



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 19, 2023 at 9:30 am
Fourth Sunday in Lent



UNWAVERING LOVE

a Lent worship series

richfieldumc.org

Bold = in unison

* Rise in body or spirit

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Morning Has Broken”

traditional

Welcome

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Call to Worship*

The Holy One does great things for us!
Like water in the wilderness and rivers in the desert,
God meets us in times of trial.
Like the companionship of our closest friends,
God goes alongside us.
Like the satisfaction that comes after feasting at table,
God nourishes us on the journey.
With joy, let us seek the way of Love, trusting in the promises of God.

O how he loves you and me!
O how he loves you and me!
He gave his life.
What more could he give?
O how he loves you;
O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!

Jesus to Calv'ry did go;
his love for sinners to show.
What he did there
brought hope from despair.
O how He loves you;
O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!

Centering Prayer

Loving One, with tenderness you meet us where we are most weary.
You know what makes us afraid, what makes our hearts heavy with
grief, what causes our spirits to despair. Come, and speak to us of hope.
Come, and tend gently to our fears. In you, O God, we place our trust.
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

“Pilgrims’ Hymn”
Chancel Choir

by Stephen Paulus
and Michael Dennis Browne

Even before we call on Your name to ask You, O God, when we seek for the words to glorify You. You hear our prayer, Unceasing love, O unceasing love, surpassing all we know. Glory to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Spirit. Even with the darkness sealing us in, we breathe Your name, and through all the days that follow so fast, we trust in You, Endless Your grace, O endless Your grace, Beyond all mortal dream. Both now and forever, and unto ages and ages. Amen.

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’s feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, “Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

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

Sermon

“The First Dinner: Risking Rejection” Rev. Hope Hutchison
“Unwavering Love” Worship Series 4 of 6

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

Lean On Me

by Bill Whithers

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*

Gracious Lord, as followers who are blinded by your wondrous light, we seek to be amplified beacons of your astonishing light to others. Help us to reflect your love by listening to your call and to your will for our lives. In gratitude, we dedicate these gifts in the name of the one who lived, died, and rose for our sake, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“You Who Are Thirsty”

FWS Hymnal 2132

You who are thirsty,
come to the well and drink from waters flowing.
You who are hungry,
come to the bread and eat of his holiness.
You who are tired, find rest.
You who are weak, find strength.
You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink.

He will freely feed
all of them who are weak.
He will quench the righteous thirst
of all who humbly seek.

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“Fugue in g minor”

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.

RICHFIELD UMC NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday, March 19, 2023

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

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.

Easter Egg Hunt—Two weeks to go, sign up today!

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 1 from 2-4pm Many helpers are needed to make this happen both before the day of the event and on Egg Hunt Day! **Today or next Sunday, Egg Stuffers:** Pick up eggs & Candy to stuff! See Rev. Hope to get the eggs. **On Saturday, April 1, Set Up & Decorate,** work the **Welcome Table**, run a **Game Station**, hang out with the Easter Bunny at the **Photo Booth**, support the children and families as they do the **Egg Hunt**, return the space to normal in **Clean Up**. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/rumcegghunt2023>. If you have questions about any of this, please reach out to Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org

Minnesota Food Share through March 20

This is a grassroots effort to stock up every food shelf across the state of Minnesota. This year, we are raising funds only to be donate directly to Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, so that they can distribute those funds to where they are most needed throughout the state. Donate online at richfieldumc.org/give/

“So Many Questions!” Worship Series Returns - Submit Your Questions

Submit your question(s) about God, faith, church, life, and the Bible for the return of our popular summer worship series, “So Many Questions!” Please email your question(s) to Pastor Nate at nmelcher@richfieldumc.org by Easter, April 9.

Q&A Live Online with Bishop Tom Berlin

Monday, April 10, 7:30 pm-8:30 pm

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

Bishop Tom Berlin joins us for a Q&A session about his book, *Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess*. This book inspires our Eastertide worship series and you're encouraged to invite a friend and bring your questions about how God works through life's mess to bring restoration to us all. You can get a preview of the book by watching the [video series on Amplify](#). Get a [free account](#) today.

Save the Date: Time for LIFE: Learning, Inspiration, and Fellowship for Everyone

Program: Make the Stars Your Old Friends! with Mike Lynch (astronomy Presentation) Thursday, April 13th, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm (both in-person and online offerings)

Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter Worship

April 2—Palm Sunday, 9:30 am

We'll wave palm branches and celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion.

April 6—Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm

We remember when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples.

April 7—Good Friday, 7:00 pm

Come to the foot of the cross and hear the story laid out in scripture and music.

April 9—Easter Sunday, 9:30 am

He is risen, indeed! Come celebrate the resurrection of Jesus in our lives!

Ongoing and Open

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

April 3rd: The Awakening: The Dragon Heart Legacy, Book 1 by Nora Roberts

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 | 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!

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 too.

Sunday School - Following the Time with Children, children may go to Sunday School or stay in the sanctuary to worship. Meet Sunday school teachers in the Nook.

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 and 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, Betsy Petersen, daughter of Mary Kay Petersen, Rhonda Olson, Bonnie Stemme, Kermit Johnson, father of SK Johnson, Marta Borgeson, niece of Rev. Lynn Borgeson, Lee Weiser and Richard, Michelle Wegscheid's aunt, Judy, Sarah Sumner, daughter of Mary Martha and David Butler, and Ann Johnson.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

We pray for those who grieve: Michelle (CFC Staff) in the death of her mother, Cheryl.

We pray for our neighbors and 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, March 19, 2023

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

Monday, March 20, 2023

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

- 9:00 am CFC Children's Church
- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study
- 10:00 am Memorials Team Meeting
- 7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 22, 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 23, 2023

Friday, March 24, 2023

Saturday, March 25, 2023

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

Sunday, March 26, 2023

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

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

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

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison

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 March 19 is Merry Rendahl.

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.