



July 09, 2023 at 10:00 am  
Lake Harriet Bandshell  
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



**Bold = in unison**

**\* Rise in body or spirit**

## ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Imagine”

by John Lennon

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Gathering Hymn\*      “Children of the Heavenly Father”      by C. Sandell-Berg

1. Children of the heavenly Father  
safely in his bosom gather;  
nestling bird nor star in heaven  
such a refuge e'er was given.
2. God his own doth tend and nourish;  
in his holy courts they flourish;  
from all evil things he spares them;  
in his mighty arms he bears them.
3. Neither life nor death shall ever  
from the Lord his children sever;  
unto them his grace he showeth,  
and their sorrows all he knoweth.
4. Though he giveth or he taketh,  
God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
his the loving purpose solely  
to preserve them pure and holy.

The LORD's Prayer

Rev. Hope Hutchison

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.

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.*

Celebration Music      “Bridge Over Troubled Water” by Simon and Garfunkel

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Reflection Music      “The Boxer”      by Simon and Garfunkel

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading      Luke 15:11-32      Common English Bible

Jesus said, “A certain man had two sons. The younger son said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the inheritance.’ Then the father divided his estate between them. Soon afterward, the younger son gathered everything together and took a trip to a land far away. There, he wasted his wealth through extravagant living.

“When he had used up his resources, a severe food shortage arose in that country and he began to be in need. He hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. He longed to eat his fill from what the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have more than enough food, but I’m starving to death! I will get up and go to my father, and say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Take me on as one of your hired hands.” ’ So he got up and went to his father.

“While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. His father ran to him, hugged him, and kissed him. Then his son said, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Quickly, bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! Fetch the fattened calf and slaughter it. We must celebrate with feasting because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life! He was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his older son was in the field. Coming in from the field, he approached the house and heard music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. The servant replied, ‘Your brother has arrived, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he received his son back safe and sound.’ Then the older son was furious and didn’t want to enter in, but his father came out and begged him. He answered his father, ‘Look, I’ve served you all these years, and I never disobeyed your instruction. Yet you’ve never given me as much as a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours returned, after gobbling up your estate on prostitutes, you slaughtered the

fattened calf for him.’ Then his father said, ‘Son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad because this brother of yours was dead and is alive. He was lost and is found.’”

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

Sermon                                      “The Roads We Walk”                                      Rev. Nate Melcher  
    “I AM a Rock: God, Simon, and Garfunkel” Worship Series 2 of 3  
    *Part 3 of this series is live at the*  
    *Richfield Bandshell at 9:30 am, on August 13.*

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sharing Our Gifts

*The freewill offering collected today will be used solely to defray the expenses of this service. All remaining funds will be given to the Minneapolis Crisis Nursery. Any envelopes or checks designating specific faith communities will be forwarded to the named organization. Thank you for your generosity!*

Offertory Music                                      “Homeward Bound”                                      by Simon and Garfunkel

## **THANKSGIVING**

Prayer of Gratitude / 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.*

# SENDING FORTH

Sending Song\*

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

by C. Wesley

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling;  
all thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation;  
enter every trembling heart.
2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in thee inherit;  
let us find that second rest.  
Take away our bent to sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.

Benediction\*

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

Postlude

“Lean On Me”

by Bill Withers



**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, July 9, 2023

## Outdoor Summer Worship Series: "I AM: God, Simon, and Garfunkel"

In-Person Only, an alternate online service will be available

In three outdoor in-person worship services, Pastor Nate preaches sermons inspired by a scripture passage and a Simon & Garfunkel song performed by the Living Waters Band led by Victor Zupanc. The remaining two Summer Second Sundays outdoors:

**July 9 - Lake Harriet Bandshell at 10:00 am**

Please note the special start time for the Lake Harriet Bandshell.

[4135 W Lake Harriet Pkwy, Minneapolis](#) (parking: paid lots or free on street)

**August 13 - Richfield Bandshell at 9:30 am**

[636 East 66th Street](#) Richfield (free parking at Ice Arena)

## Summer Movie Nights—Continues this Wednesday

**Wednesdays in July, Movies start at 5pm**, bring your dinner and eat during the movie. We'll have snacks too! Great family fun!

**July 12**

**An American Tail**

1986 G 1 hour, 20 minutes

Universal Pictures

**July 26**

**Honey, I Shrunk the Kids**

1989 PG 1 hour, 33 minutes

Disney

**July 19**

**The Bad Guys**

2022 PG 1 hour, 40 minutes

Universal Pictures

## Summer Worship Series: "So Many Questions!" Continues next Sunday, July 16

### Hybrid: In-Person (Sanctuary) and Online

This popular series returns and is based on your submitted questions about God, faith, church, life, and the Bible. We are blessed to be a church where questions are welcome. This year's "So Many Questions" topics are:

July 16-What is prayer for?

August 20-Why is forgiveness hard?

July 23-How do I put faith into action?

August 27-Why are Christians hypocrites?

July 30-What does the Bible say about heaven?

August 6-What does the Bible say about hell?

## Coffee with the Pastor—9:00 am-12:00 pm, most Tuesdays this summer

**Sign up:** [calendly.com/natemelcher](https://calendly.com/natemelcher) Pastor Nate is meeting with church members like you all summer long to check-in, reconnect, and pray. Sign up with the calendar link (if you cannot go online, please call the office) for a meeting at Caribou Coffee (6545 Lyndale Avenue S., Richfield, MN 55423). Your drink is on Pastor Nate!

## Youth Mission Trip

Please keep your church's youth and clergy in your prayers July 15-22 as we journey to Detroit and back. We will be working with Motown Mission, helping with economic disaster relief in that area, primarily greening, feeding, and rebuilding. There will be lots of stories and conflux moments shared from that trip in worship on July 23! If you would like to read more about Motown Mission, you can read more here:

<https://motownmission.org/overview>

## Ongoing and Open

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

July 10 (note: 2nd Monday due to holiday) - The Lost Apothecary by Sara Kenner  
August 7 - The Paris Showroom by Juliet Blackwell

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.

## 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, July 09, 2023

9:30 am Online Worship Service—  
Reprise of July 11, 2021

10:00 am Worship Service at Lake Harriet  
Bandshell

### Monday, July 10, 2023

1:30 pm Women Who Read

### Tuesday, July 11, 2023

9:00 am CFC Children's Church

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

7:00 pm SPRC Meeting

### Wednesday, July 12, 2023

9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study

5:00 pm Summer Movie Night  
*An American Tail*

5:30 pm Church and Society meeting

### Thursday, July 13, 2023

### Friday, July 14, 2023

### Saturday, July 15, 2023

*Youth Mission Trip Begins:*

*Motown Mission in Detroit, MI*

8:30 am Men's Group

10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

### Sunday, July 16, 2023

9:30 am Worship Service in the sanctuary  
(+Live streamed & archived)

## 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, Agnes Danzl, Ann E. Butler, niece of David and Mary Martha Butler, Lee Weiser and Richard, Jim Vetsch, SuzAnn Tarvin, Terry and Tim Bumgarner, and Don Morrow.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

We pray for those who grieve.

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.



**Lake Harriet Bandshell**  
**Worship Every Sunday at 10:00 am**

July 09	Richfield United Methodist Church
July 16	Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
July 23	Bethlehem Lutheran Church Twin Cities
July 30	Lake Harriet Spiritual Community
August 06	Spirit Garage
August 13	Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
August 20	First Universalist Church
August 27	St. Joan of Arc Catholic Community

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

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

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: TY Moore, Steve Warner

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 July 9 is Mary Martha Butler.

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

**Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational**

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