



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 22, 2023 at 9:30 am  
Third Sunday after the Epiphany



**Bold = in unison**

**\* Rise in body or spirit**

## ENTRANCE

Prelude	"Time After Time"	by Cindy Lauper
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher
Call to Worship* (Psalm 40)		Rev. Hope Hutchison

I wait patiently for the Lord. God inclined to me and heard my cry.  
**God drew me up from the pit, and made my steps secure.**  
God put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.  
**Many will see and believe, and put their trust in the Lord!**

1. I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus -  
no turning back, no turning back.
2. The world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me -  
no turning back, no turning back.
3. Though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow—  
no turning back, no turning back.

### Centering Prayer

Author of creation, Maker of all that is, by your hands the seasons turn and the days grow longer. As sunlight expands irresistibly into shadow corners, shed your light into our hearts, and into our world. Renew our spirits, renew your church, that we may worship and serve. 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

“One Lord”

by Lori True

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 10:13, Psalm 46:1-2

1 Corinthians 10:13

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Psalm 46:1-2

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Half Truth: “God won’t give you more than you can handle.”  
“Half Truths” Worship Series 3 of 5 Rev. Nate Melcher

**This, too,  
shall pass.**

## Celebration of Our Pastoral Care Teams

Wonderful Counselor, Tremendous Healer, Mighty God, we rise from rest and return to it each day in your loving presence. Thank you for the pastoral people you send into our lives, each one a sign of your grace and mercy. Thank you for the listeners, who hear what we have to say. Thank you for the prayer leaders, who offer your comfort. Thank you for the card writers, who put compassion into words. Bless all these pastoral care teams in their work and bless the lives of those who receive care. Bless all churches as communities of mutual care and respect. And bless this world with your healing touch. In thanksgiving and praise, we pray. Amen.

## Sharing Our Gifts

*Your gift in-person, by mail or phone, or online at [richfieldumc.org/give](http://richfieldumc.org/give) supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church.  
Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

Offertory

“Help Somebody”

by Susan Werner

## THANKSGIVING

Doxology\*

UMH 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 / 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\*

“Two Fishermen”  
vs. 1 and 2

TFWS Hymnal 2101

1. Two fishermen, who lived along the Sea of Galilee,  
stood by the shore to cast their nets into an ageless sea.  
Now Jesus watched them from afar, then called them each by name.  
It changed their lives, these simple men; they'd never be the same.  
"Leave all things you have and come and follow me,  
and come and follow me."
2. And as he walked along the shore 'twas James and John he'd find,  
and these two sons of Zebedee would leave their boats behind.  
Their work and all they held so dear they left beside their nets.  
Their names they'd heard as Jesus called; they came without regret.  
"Leave all things you have and come and follow me,  
and come and follow me."

Benediction\*

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

Postlude

“Why Shouldn’t We” by Mary Chapin Carpenter



Worship is over. Service begins.  
Go forth as Richfield United Methodist Church.

**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, Sunday, January 22, 2023**

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### **Pastoral Care Celebration & Book Launch**

Today we celebrate the Lay Pastoral Care Program of Richfield UMC. Christie Neuger and Joretta Marshall, both long-time seminary professors of pastoral care, have recently published a book entitled: *Lay Caregiving: A Narrative Approach* (Fortress Press). The book reflects on the approach to training and consultation used at RUMC and will be part of our celebration today. Meet the authors after worship to chat about both the program and the book.

### **Soup Drive: Souper Bowl of Caring Continues—Now through February 12**

Now through Super Bowl Sunday on Feb. 12, Richfield UMC is collecting canned soup in the Commons area, and collecting online donations for VEAP, our local food shelf. You can help feed people throughout the coldest months in Minnesota.

It's not too late to 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 described below.

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

The online Thursday class discusses the chapter for the upcoming Sunday sermon, 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** today, Children go to Sunday School from worship after the Time for Children

### **Church Conference on February 5**

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There will be a church conference after worship to receive reports and approve the 2023 operations budget. Sunday, Feb. 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)

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

**New Location for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023:** Protagonist Kitchen and Bar, 6601 Lyndale Avenue S., Richfield, MN 55423 (ramp parking) **Next Gatherings:** 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](http://richfieldumc.org/pubtheology)

### **Call For Lent 2023 Devotional Submissions**

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The theme is "Unwavering Love." **Submission Guidelines:**

1. Written reflections should be 275 words or less. Photos or artwork should print well in both print (black and white) and color (online).
2. It must be your own original writing, photo, artwork, etc. We cannot publish your favorite poem by another writer, sorry.
3. Submit your writing by Sunday, February 5, 2023 to [nmelcher@richfieldumc.org](mailto:nmelcher@richfieldumc.org).

**Next Sunday: In preparation of the Youth Super Bowl Snack fundraiser sale on Feb. 12, you have the opportunity to sample snacks and vote for your favorite. Be here next Sunday, Jan. 29 to be a taste tester!**

## Ongoing and Open

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

February 6th: Sunflower Sisters by Martha Hall Kelly

Contact Fern Albertson, [wfalbertson@gmail.com](mailto:wfalbertson@gmail.com), to get connected.

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

Contact Molly Reko, [mollyreko@comcast.net](mailto:mollyreko@comcast.net), to get connected.

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

Contact Kent Johnson, [kentjmn@gmail.com](mailto:kentjmn@gmail.com), to get connected.

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

Contact Kent Johnson, [kentjmn@gmail.com](mailto: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: For Becca Whitaker and Rev. Lynn Borgeson as they both begin new jobs.

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, Rhonda Olson, Bonnie Stemme, Kermit Johnson, father of SK Johnson, and Anna Restemayer.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

We pray for those who grieve: The family and friends of Bill Hillger, especially Roxie Hillger. There will be a memorial service on the morning of Monday, June 5.

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, January 22, 2023

Souper Bowl Soup Collection Continues  
Pastoral Care Celebration & Book Launch  
9:30 am Worship Service  
(+Live streamed & archived)  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:40 am Half Truths Study  
10:45 am Confirmation

### Monday, January 23, 2023

### Tuesday, January 24, 2023

9:00 am CFC Children's Church  
9:30 am Women's Bible Study  
7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, January 25, 2023

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 26, 2023

7:30 pm Half Truths Study

### Friday, January 27, 2023

### Saturday, January 28, 2023

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

### Sunday, January 29, 2023

Souper Bowl Soup Collection Continues  
9:30 am Worship Service  
(+Live streamed & archived)  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:40 am Half Truths Study

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Greg Locke, Rev. Nate Melcher, Lyra Olson, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: Rev. Bill Johnson, Steve Warner, Michele Wegscheid

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 22 is Kate Currie.

### Permissions and Acknowledgements:

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### Richfield United Methodist Church

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Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational

Richfield UMC gathers on Dakota land. More at [richfieldumc.org/land](http://richfieldumc.org/land).