



August 13, 2023 at 9:30 am
Richfield Bandshell
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Stand By Me”

by Ben E. King

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Gathering Hymn*

“Here I Am, Lord”

by Dan Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

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.

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

“Knockin’ On Heaven’s Door”

by Bob Dylan

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Reflection Music

“I Am a Rock”

by Simon and Garfunkel

Scripture in Context

Scripture Readings

Romans 12:1-21

Common English Bible

So, brothers and sisters, because of God’s mercies, I encourage you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God. This is your appropriate priestly service. Don’t be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God’s will is—what is good and pleasing and mature.

Because of the grace that God gave me, I can say to each one of you: don’t think of yourself more highly than you ought to think. Instead, be reasonable since God has measured out a portion of faith to each one of you. We have many parts in one body, but the parts don’t all have the same function. In the same way, though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other. We have different gifts that are consistent with God’s grace that has been given to us. If your gift is prophecy, you should prophesy in proportion to your faith. If your gift is service, devote yourself to serving. If your gift is teaching, devote yourself to teaching. If your gift is encouragement, devote yourself to encouraging. The one giving should do it with no strings attached. The leader should lead with passion. The one showing mercy should be cheerful.

Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other. Don’t hesitate to be enthusiastic—be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord! Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you’re in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer. Contribute to the needs of God’s people, and welcome strangers into your home. Bless people

who harass you—bless and don't curse them. Be happy with those who are happy, and cry with those who are crying. Consider everyone as equal, and don't think that you're better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don't think that you're so smart. Don't pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good.

If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people. Don't try to get revenge for yourselves, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath. It is written, *Revenge belongs to me; I will pay it back, says the Lord.* Instead, *If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. By doing this, you will pile burning coals of fire upon his head.* Don't be defeated by evil, but defeat evil with good.

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

Sermon "The Window" Rev. Nate Melcher
"I AM a Rock: God, Simon, and Garfunkel" Worship Series 3 of 3

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 Music "America" 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* “Grace Alone” by S. W. Brown and J. Nelson

1. Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,
every difference we will make is only by his grace.

Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,
every blessing left behind is only by his grace

Refrain:

Grace alone which God supplies,
Strength unknown He will provide.
Christ in us, our cornerstone;
we will go forth in grace alone.

2. Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach,
everywhere we share his peace is only by his grace.

Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away,
every sorrow turned to praise is only by his grace. *Refrain*

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“Namaste”

by The Kennedy’s



**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, August 13, 2023

Fall Food Drive Begins

August 13—September 24

As we start to think about fall, Richfield UMC will be preparing for another Fall Food Drive. As rising costs affect more and more of us, food pantries, like our long-time mission partner VEAP, are struggling to keep their shelves stocked with high quality food. This fall, we're going to do our best to support VEAP, and get them the supplies they need. Starting at our August bandshell worship on August 13, and running through Confirmation Sunday on September 24, RUMC will be collecting food and funds for VEAP. To donate items, please pick up a bag & flyer from the church building. To donate funds, please note VEAP on your check, or give through our online giving portal. Thank you for your generosity.

Next Sunday, August 20

Summer Worship Series: "So Many Questions!"

Hybrid: In-Person (Sanctuary) and Online

Prelude begins *before* 9:30 am, please arrive early!

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:

August 20 - Why is forgiveness hard?

August 27 - Why are Christians hypocrites?

Sunday, September 3—Online-Only Worship

youtube.com/richfieldumc or 888.650.5835

As announced in February, the Administrative Board affirmed holding online-only worship with no in-person option on Sunday, September 3, 2023 (Labor Day weekend)

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

Sign up: 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 Starbucks (54th and Lyndale Avenue South). Your drink is on Pastor Nate!

September 10, Rally Sunday

Whether you have spent the summer working hard, or at the lake hardly working, on Rally Day the church - all of us of every age - are called to gather with renewed energy to live in faith, justice, and joy. Let's make exciting new memories and celebrate our history together as we reunite.

Blessing of the backpacks, purses, laptop bags, and more!

Whatever kind of bag you use on a regular basis, bring it to worship on **Sept. 10** for a blessing.

Ongoing and Open

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

If you are a woman who enjoys good books and thoughtful discussion, then consider joining fellow readers for Women Who Read. Upcoming books:

August 14 (note 2nd Monday) - The Paris Showroom by Juliet Blackwell

Sept. 11 (2nd Monday) - Where the River Ends by Charles Martin

Contact Fern Albertson, wfalbertson@gmail.com, to get connected.

Tuesdays, 9:30 am | Women's Bible Study

This group is taking a break for the month of August.

Sessions resume on Sept. 12.

Contact Molly Reko, mollyreko@comcast.net, to get connected.

Wednesdays, 9:00 am | Wednesday 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.

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, Don Morrow, Barb and Dave Rogers, and Sara, niece of Bev Crandall.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

We pray for those who grieve: The SK and Susan Johnson family in the death of SK's father, Kermit Johnson.

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, August 13, 2023

Fall Food Drive Begins

- 9:30 am Worship Service at Richfield Bandshell
- 9:30 am Online Worship Service—
Reprise of July 19, 2020

Monday, August 14, 2023

- 1:30 pm Women Who Read
- 5:00 pm Care Minister Meeting

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

- 7:00 pm Finance Committee

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

- 9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study

Thursday, August 17, 2023

Friday, August 18, 2023

Saturday, August 19, 2023

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

Sunday, August 20, 2023

Women's Trip to KoWakan 8/20-8/25

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Greg Locke, Rev. Nate Melcher, Kevin Schunk, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: 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 August 13 is David Couillard.

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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.