



August 27, 2023 at 9:30 am
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude "What the World Needs Now" by Burt Bacharach

Welcome Rev. Hope Hutchison

Call to Worship*

We breathe out and the forest breathes in.

We reach out for help and a friend picks up our call.

We feel the summer months dwindle, the sun's warmth on our faces.

We grapple for purpose and mutual care grounds us in the everyday holy.

God, you are a Web of Love. You are the Swirl of Seasons Changing.

You are Inhale and Exhale. And we all belong in your Cosmic Care.

1. Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
2. Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
3. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Centering Prayer

God of Mutuality, we long to be in right relationship. We yearn to honor the interdependence of our human, animal, plant, and mineral siblings. We are tired of legalism, perfectionism, and lies of “personal salvation.” We long to thrive together – for Compassionate Relationship to be the law of the land. Join our dream, Living God. Loosen our hearts for the determined work of Love. 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

"Agnus Dei"

by Bizet

Leo Dworsky, vocalist
Groth Scholarship recipient
Yichen Liang, accompanist

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Matthew 7:3-5

Jerry Schilling

[Jesus said to the crowd] Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.

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

Sermon

"Why are Christians hypocrites?" Rev. Nate Melcher
"So Many Questions!" Worship Series 9 of 9

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

“Un’aura amorosa, cosi fan tutte”

by W. A. Mozart

Leo Dworsky, vocalist
Groth Scholarship recipient
Yichen Liang, accompanist

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*

Merciful Lord, you have provided each of us with many similar, yet unique gifts. Thank you, Lord, for the talents and abilities of people within this congregation. We are a blessed people! Now, we unite as one body to share in this worshipful act of the offering. Giving is such a joy-filled experience! Thank you, Lord, for this opportunity to support the transformation of people’s spiritual lives through the ministry and mission of this body of Christ. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”
vs. 1 - 3

TFWS Hymnal 2153

1. I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
2. I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
3. I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“Get Together”

by The Youngbloods



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

Welcome Groth Scholarship recipient Leo Dworsky! Leo will be a junior at the University of Minnesota. He will be studying vocal performance. Leo is a graduate of St. Louis Park High School.

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 27, 2023

Fall Food Drive

Now through September 24

Richfield UMC is holding a 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. Now through September 24, RUMC is 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.

Summer Worship Series: “So Many Questions!” Concludes

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 27 - Why are Christians hypocrites?

Next 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 fall

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

Sept. 11 (note: 2nd Monday due to holiday) - 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 in September.

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 - September -May

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 gratitude: We are thankful for the gift of long life for Herb Doty and celebrate his 103rd birthday with gratitude on August 21.

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 family and friends of RUMC member Roger Dammer who died earlier this year.

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 27, 2023

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

Monday, August 28, 2023

CFC Professional Development Week

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Wednesday, August 30, 2023

9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study

Thursday, August 31, 2023

Friday, September 01, 2023

Saturday, September 02, 2023

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

Sunday, September 03, 2023

9:30 am Online only Worship Service
*Please do not come to campus
this Sunday; instead, experience
worship online or by phone.
Thank you, and have a blessed
Labor Day.*

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Leo Dworsky, Yichen Liang, Greg Locke, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: Dale Olson, 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 August 27 is Kate Currie.

Permissions and Acknowledgements:

- "Prayer of Gratitude" © 2023 David S. Bell; reprinted with permission from davidsbell.org.
- Scripture quotations marked NRSVUE are from the New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.
- Lyrics published by special permission, public domain, reprinted under OneLicense.net #A704105, or CCS WORSHIPcast License #8155.

Richfield United Methodist Church

5835 Lyndale Avenue S., Mpls., MN 55419

612-861-6086 | richfieldumc.org | [Facebook](#)

Email List: richfieldumc.org/email | Give: richfieldumc.org/give

Worship Livestream and Subscribe: youtube.com/richfieldumc

Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational

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