



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 23, 2023 at 9:30 am
Third Sunday of Easter



Bold = in unison

* Rise in body or spirit

ENTRANCE

Prelude "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" by G. F. Handel

Land Acknowledgment (Full Statement) Rev. Nate Melcher

We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional, ancestral, and contemporary lands of the Dakota People.

These lands hold historical, spiritual, and personal significance to the Dakota People.

We are grateful for Indigenous Nations and their continued stewardship of these lands and we appreciate their perseverance and strength.

The Dakota People were harmed by the United States government through broken promises and unjust treaties, including the Cession 289 Treaty of 1851 which names the Wahpeton and Sisseton Bands.

These atrocities effectively stole this geographical area and further harm and trauma have come through displacement, ethnic cleansing, and genocide.

This church formed in 1854 as one of the first institutions established by white settlers in this geographical area and benefited directly from this harm inflicted upon the Dakota People.

In repentance, this church seeks active partnership with Native American communities and organizations in the State of Minnesota and beyond.

We affirm tribal sovereignty. We reject attitudes of invisibility and erasure of Indigenous Peoples. We oppose policies and actions that threaten or demean Indigenous culture and tribal sovereignty by any means.

We call upon our fellow houses of worship in the interfaith community to acknowledge the realities of the lands on which they gather and take educational and restorative justice action.

With God's help, we commit to doing better. Amen.

Welcome

Call to Worship*

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Praise be to God who pours out Her spirit upon all life.

She gives us everything we need to build beloved community.

Gathering us into Her dwelling place, She strengthens us.

In Her presence, the weary are renewed and joy is restored.

From all the edges of the earth, She calls to those who desire to grow in Love.

Coming home to the presence of God is also a coming home to each other. With hearts awake to the wonder of this Sacred calling, let us worship God.

Gathering Hymn*

“Christ Is Risen”

UM Hymnal 307

1. Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days.
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.
2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend;
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.
3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

Centering Prayer

God, make us sincere in spirit. Whether we find ourselves being humbled before one another or extending mercy to a neighbor, may we mean what we say and what we do. Lead us in pursuit of authentic relationship with one another, hindered neither by pride nor pretense nor fear. With the Spirit of Christ as our guide, 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.

Sacrament of Baptism

Celia Jane, child of Amanda Keck-Bodger and Steve Bodger

Members of the household of God, I commend Celia Jane to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love.

Child of God, by water and the Spirit, we welcome you into God's new creation. May you and we learn from one another, share in the love of Jesus, and grow in faith as the Body of Christ. Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

H. Hughes / R. S. Cole-Turner

"You Have Put on Christ" / "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"
Chancel Choir

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Luke 7:1-10

Alicia Owens

After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly and who was ill and close to death. When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to have you do this for him, for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us." And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, "Lord, do not

trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me, and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it." When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and, turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

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

Sermon

"Who Left This Mess"
"Less Mess" Worship Series 2 of 6

Rev. Nate Melcher

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

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

"Now the Green Blade Rises"
Chancel Choir

arr. Carolyn Johnson

THANKSGIVING

Doxology*

UM Hymnal 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*

God of Truth and Light, we offer you these gifts with humble hearts. We yearn to share your unmistakable presence with all people. While we often find temporary security in our possessions, remind us that true security comes from our relationship with you through your son, Jesus Christ. Strengthen and entrust us to be your faithful disciples. In the name of the Exalted One, we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“He Lives”

UM Hymnal 310

1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
And just the time I need him, he's always near.

Refrain: He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
none other is so loving, so good and kind. (Refrain)

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

arr. D. Cherwien



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

We celebrate this morning the baptism of Celia Jane, child of Amanda Keck-Bodger and Steve Bodger. Sponsors are Dave Bodger and Kameron Keck.

The quilt presented to Celia Jane was created by Common Threads as a reminder of our communal call to live our baptismal vows.

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, April 23, 2023

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

Native American Ministries Sunday—Special Collection Today

This Sunday serves to remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society and in our communities. The offering is used to develop and strengthen Native American ministries and communities. It also provides scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology. Look for a special envelope in today's bulletin or make a donation at richfieldumc.org/give-online/

Worship Series "LESS MESS" Continues

Life can get messy. In this series we learn from people in the Bible cleaning up their mess and work on our own lives. This series is inspired by Bishop Tom Berlin's book and video series, *Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess*.

Pizza With The Pastor / New Member Class

Next Sunday, April 30 at 10:45 am-12:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Please RSVP to Pastor Nate, nmelcher@richfieldumc.org or 612-861-6086

Interested in learning more about church membership? RSVP with Pastor Nate to come to "Pizza with the Pastor." We'll get to know one another, talk about the life of the church and membership vows, and share a great meal. New members are scheduled to join on June 4 (if you cannot make the June date and are still interested in membership, RSVP anyway!).

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

Tuesday, May 2, 9:30 am-10:30 am [Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 / Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799 Prof. Amy-Jill Levine joins the Tuesday Bible Study for a Q&A session about her body of work. You are invited to join this Zoom session!

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

Location: Protagonist Kitchen and Bar, 6601 Lyndale Avenue S., Richfield, MN 55423 (ramp parking) **Next Gathering: Sunday, May 7**

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

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

A delightful musical program with our Living Waters Band Leader, Victor Zupanc. Thurs., May 11, from 1:00-2:00 pm (both in-person and online) In-person cost: \$5 RSVP by Sun. May. 7, sign-up in the Commons Area or contact Parish Nurse, Kay Bergeland at kbergeland@richfieldumc.org or call 612-861-6086.

Vacation Bible Camp: Hero Hotline

June 26-30, 2023, at Lake Harriet UMC, 4901 Chowen Ave S, Minneapolis
Open to children pre-K-5th grade, with leadership opportunities available for children in 6th grade and above. Visit richfieldumc.org/ministries/children/ for all the details and registration information.

All members and frequent worshippers should take this new survey about three potential Signature Ministries and the life of the church. Take the survey between April 1-30, 2023 and results will be shared at the semi-annual meeting after worship on June 4, 2023.



Ongoing and Open

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

May 2: Where the River Ends by Charles Martin

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 :
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. 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 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, 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, Ann Johnson, Dave Mueller, brother of Tom Mueller, Jim Vetsch, and Caroline Gillespie.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

We pray for those who grieve: The family and friends of Bonnie Stemme.

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, April 23, 2023

Native American Ministries Sunday
9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:30 am Park Ave UMC Confirmation
Gathering
7:00 pm An Evening with Dr. Kate
Bowler @ St. Andrew
Lutheran, Eden Prairie

Monday, April 24, 2023

5:00 pm Parish Companion Meeting

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study
6:30 pm Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Youth Group
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Friday, April 28, 2023

Saturday, April 29, 2023

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

Sunday, April 30, 2023

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, Tanner VanderKrabben

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher, Alicia Owens

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 April 23 is Pat Norton.

Permissions and Acknowledgements:

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Richfield United Methodist Church

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Worship Livestream and Subscribe: [youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://www.youtube.com/richfieldumc)

Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational

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