



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 10, 2023 at 9:30 am
Second Sunday of Advent



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Walkin’ Jazz”
Michael Watne, piano

by Martha Mier

“Squash Blossom Boogie”
Paul Watne, piano

by Martha Mier

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Lighting the Advent Wreath II The Candle of Peace The Nelson-Phelan Family
Katrina, Bryan, Brenna, Kjell

As the season of Advent bids us to make paths of Peace,
God the LORD who gives draws near.

We are filled with joyful strains of jubilee,
for the LORD is forgiving and filled with salvation.
These gladsome tidings inspire our every song,
for faithfulness and righteousness dwell in the lands.
God the LORD draws near.

On this second Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Peace.
We hear the voice of God, and God’s holy voice speaks.
May the God of Peace speak throughout the world. Amen.

Scripture Isaiah 9:2, 6

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Part 2 Decorating the Tree

Anthem Away in a Manger Sunday School Choir

Part 3 Journey to Bethlehem

Hymn “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” vs. 1 UMH 240

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Part 4 Shepherds Flock to Jesus

Hymn “We Three Kings” vs. 1 UMH 254

1. We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Part 5 Something More Festive

Hymn “Joy to the World” vs. 1 UMH 246

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Scripture

Luke 2:10-14

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Part 6

Light of the World

Hymn

“Joy to the World” vs. 4

UMH 246

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

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.*

Celebration Music

“Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas”
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by Hugh Martin

THANKSGIVING

Prayer of Gratitude / 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.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

UM Hymnal 196

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“Christmas Time Is Here”
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by Vince Guaraldi

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

We celebrate this morning the baptism of Chase Michael Bruns, son of Colin and Janae Bruns. Sponsors are Harlan and Lindsay Johnson.

The quilt presented to Chase was created by Common Threads as a reminder of our communal call to live our baptismal vows.

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, December 10

Advent Worship Series Continues: “Light of the World” December 3-24, 2023

There is something magical about the season of Advent. As we count down the days leading to Christmas, we will seek out the presence of Jesus, the light of the world. Enjoy Advent traditions such as lighting the Advent wreath, the Christmas Pageant today, Dec. 10, and Lessons and Carols next Sunday Dec. 17. Christmas Eve worship is at 9:30 am and 4:00 pm.

Advent Devotionals are available in the Commons Area or view online at richfieldumc.org/devo/

UWF Bake Sale - today after the worship service

Get your holiday baking done the easy way. Choose from an assortment of cookies, breads, bars and other delicious treats. Cookies 50 cents each and other items priced as marked. Also browse the Walker Jewelry Sale in the Fireside Room.

Service of Hope and Healing: Today at 4:00 pm

When we are in the midst of grief, whether it be the loss of a person, the loss of a job, or some other life-change, celebration is often very tender and difficult. All are invited to a Service of Hope, Memory, and Healing Sun., Dec. 10, 4:00 pm in the commons area. Live music, poetry, prayers, and ritual. Prepare your hearts for the light of Christ with candlelight and prayer. God’s blessings to you.

Next Sunday, December 17

Lessons and Carols presented by the Chancel Choir

After worship be sure to get a treat, there will be Muffins! \$3 or 2 for \$5, children & youth fundraiser

Christmas Eve Worship | Sunday, Dec. 24

In-Person, Online at youtube.com/richfieldumc, and by Phone (888)650-5835

9:30 am Family Worship with musician Victor Zupanc and Highland pipe.

4:00 pm Traditional Worship features organ, Chancel Choir, and a string quartet.

Sunday, December 31, Worship at 9:30 am

Online and by Phone (888) 650-5835

(no in-person worship that day)

Worship on New Year’s Eve from the comfort of your home with hand-selected music and liturgy for the season.

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

Hybrid: Grace Room and [Zoom](https://zoom.us) 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 January 3 –Migration (release date Dec. 22)**

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

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

Next Gathering: January 14 (Note: 2nd Sunday this month)

Be part of this informal atmosphere to talk about faith questions big and small. Conversation led by Pastor Nate.

Ongoing and Open

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

At the January 8, 2024, meeting (note second Monday) the women of the group recommend books to each other that they would like to read, and in that process, the group develops their book choices for the following year.

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, Agnes Danzl, Lee Weiser and Richard, Jim Vetsch, Don Morrow, Ann Johnson, Pat Norton, 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.

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 December 10 is Gretta Thorson.

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, December 10, 2023

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 10:30 am UWF Bake Sale and Walker
Jewelry Sale
- 10:40 am Reconciling Ministries Team
- 4:00 pm Service of Hope and Healing

Monday, December 11, 2023

- 7:00 pm Church and Society Meeting

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

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

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

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

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Friday, December 15, 2023

- 4:30 pm CFC Christmas party

Saturday, December 16, 2023

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

Sunday, December 17, 2023

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 9:45 am Sunday School Christmas Party
- 10:45 am Youth Christmas Party

Christmas Pageant Thanks

Participants: Denver Callahan, Brennan Currie, Cameron Currie, Nora Freeman, Bea Melcher, Gertie Melcher, Buerkley Owens, London Owens, Michael Watne, Paul Watne, Caleb White, Emily White
Squiggles: Rev. Nate Melcher

Written and directed by Becca Whitaker

Special thanks to Ann Johnson, Bill Johnson, Sue Johnson, Betty Klint, Makenzie Lambert, Tanner VanderKrabben, Victor Zupanc, and the Tech Crew.

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

Musicians: Ann Johnson, Tanner VanderKrabben, Michael Watne, Paul Watne, Victor Zupanc, Chancel Bell Choir, Sunday School Choir
Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher
Tech: Pat Eder, Dale Olson, Steve Warner

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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.