



**January 1, 2023 at 9:30 am
New Year's Day**

ENTRANCE

Prelude "Make Room" by Mark Hall and Matt Maher

Welcome Rev. Nate Melcher

*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.*

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.

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.

Anthem "The Annunciation" arr. T. Fettke

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.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east 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 magi 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 in the east, 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

Sermon “Epiphany Traditions” Bishop Lanette Plambeck

*You can read, download, or print out a copy of Bishop Plambeck’s
“Epiphany Traditions” handout here:*

<https://mnumc-email.brtapp.com/files/epiphany+traditions+handout.pdf>

THANKSGIVING

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Receiving the Sacrament

*There is no barrier between you and the table.
All who seek the grace of Jesus are welcome.*

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.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Music “Simple Season” by Barbara McAfee

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

Benediction

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

Postlude “The Kingdom Shall Come” by M. Burkhardt



**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.

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, Jane Parry, Agnes Danzl, Connie Gillespie, Derek, nephew of Susan and SK Johnson, Bill Mosher, brother of Lori Claussen, Ann E. Butler, niece of David and Mary Martha Butler, Joanne Green, Betsy Petersen, daughter of Mary Kay Petersen, Dorothy DeFreese, and Rhonda Olson.

We pray for those who seek comfort: Bill Hillger.

We pray for those who grieve:

The family and friends of RUMC member Pat Steffer. A memorial service was held on Tuesday, December 27, 2022.

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.

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Chancel Choir, Nancy Dierauer, Greg Locke, Lyra Olson, Tanner VanderKrabben, Victor Zupanc

Tech: Rev. Bill Johnson, Rev. Nate Melcher, TY Moore, Dale Olson, Michele Wegscheid, Steve Warner



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Online-Only Worship New Year's Day
with a sermon from our new Bishop, Lanette Plambeck

youtube.com/richfieldumc or 888.650.5835—There will be online-only worship with no in-person option on Sunday, January 1, 2023.

Youth Group resumes Wednesday, January 4, 2023

Youth Group continues on Wednesday nights at 7:30pm in the Grace Room.

Sunday, January 8, 2023

Pick up your free copy of Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say, the book inspiring the January sermon series and used in the book and video study starting in January. See below for details

New Worship Series #5: "HALF TRUTHS" January 8-February 5

There are simple phrases that *sound* Christian and like they're in the Bible. Cliché phrases like "Everything happens for a reason" or "God won't give you more than you can handle" can hurt instead of help. In worship this January, we will compare common Christian clichés with scriptural wisdom to find God's truth.

New Adult Class Begins in January (coincides with sermon series)

Book & Video Study: Half Truths (Two Options Thursdays or Sundays)

Pick up your free copy of Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say. In class, we will discuss a chapter and watch a video by Rev. Adam Hamilton. The online Thursday class discusses the chapter for the upcoming Sunday sermon, while the in-person Sunday class discusses the chapter from that day's sermon. If you cannot make the class, you're encouraged to read the book and/or watch the videos on [Amplify Media](#) on your own.

Thursdays at 7:30pm-8:30pm by [Zoom \(online-only\)](#)

1/5 through 2/2—Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 Passcode: 5835

Sundays at 10:40am-11:30am, Grace Room (in-person only) 1/8 through 2/5

Children's Sunday School resumes Sunday, January 8, 2023

Children go to Sunday School from worship after the Time for Children

Pub Theology—First Sundays at 7:00pm-8:00pm (in-person only)

New Location for 1st Quarter 2023: Protagonist Kitchen and Bar, 6601 Lyndale Avenue S., Richfield, MN 55423 (ramp parking)

Next Gatherings: January 8 (2nd Sunday), February 5, March 5

This monthly drop-in group to discusses faith, God, and life over a tasty beverage. Conversation led by Pastor Nate. More information: richfieldumc.org/pubtheology

Soup Drive: Souper Bowl of Caring—January 15-February 12

Starting on Sun., Jan. 15, and going through Super Bowl Sunday on Feb. 12, Richfield UMC will be collecting canned soup in the Commons area, and collecting online donations for VEAP so that our local food shelf can continue to feed people throughout the coldest months in Minnesota.

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

Program: Lake Superior: The Grander Rounds

Thursday, January 12th, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Online-only program: [Zoom Link](#): Online: Meeting ID: 813-2660-

1056 Passcode: 5835 OR Call-In: 312-626-6799, then enter Meeting ID and Passcode
What most Minnesotans know about Lake Superior is the "Northshore," but there is much more to the Big Lake. We welcome to Time for LIFE, Rev. Wayne and Fern Albertson, who made the tour around Superior last summer, and Rev. Kent Johnson, who has been sailing on the lake for years. Join us for this enjoyable program as we see some of the hidden beauty, uncover some of the mysteries, and discover new places to visit on the Big Lake!

Questions: Call/email the Parish Nurse, Kay Bergeland, at 612-861-6086 or kbergeland@richfieldumc.org

Church Conference on February 5

There will be a church conference after worship to receive reports and approve the 2023 operations budget. **Sunday, February 5 at 10:35 am in the Sanctuary and by [Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 886-0975-2661, Passcode: 5835 or call in: 312-626-6799** (standard rates)

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.

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, January 01, 2023

New Year's Day—Building Closed
9:30 am Online-Only Worship Service

Monday, January 02, 2023

Building Closed

Tuesday, January 03, 2023

9:30 am Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm SPRC Meeting

Wednesday, January 04, 2023

8:30 am CFC Soccer
9:00 am Men's Bible Study
6:30 pm Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Youth Group
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 05, 2023

7:30 pm Half Truths: Book and
Video Study

Friday, January 06, 2023

Saturday, January 07, 2023

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

Sunday, January 08, 2023

9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:40 am Half Truths: Book and
Video Study
10:45 am Confirmation
7:00 pm Pub Theology

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 January 1 is Gretta Thorson.

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Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational.

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