



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 28, 2024 at 9:30 am
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“In the Beauty of Holiness”
Chancel Bell Choir

by Arnold Sherman

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship*

Rev. Hope Hutchison

We are called to break the cycle.
The Love of God remakes all things.
We are called to gather the circle.
The Hope of Jesus restores all things.
We are called to share the vital.
The Care of the Holy Spirit renews all things.

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
3. Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O Bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Centering Prayer

God of Growth, God of Harvest, you lay the groundwork for your servants to do good work in your name. We have taken our turn resisting your call to service, and we must take our turn to be your light to our neighbor. For the ways in which we fall short, forgive us. In the ways in which we can do mighty things, give us strength. 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.

Welcoming New Members of the Church

To the Congregation: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

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

“Crystal Silence”
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by Chick Corea

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*

Awesome God, you sent Jesus to teach people firsthand the power of your love, grace, and authority. You call us to be mindful and vigilant of the extraordinary miracles that you continue to work in our lives today. May this offering undergird ministries that show others your miraculous love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Lord, Speak to Me”
vs. 1, 3, 5

UM Hymnal 463

1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
in living echoes of thy tone;
as thou hast sought, so let me seek
thine erring children lost and lone.
3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
the precious things thou dost impart;
and wing my words, that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.
5. O use me, Lord, use even me,
just as thou wilt, and when, and where,
until thy blessed face I see,
thy rest, thy joy, thy glory share.

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“Have I Told You Lately”
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by Van Morrison

**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

Churchwide Gospel of Mark Reading Challenge

Be part of a churchwide challenge to read the entire Gospel of Mark and Amy-Jill Levine's book, *The Gospel of Mark*. Reading for February 4: Mark 13 and pages 109-128: The Little Apocalypse

Four Video Discussion Class Opportunities

Gather to discuss the book and video series by Prof. Levine, *The Gospel of Mark*

1. ~~Sundays in Epiphany, 9:00 am-9:20 am~~—CANCELLED
2. **Mondays in January, 7:30 pm-8:30 pm Online-Only:** [Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 / Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799
3. **Tuesday Women's Bible Study, 9:30 am-11:00 am Online-Only:** Contact Zoom coordinator Molly (mollyreko@comcast.net or 612-270-4700) or class leader, Rev. Ruth Phelps (952-929-1595).
4. **Wednesday Bible Study, 9:00 am-10:00 am Hybrid: Grace Room and [Zoom](#)** Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 / Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799

Today, January 28

Church Conference and Pot Luck—There will be a church conference after worship to receive reports and approve the 2024 operations budget. **Pot luck at 10:35 am** in the fellowship hall followed by the **meeting at 10:50 am**. You may join the meeting by [Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 886-0975-2661, Passcode: 5835 or call in: 312-626-6799 (standard rates)

Sunday School - Following the Time with Children, children may go to Sunday School or stay in the sanctuary to worship. Children meet teachers in the Nook.

SOUPer Bowl of Caring Drive: Now—February 11

Bring your donations of canned soup to the Commons area or donate online. Let's help VEAP, our local food shelf, feed people throughout the coldest months.

Next Sunday, February 4

Be a Taste Tester. In advance of the Youth Super Bowl Snack fundraiser sale on Feb. 11, you have the opportunity to sample snacks and vote for your favorite.

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

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

Next Gatherings: February 4, March 3

Pub Theology is drop-in discussion about faith, God, and life over a tasty beverage. Be part of the informal atmosphere and talk with people of many generations about faith questions big and small. More information: <https://richfieldumc.org/pubtheology>

Film Theology

First Wednesdays at 6:00 pm-7:00 pm—Hybrid: Grace Room & [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 lean on his Film Studies BA to guide our discussion. Next film to see and discuss: February 7 - *The Book of Clarence* (release date: Jan. 12)

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

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!

Sunday, February 11

Youth Ministry Fundraiser—Youth are selling snacks on today, Super Bowl Sunday. Get stocked up for the big game.

Team Colors Sunday—Whether it's a football team t-shirt or a hockey jersey, your current school colors or your alma mater, we'll have a vibrant, colorful Sunday gathering to worshipping God with a little fun.

SOUPer Bowl Concludes—Last day to bring in your soup donations.

Ongoing and Open

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

February 5, 2024 - The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osmer

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 and 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, Kate Currie, Mitzi Taylor, Nancy Zwickey, sister of Susan (SK) Johnson, Robert McCoy, stepson of Curt Stull, Cynthia Knutson, Helen, daughter of Herb Doty, Pat Robertson, and Cole Dewey.

We pray for those who seek comfort: Jane Parry.

We pray for those who grieve:

Clarice Lien and family in the death of her sister, Annabelle.

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, January 28, 2024

Souper Bowl Soup Drive Continues
9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:35 am Pot Luck
10:50 pm Church Conference
3:00 pm Organist Auditions

Monday, January 29, 2024

7:30 pm Gospel of Mark Class

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

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

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

9:00 am Men's Bible Study
6:30 pm Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 01, 2024

Friday, February 02, 2024

Saturday, February 03, 2024

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

Sunday, February 04, 2024

Home Communion Sunday
9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:30 am Super Bowl Snack Taste Testing
10:35 am Reconciling Team Meeting
7:00 pm Pub Theology

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

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

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher, Bryan Nelson-Phelan

Tech: Pat Eder, 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 January 28 is Merry Rendahl.

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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.