



October 1, 2023 at 9:30 am
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Time After Time”
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by Cindi Lauper

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship* (Psalm 8, Genesis 1)

Rev. Hope Hutchison

O God, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Your glory shines from below and grows from above.

You bring wisdom from the youngest and most vulnerable of us.

You call forth delight in those who live both long and deep.

We look to your creation and find you everywhere.

We see you in the moon and the stars.

O God, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.
2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.
3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you have given us the world. Yet too often, we have taken it for granted, and failed to respect your great gift. We have received authority but thought it power. We have received responsibility but decided it belonged to someone else. We have received your calling but considered it control. Remind us, O God, that we are part of creation, not separate from it; that we are part of your people, not separate from them. Forgive us when we take your gifts and your people for granted, and help us to start again. Hear us in our silent confessions to you...

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Time with Children and Blessing of the Bibles

Parents and guardians, receive this Bible and pass it with love to these children.

Together, may you learn its stories and study its words and see the lives of our family in its artwork.

Children, take these Bibles and know that these stories are your stories, too.

The Word of God is a lamp for your feet and it lights your path as you grow.

Let us pray... Holy One, we rejoice in this big step for these children in their journey with you. We pray you guide these children and their families as they use this Holy Bible in their home, Sunday School classes, and in worship. We learn together and grow in our love of you through the Word.

May we all remember, receive, and share the story with our hands, our hearts, and our minds. Bless these Bibles and all who use them in finding their place in the story. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

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

"At the Table of the Lord"
Chancel Choir

by Jay Althouse

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of God and of the Son and of the Holy

Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.
And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

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

Sermon

“The Great Commission”
“A Great Way” Worship Series 1 of 5

Rev. Nate Melcher

THANKSGIVING

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The LORD be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the LORD.

Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...proclaiming the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

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.

Receiving the Sacrament

There is no barrier between you and the table.

All who seek the grace of Jesus are welcome.

Music During Communion

“Before the Bread”
Chancel Choir

by Elizabeth Alexander

Prayer After Receiving the Sacrament

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 Hymn*

“One Bread, One Body”
vs. 1 and 2

UM Hymnal 620

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain*
2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*

Benediction*

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

Postlude

**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 October 1

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

Protagonist Kitchen and Bar, 6601 Lyndale Avenue S., Richfield (ramp parking)

Pub Theology is a drop-in discussion about faith, God, and life. Arrive early to order a beverage and/or dinner, then stay for spirited conversation led by Pastor Nate.

More information: <https://richfieldumc.org/pubtheology>

Fall Worship Series #2 Begins: “A GREAT WAY” | October 1-29, 2023

We serve a great God! Through the teachings of Jesus, we have a great Way to love God and neighbor as the church. In this financial stewardship-focused series, we'll explore the great teachings of Jesus and celebrate the church's accomplishments.

This Wednesday, October 4

Film Theology—First Wednesdays at 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Hybrid: Grace Room and [Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338/Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799 Go watch the latest hit movies in the theater, then come together to discuss them over a bowl of popcorn! Pastor Nate will guide our discussion. **The first date and movie for discussion is October 4—*Oppenheimer* (release date July 21)**

Next Sunday, October 8

Prayer Walk after worship. We'll tour rooms throughout the building and pray for our many ministries.

Open Streets Minneapolis! Sunday, October 8, 11:00 am-5:00 pm

Lyndale Ave. S. from W. 22nd St. to W. 42nd St. in Minneapolis

You're invited to Open Streets Minneapolis! Part of Lyndale Avenue will be closed to cars and open for fun, including food, music, games, biking, and crafts on the street. Stop by the Richfield UMC booth and get out to meet your neighbors.

Workshop: Writing and Leading Prayers for Worship

7:00 pm-8:00 pm, Oct. 10 and 17 (online-only by Zoom), Oct. 24 (in-person only)

[Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 | Passcode: 5835

Be part of our roster of worship liturgists. Learn about kinds of prayers, craft the Prayers of the People, and practice public speaking. Sign up by contacting Pastor Nate or use the Annual Conference registration portal:

<https://mnumc-reg.brtaapp.com/WritingandLeadingPrayersforWorship>

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 to check-in, connect, and pray. Sign up with the calendar link or call the office. Meet at Starbucks (54th and Lyndale). Your drink is on Pastor Nate!

Stock Refugee Family Kitchens with Cub Foods Saver Stamps

When you shop at Cub Foods through November 12, ask your cashier for your Saver Stamps. Bring them to campus and we will put them all together and earn free cookware to donate to the Minnesota Council of Churches refugee families.

Online Book Study: *Do I Stay Christian* by Brian McLaren

Thursdays from 7:00 - 8:30 pm, October 26 - November 16. All are welcome.

Zoom link provided after registration. Led by Rexi Warner and Gail Johnson.

Registration Link: <https://mnumc-reg.brtaapp.com/DoIStayChristian>

Or visit www.minnesotaumc.org and look under the events calendar.

Ongoing and Open

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

October 9 (note: 2nd Monday) - *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

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.

We pray with gratitude.

We pray for those who are ill: Paula Milani, Marylee Fithian, Joyce Walls, Laurel Lien, Caroline Riley, Agnes Danzl, Lee Weiser and Richard, Jim Vetsch, Don Morrow, Sara, niece of Bev Crandall, Becca Whitaker, Pat Norton, and Pat Noonan.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

We pray for those who grieve:

- * The family and friends of Joanne Green who died this past weekend. Service arrangements are pending.
- * The family and friends of Ann E. Butler, niece of David and Mary Martha Butler, who died recently.

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, October 01, 2023

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 11:30 am Middle School Trip to MN's
Largest Candy Store
- 7:00 pm Pub Theology

Monday, October 02, 2023

Tuesday, October 03, 2023

Coffee with the Pastor
9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, October 04, 2023

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

Thursday, October 05, 2023

- 5:00 pm Organist Search Team

Friday, October 06, 2023

Saturday, October 07, 2023

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

Sunday, October 08, 2023

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:45 am Prayer Walk through RUMC
Building
- 11:00 am Open Streets Minneapolis

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Musicians: Tanner VanderKrabben, 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 October 1 is Jerry Schilling.

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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.