



October 8, 2023 at 9:30 am
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Chorus”
Chancel Bell Choir

by Cynthia Dobrinski

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship* (Psalm 82)

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Shout to the Lord, you people of God.

Worship the one who hears our cries, rescues and lifts up the lowly.

Call to the Lord, you disciples.

Worship the one who heeds our pleas, frees and sustains.

Sing to the Lord, you children of the Most High.

**Worship the one who responds to our needs,
heals and fills the world with light.**

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord,
forgiven, loved and free,
in awe and wonder to recall
his life laid down for me,
his life laid down for me.
2. I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known;
we see and praise him here,
we see and praise him here.

Centering Prayer (Colossians 1, Luke 10)

God of power and might, turn our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh.
For only in loving can we lead lives worthy of your calling. Grant us the
courage to live with the saints in the glory of your love. And fill us with
your grace and peace, that we may know the richness of eternal life in
your Spirit. 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 "He Comes to Us as One Unknown" arr. John Ferguson
Chancel Choir

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading Luke 10:25-37

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied [with a story. When he was finished, he asked,] "Which of these do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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

Sermon "The Great Commandment" Rev. Nate Melcher
"A Great Way" Worship Series 2 of 5

THANKSGIVING

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

“Etude 3, Sospiero”
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by Franz Liszt

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*

Almighty God, you gave us your commandments and asked us to live according to your holy will. As part of your design for honorable living, we participate in this simple act of giving. We dedicate ourselves to living lives of honesty and peace. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Jesus Shall Reign”
vs. 1, 2, 5

UM Hymnal 157

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom spread from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To Jesus endless prayer be made,
and endless praises crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.
5. Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen!

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“I Sing to Speak”
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by Victor Zupanc

**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 8

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

Begins This Tuesday, Oct. 10

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.brtapp.com/WritingandLeadingPrayersforWorship>

This Thursday, October 12 from 1:00-2:00 pm

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

Welcome speaker and RUMC member, Agnes Danzl, PhD for the program, Look in the Mirror: Are you a "Mary" or a "Martha?" In the Gospels of Luke and John, we read the story of when Mary and Martha opened their home to Jesus and his disciples. These scriptures provide some thought-provoking accounts of two powerful women of faith and their very different personalities and focuses. Agnes Danzl, active member of RUMC since 1967, will share with us the meaningful lessons of this story.

Cost is \$5.00, payable on the day of the event, for in-person participants to help offset rising food costs. **RSVP:** For in-person participation, please RSVP by Sunday, October 8th, by signing up in the Commons, emailing kbergeland@richfieldumc.org, or calling the church office (612-861-6086. **Zoom link:** Online Meeting ID: 813-2660-1056 Passcode: 5835 OR Call-In: 312-626-6799, then enter Meeting ID and Passcode (standard rates may apply)

Next Sunday, October 15

Next Sunday we will honor our treasured members and friends who are 90 years of age or older as of June 30, 2024. It will be a time to celebrate the wisdom and grace they shine forth in our congregation. There will be a lovely reception in the Heritage Room after worship. Come greet fellow church members, friends, and honorees while enjoying cake and lemonade/coffee.

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.brtapp.com/DoIStayChristian>

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

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 next date and movie for discussion is November 1—*Killers of the Flower Moon*** (release date Oct. 20)

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, 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 recently. A memorial service will be held at the church on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 10:00 am.

Visitation will be the hour prior to the service.

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 08, 2023

9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:45 am Prayer Walk through Building

Monday, October 09, 2023

1:30 pm Women Who Read
5:30 pm Parish Companion Meeting
7:00 pm Church and Society Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

9:30 am Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm Workshop: Writing and Leading
Prayers for Worship

Wednesday, October 11, 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, October 12, 2023

1:00 pm Time for LIFE

Friday, October 13, 2023

6:30 pm Youth Group Service Project and
Lock-In

Saturday, October 14, 2023

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

Sunday, October 15, 2023

9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:45 am Wisdom Sunday: Honoring and
Celebrating our 90+year-olds

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Chancel Bell Choir, Chancel Choir, Tanner VanderKrabben, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

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 October 8 is Kate Currie.

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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.