



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 26, 2023 at 9:30 am
First Sunday in Lent



UNWAVERING LOVE

a Lent worship series

richfieldumc.org

Bold = in unison

* Rise in body or spirit

ENTRANCE

Prelude	"All Glory Laud and Honor"	arr. M. Burkhardt
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher
Call to Worship*		Rev. Hope Hutchison

Take heart! Love still lives and moves among us.

Love is alive among the people, ordinary and humble.

Love gathers our strength together and champions the vulnerable.

Love cries out for justice and multiplies our capacity for good.

Be still and remember - the steadfast love that endures forever
lives within each of us.

Thanks be to God, the source of all that saves us.

1. Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.
3. Into the city I'd follow the children's band,
waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;
one of his heralds, yes, I would sing
loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"

Centering Prayer

Hosanna. Hosanna, we pray. Like our ancestors who cried out together in memory of your great works, we proclaim our trust in you. We long for deliverance from all that destroys life. We are desperate for an end to the greed that strips our communities of well-being. We know the Kingdom is near. Let it come. And let the needs of all your people be satisfied. 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

“My Song in the Night”
Chancel Choir

Southern Folk Hymn
arr. P. Christiansen

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:1-11

Rev. Lynn Borgeson

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

“Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

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

Sermon

“Jerusalem: Risking Reputation”
“Unwavering Love” Worship Series 1 of 6

Rev. Nate Melcher

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.

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

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

"He Never Failed Me Yet"
Chancel Choir

R. Ray

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 Creator, daily you reveal the glory and splendor of your kingdom. By concentrating our gifts on buying convenience and familiarity, we diminish your offer of abundant grace. Enable us through this offering to focus on your way and not on the temptations of this world. We pray humbly in your Spirit. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”
vs. 1 and 2

UM Hymnal 278

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna,
the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.
2. From Olivet they followed
mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving,
and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven
rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children
should on his bidding wait.

Benediction*

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

Imposition of Ashes

Postlude

“Toccata in d minor”

by G. Nevin



**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, February 26, 2023

Children's Sunday School, Children go from worship after the Time for Children
Confirmation Class at 10:45 am

A **Lent devotional** is available in the Commons Area. This devotional, "Bless the Lent we Actually Have" is written by Kate Bowler and is also available online at katebowler.com/blessthislent/.

Bring it Home, Minnesota—postcard signing campaign

Rent vouchers help our community members with lower incomes, including seniors and working parents. Having a voucher means a family doesn't have to pay more than 30% of their income toward rent. Look for members of RUMC's Church & Society Team in the Commons today to help you with the postcards to sign.

Lent Classes—now through April 2

Sunday Class: Entering the Passion of Jesus

Sundays in Lent, 9:00 am-9:20 am, Hybrid: Grace Room and Zoom Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 / Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799 These classes are a breezy 20 minutes - 10-minute videos, 10-minute discussion - and will help you dive deeper into the powerful story of Holy Week. Videos start promptly at 9:00 am.

Wednesday Bible Study: Enter the Passion of Jesus

Wednesdays at 9:00 am-10:00 am, Hybrid: Grace Room and Zoom Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 / Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799 In Lent, the group will watch and discuss the video series *Entering the Passion of Jesus* by Prof. Amy-Jill Levine.

Next Sunday, March 5

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:** 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

Q&A Live Online with Prof. Amy-Jill Levine

Thursday, March 9, 7:30 pm-8:30 pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 / Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799

Prof. Amy-Jill Levine joins us for a Q&A session about her book, *Entering the Passion of Jesus* as we enter the season of Lent. We are excited to have one of the most prominent scholars of Jesus with us and you're encouraged to bring a question and bring a friend to this unique opportunity to engage an amazing author!

Let's Talk About Sunday Morning Hospitality

Sunday, March 12, 10:45 - In-Person

What does RADICAL hospitality mean to you? Join the fun as we experiment and explore what radical hospitality could be at Richfield UMC, on Sunday mornings, for virtual church participants, and at other times. Treats, of course, will be shared. Everyone, especially greeters, are invited to take part! Contact [Gail Johnson](mailto:Gail.Johnson@richfieldumc.org) (612-250-1736) if you are interested but cannot attend in person.

Ongoing and Open

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

March 6th: Neither Wolf nor Dog by Kent Nerburn

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, 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 Marilyn Dodge.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

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, February 26, 2023

1st Sunday in Lent

- 9:00 am Lent Class: Entering the Passion of Jesus
- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:45 am Confirmation

Monday, February 27, 2023

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

- 9:00 am CFC Children's Church
- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, March 01, 2023

- 9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study:
Entering the Passion of Jesus
- 6:30 pm Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Youth Group
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 02, 2023

Friday, March 03, 2023

Saturday, March 04, 2023

- 10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, March 05, 2023

2nd Sunday in Lent

- 9:00 am Lent Class: Entering the Passion of Jesus
- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 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. Lynn Borgeson, Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: Rev. Bill Johnson, TY Moore, 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 February 26 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.