



November 12, 2023 at 9:30 am  
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Bold = in unison

\* Rise in body or spirit

## ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Let My People Go”  
Improvisation on “Go Down, Moses”  
Tom Bostyancic, Guest Organist

Spiritual

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship\*

You plant the fields, you grow the grain.

**We partner with you to reap the harvest.**

You bring us together, you call us to good work.

**We partner with you to bundle the sheaves.**

You desire a feast of abundance for all your children.

**We partner with you to glean what is left and to share.**

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
our full homage to demand.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
in the body and the blood;  
he will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heavenly food.
4. At his feet the six-winged seraph,  
cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Lord Most High!

#### Centering Prayer

Holy One, you keep your eyes on your field, this bountiful earth filled with your blessings. You reward the just and you know the oppressed. When we would forget one another, you remind us that each of us are kin. Put us to good work in your field. Plant in us a desire to feed and to share, to welcome and include, to speak kindly and seek family - all in your holy name. 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

“Holy Manna”  
Chancel Bell Choir

arr. Karen Thompson

## Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

# PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

## Scripture in Context

### Scripture Reading

Ruth 2:1-13

Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a prominent rich man of the family of Elimelech whose name was Boaz. And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain behind someone in whose sight I may find favor.” She said to her, “Go, my daughter.” So she went. She came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers. As it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. Just then Boaz came from Bethlehem. He said to the reapers, “The LORD be with you.” They answered, “The LORD bless you.” Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, “To whom does this young woman belong?” The young man who was in charge of the reapers answered, “She is the young Moabite woman who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. She said, ‘Please, let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the reapers.’ So she came, and she has been on her feet from early this morning until now without resting even for a moment.”

Then Boaz said to Ruth, “Now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped and follow behind them. I have ordered the young men not to bother you. If you get thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn.” Then she fell prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, “Why have I found favor in your sight, that you should take notice of me, when I am a foreigner?” But Boaz answered her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. May the LORD reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge!” Then she said, “May I continue to find favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, even though I am not one of your servants.”

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

Sermon

“The Ways That God Sees”  
“Leap of Faith” Worship Series 2 of 4

Rev. Nate Melcher

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](https://richfieldumc.org/give)  
supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church.  
Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

Offertory

“For All the Children”  
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by David Lohman

## THANKSGIVING

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\*

Lord of Wisdom, we faithfully believe in the promise of your Heavenly Kingdom. Yet, we allow our personal living to determine our personal giving. Enable us to be generous givers whose giving is not controlled by our personal wants. Awaken our spirit to your knowledge as we give to your ministries. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

## SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn\*

“Stand Up and Bless the Lord”  
vs. 1, 4, and 5

UM Hymnal 662

1. Stand up and bless the Lord,  
ye people of his choice;  
stand up and bless the Lord your God  
with heart and soul and voice.
4. God is our strength and song,  
and his salvation ours;  
then be his love in Christ proclaimed  
with all our ransomed powers.
5. Stand up and bless the Lord;  
the Lord your God adore;  
stand up and bless his glorious name,  
henceforth forevermore.

## Benediction\*

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

Postlude

“Now Thank We All Our God”

by Sigfrid Karg-Elert

**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, November 12

## **Advent Devotional Submissions Due Today**

Advent begins December 3, and the devotional theme is “Light of the World.” How has God brightened the shadow around you? What has been an epiphany that shed new light and gave fresh perspective? Who is the light of God in your life? The deadline for your original submission of 250 words or less is November 12. Send your submissions to Pastor Nate at [nmelcher@richfieldumc.org](mailto:nmelcher@richfieldumc.org).

## **Help Welcome Refugees—Donation Drive Now through Nov. 26**

Richfield UMC is collecting items for the Bathroom Pack portion of refugee welcome kits. **The items we are collecting are:** - shower curtain & plastic liner - shower hooks - toilet paper - laundry detergent - laundry basket - bath towel - hand towel - washcloths. Drop off your items on Sunday morning, or during our regular office hours (Tuesday-Thursday, 8am-4pm). Monetary donations are also welcome. To donate money, please note “Refugee Services” on your check, or give through our online giving portal. Thank you for your generosity.

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

**Sign up:** [calendly.com/natemelcher](https://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!

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

**Protagonist Kitchen and Bar**, 6601 Lyndale Ave. S., (ramp parking)

**Next Gatherings: December 3, January 7** Be part of this informal atmosphere to talk about faith questions big and small. Conversation led by Pastor Nate.

## **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 guides our discussion. **The next date & movie is December 6—*Napoleon* (release date Nov. 22)**

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

**Holiday Lunch and Program, *Count Your Blessings***, with the GraceNotes Trio

**Wednesday, December 6th**, from 12 Noon - 2:00 pm, In-person Only

We are excited to welcome the GraceNotes Trio back to RUMC with their popular holiday program, *Count Your Blessings*!

Time: 12 Noon - Holiday Lunch; 1:00 pm - Program Time

Cost: \$15.00, for both the lunch and program. \$5.00, for the program only. Please pay the day of the event. **Please RSVP by Sunday, December 3rd.**

## **Hands-On Welcome Kit Packing - December 3**

After worship on Sun., Dec. 3, help pack bathroom welcome kits for refugees new to MN.

## **Richfield Symphonic Band Concert - Sunday, December 3, 4:00 pm**

Mark the beginning of the Advent season with an inspired holiday concert from the Richfield Symphonic Band. The concert is open to the public and features a variety of new and traditional holiday favorites for the whole family. A freewill offering is split between the band and church.

**There will be a charge conference at the Administrative Board meeting on Tuesday, November 28, 7:00 pm to approve clergy compensation for 2024. All worshipers and members may attend. Ad Board members may vote.**

## **Ongoing and Open**

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

December 4 - Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting by Clare Pooley  
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.

## **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, Agnes Danzl, Lee Weiser and Richard, Jim Vetsch, Don Morrow, Sara, niece of Bev Crandall, Serra Vickery, daughter of Bill and Ann Johnson, Ann Johnson, Pat Norton, Phyllis and DeWitt Killam, and Jessica, daughter of Caroline Riley.

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.

## 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, November 12, 2023

9:30 am Worship Service  
(+Live streamed & archived)  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:45 am Organist Search Team

### Monday, November 13, 2023

5:00 pm Parish Companion Meeting

### Tuesday, November 14, 2023

*Coffee with the Pastor*  
9:30 am Women's Bible Study  
7:00 pm Finance Committee

### Wednesday, November 15, 2023

9:00 am Wednesday Bible Study  
6:30 pm Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, November 16, 2023

7:00 pm Online Study: Do I Stay Christian

### Friday, November 17, 2023

### Saturday, November 18, 2023

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

### Sunday, November 19, 2023

9:30 am Worship Service  
(+Live streamed & archived)  
9:45 am Sunday School

The church campus will be closed on  
Thanksgiving Day, November 23, Friday,  
November 24, and Saturday, November 25.

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

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

Liturgists: Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: Rev. Bill Johnson, Pat Eder, 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 November 12 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](https://richfieldumc.org/land).