



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 29, 2023 at 9:30 am
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude "In Thee is Gladness" by J. S. Bach

Welcome Rev. Nate Melcher

A Moment with Tanner VanderKrabben, Chancel Choir Director

Call to Worship* (Isaiah 9, Psalm 27) Rev. Hope Hutchison

The Lord is our light and our salvation.

Whom shall we fear?

The Lord sets us high on a rock.

The Lord shelters us in our day of trouble.

We, who have walked in shadow, have seen a great light.

We who have dwelled in a land of shadow, light has shined on us.

The Lord is our light and our salvation.

Whom shall we fear?

1. The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

5. Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

Centering Prayer (Isaiah 9, Psalm 27)

God of radiant light, shine into our lives, and disperse the shadow that dims our vision; shine into our world, and cast out the fears that long have chained us; shine into our worship, that we may be a people of your hope and promise. 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

“Blessed Are You”
Chancel Choir

by M. Hayes

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 23:12-14

“You shall have a designated area outside the camp to which you shall go. With your tools you shall have a trowel; when you relieve yourself outside, you shall dig a hole with it and then cover up your excrement. Because the LORD your God travels along with your camp, to save you and to hand over your enemies to you, therefore your camp must be holy, so that he may not see anything indecent among you and turn away from you.

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

Sermon

Half Truth: “God said it, I believe it, that settles it.”

“Half Truths” Worship Series 4 of 5 Rev. Nate Melcher

Recognize



Release



Return

The 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

“Give Me Jesus” Trad. Spiritual/arr. M. Hayes
Brad Gardner, soloist

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*

Blessed One, we discover such a contrast to our present culture when we read the Beatitudes. We rejoice that these generous gifts will strengthen this congregation's ability to engage in ministries of peace, mercy, comfort, and truth. We dedicate them to you in gratitude for your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

UM Hymnal 664

1. Sent forth by God’s blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended,
O now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God’s grace did invite us,
and love shall unite us
to work for God’s kingdom and answer the call.
2. With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing God’s children each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us,
with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“Praeludium”

by J. S. Bach



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 29, 2023

Be a taste tester today. In advance of the Youth Super Bowl Snack fundraiser sale on Feb. 12, you have the opportunity to sample snacks and vote for your favorite.

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.

The Half Truth classes, both in-person and online, have been cancelled. Please continue to read the book, there are still free copies of the book, *Half Truths* available. Also, watching the videos on Amplify Media are a great supplement to enhance each *half-truth* covered in the book. Get your free Amplify Media account today at richfieldumc.org/amplify.

Children's Sunday School today, Children go to Sunday School from worship after the Time for Children

Signature Ministry Survey

As announced recently in worship, **please take the 2023 Signature Ministry Survey at richfieldumc.org/welcome/survey/.** Your responses to this 15-question survey give fresh insight as we move into a new season of loving God and loving neighbor. **The survey closes at 11:59pm on January 31.** Come to the church conference meeting following worship on Sunday, February 5 to review the results together. Thank you for your voice and support in the MCCI process to revitalize your church so far and for your thoughts in this survey!

Next Sunday, February 5

Church Conference on February 5

There will be a church conference after worship to receive reports and approve the 2023 operations budget. Sun., Feb. 5 at 10:35 am in the Sanctuary and by [Zoom](https://zoom.us/j/88609752661) Meeting ID: 886-0975-2661, Passcode: 5835 or call in: 312-626-6799.

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 Gathering:** February 5
This monthly drop-in group to discusses faith, God, and life over a tasty beverage. Conversation led by Pastor Nate. Info: richfieldumc.org/pubtheology

Deadline Approaching: Lent 2023 Devotional Submissions

The theme is "Unwavering Love." Each of us has shared and received the gift of love, and we are all united in the unwavering love God has for all people.

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 next Sun., Feb. 5, to nmelcher@richfieldumc.org.

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, 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 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, Anna Restemayer, and Marilyn Dodge.

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 29, 2023

Souper Bowl Soup Collection Continues
9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:30 am Super Bowl Snack Samples

Monday, January 30, 2023

5:00 pm Care Minister Team Meeting

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

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

Wednesday, February 01, 2023

9:00 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, February 02, 2023

Friday, February 03, 2023

Saturday, February 04, 2023

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

Sunday, February 05, 2023

Souper Bowl Soup Collection Continues
Home Communion Sunday
9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
10:35 am Church Conference
7:00 pm Pub Theology

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Nancy Dierauer, Tanner VanderKrabben

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 29 is Pat Norton.

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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.