 18, 2022

*Lessons and Carols

*Muffin Fundraiser for children and Youth
Scholarships

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

9:45 am Sunday School Christmas Party

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Ann Johnson, Greg Locke, Rev. Nate Melcher, Lyra Olson,
Buerkley Owens, London Owens, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher,
Britney and Tyler Stidham and Poppy

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

Please let the church office know if you or someone from the church is hospitalized or immediately pre or post hospitalization. The pastoral care team is available to extend care and provide support in times of need. The Parish Minister for the week of December 11 is Jerry Schilling.

Permissions and Acknowledgements:

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