



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 3, 2024 at 9:30 am
Third Sunday in Lent



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“In My Life”
Victor Zupanc

by Lennon and McCartney

Welcome

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Call to Worship*

Paul Watne

Wherever there is love, there is the presence of God.

Love is intimate and personal but also collective.

Love is communal resistance to practices of evil.

Under systems that destroy, holy is the uprising of the faithful.

The love of God is not passive; neither is it neutral.

Love despises abuse of power.

Love practices solidarity with the suffering.

The healing of the world depends on love.

Courageous love. Fierce love. Tender love.

Let us worship together that we may learn the ways of love.

1. **Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.**

Refrain:

**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

2. **Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me." (Refrain)**
3. **Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live. (Refrain)**

Prayer of Confession

Spirit of Christ, our hearts are restless for you. We ache for a touch of compassion. We long for healing within and around. We yearn for collective liberation from all that deadens and destroys. In these urgent desires of ours, turn us from impulses to seek change through control. Lead us away from the punitive and guide us in practices of transformation rooted in love and imagination. Hear us now in our silent confessions to you...

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Children's Choir

“We Are the Church”

R. K. Avery / D. S. March

Ann Johnson, Director

Congregation sing on the final refrain.

**Refrain: I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!**

1. **The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,
the church is not a resting place, the church is a people. (Refrain)**
2. **We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces,
all colors and all ages, too, from all times and places. (Refrain)**
3. **Sometimes the church is marching, sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding, always it's learning. (Refrain)**
4. **And when the people gather, there's singing and there's praying,
there's laughing and there's crying sometimes, all of it saying:**

Final Refrain—Congregation:

**I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!**

Time with Children

Becca Whitaker & Rev. Hope Hutchison

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

“God So Loved the World”

by R. Stainer

Chancel Choir

Tanner VanderKrabben, Director

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:15-22

Bea Melcher

“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Created for Community”
“Notable Narratives” Worship Series 3 of 6

Rev. Hope Hutchison

THANKSGIVING

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sacrament of Holy Communion

UM Hymnal p. 18, setting B

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.

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**
God of power and might. **God of power and might.**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest. **Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, **hosanna,**

in the highest, **in the highest.**

...proclaiming the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, **Christ has died,**

Christ is risen, **Christ is risen,**

Christ will come again! **Christ will come again.**

All honor and glory is your, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen, amen **Amen, amen**

amen **amen.**

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

“En Prière”
Tanner VanderKrabben

by Gabriel Fauré

Prayer After Receiving the Sacrament

Breakthrough Prayer

Michael Watne

**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*

“Children of the Heavenly Father”
verses 1, 2, and 4

UM Hymnal 141

1. Children of the heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.
2. God his own doth tend and nourish; in his holy courts they flourish;
from all evil things he spares them; in his mighty arms he bears them.
4. Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“O Love, How Deep”
Sonja Gustafson

arr. John Eggert

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

Chancel flowers are given in honor of Susan and SK Johnson's 50th wedding anniversary on March 2nd.

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, March 3

Children's First Sunday—This worship service will feature our children leading us in a variety of roles throughout the service.

Toddler Sunday School—aimed at our youngest children. We meet on the first Sunday of most months to teach our youngest children, ages 2-5 more about Jesus. Meet in the Nook following the Time with Children to proceed to Fellowship Hall.

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: March 3, April 14 (note 2nd Sunday in April)

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 info: <https://richfieldumc.org/pubtheology>

Girl Scout Cookies—Richfield UMC girls involved in Girl Scouts will be selling cookies after worship. Stop by the table in the Commons Area.

Support Affordable Housing—We are joining our mission partner, Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, in a postcard campaign in support of safe, affordable housing. Join members of your Church & Society Team following worship to send postcards to your state legislators, telling them why housing is important to you.

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 guides our discussion. Next film to see and discuss: March 6—*Bob Marley: One Love* (Release Date: Feb. 14, 2024)

Next Sunday, March 10

Sunday School—Meet your teachers in the Nook following the Time with Children.

Girl Scout Cookies—Final week that Richfield UMC girls involved in Girl Scouts will be selling cookies after worship in the Commons Area.

Support Affordable Housing—Final week of the postcard campaign in support of safe, affordable housing.

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

Legacy Letters: The second of a Two-Part Series, March 14, 1:00-2:00 pm

Program #2: Give the Greatest Gift of All: Complete a Legacy Blessing Letter

This presentation is offered both in-person and online. **Presenter:** Lynne Kolze

Cost: \$5.00. This fee is for in-person participants only.

If you are interested but were not able to attend the first session, please call the office (612-861-6086), or email kbergeland@richfieldumc.org.

[Zoom link](#) Meeting ID: 813-2660-1056 Passcode: 5835 OR Call-In: 312-626-6799, then enter Meeting ID and Passcode (standard rates may apply)

Easter Egg Hunt: March 23—2:00 to 4:00 pm

We need lots of help! Sign up here: <http://tinyurl.com/RumcEggHunt2024>. If you would like to help stuff eggs ahead of time, or donate candy, sign up! If you can help the day of the event with crafts, games, or welcoming new people onto our beautiful campus, sign up! If you have questions, contact Rev. Hope Hutchison at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org

Holy Week and Easter as Richfield UMC

March 24—Palm Sunday, 9:30 am

March 28—Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm *In-Person Only (Online Archives: 4/1/21, 4/14/22)*

March 29—Good Friday, 7:00 pm *In-Person Only (Online Archives: 4/2/21, 4/15/22)*

March 31—Easter Sunday, 9:30 am

Ongoing and Open

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

March 4, 2024 - *Matrix* by Lauren Goff

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, Laurel Lien, Agnes Danzl, Lee Weiser and Richard, Jim Vetsch, Don Morrow, Ann Johnson, Robert McCoy, stepson of Curt Stull, Rev. Marylee Fithian, Marlene Davis, and Bev Crandall’s nephew, Jeffrey.

We pray for those who seek comfort: Jane Parry and Joyce Walls.

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, March 03, 2024

Children First Sunday

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 9:45 am Toddler Sunday School
- 10:30 am Beacon: Postcard Campaign
- 10:30 am Girl Scout Cookie Sale
- 7:00 pm Pub Theology

Monday, March 04, 2024

Coffee with the Pastor

- 1:30 pm Women Who Read
- 5:00 pm Parish Companion Meeting

Tuesday, March 05, 2024

- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Staff Parish Relations
Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 06, 2024

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

Thursday, March 07, 2024

Friday, March 08, 2024

Saturday, March 09, 2024

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

Sunday, March 10, 2024

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Beacon: Postcard Campaign
- 10:30 am Girl Scout Cookie Sale

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Sonja Gustafson, Ann Johnson, Tanner VanderKrabben, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher, Bea Melcher, Michael Watne, Paul Watne

Greeter: Brenna and Kjell Nelson-Phelan

Bulletins: Daniella and Denver Callahan

Communion Servers: Gertie Melcher and Caleb White

Communion Ushers: Michael & Paul Watne

Tech: Pat Eder, Dale Olson, 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 March 3 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.