



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 17, 2024 at 9:30 am
Fifth Sunday in Lent



Bold = in unison

* Rise in body or spirit

ENTRANCE

Prelude

“All That I Have Sown”
Victor Zupanc

by Bebo Norman

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship*

Rev. Hope Hutchison

If we wander from Love’s way out of fear or in pursuit of power,

God reaches after us.

If we are turned away from the places we once called home,

God companions us.

If we desire to create places of belonging that are just and restorative,

God empowers us.

If we go looking for what has been missing within us,

God meets us in the searching.

Praise be to God who leads us on paths of restoration.

1. There is a place of quiet rest,
near to the heart of God;
a place where sin cannot molest,
near to the heart of God.

Refrain:

O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
sent from the heart of God,
hold us who wait before thee
near to the heart of God.

2. There is a place of comfort sweet,
near to the heart of God;
a place where we our Savior meet,
near to the heart of God. [Refrain]
3. There is a place of full release,
near to the heart of God;
a place where all is joy and peace,
near to the heart of God. [Refrain]

Centering Prayer

Holy One, we know we need each other. We know that we depend on one another to build communities that are whole and healthy. When there are rifts and wounds among us or around us, may we be people who show up to the work of repair and restoration. For this sacred labor, strengthen our hearts and ground us in your love. 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

“Day By Day”

by Stephen Schwartz

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Mark 10:13-16; 14:32-42

Bryan Nelson-Phelan

Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Mark 14:32-42

They went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” He took with him Peter and James and John and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.” And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me, yet not what I want but what you want.” He came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand.”

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

Sermon

“Sanctuary”
“Notable Narratives” Worship Series 5 of 6

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 supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church.
Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

Offertory

“Breathe”

by Marie Barnett

THANKSGIVING

Doxology*

UM Hymnal 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*

Glorious God, you sent Jesus to change our lives in bold and amazing ways. Yet, we often are consumed by the pettiness of our own “to do” lists. As we place this offering before you, help us to surrender completely to your love and to be stirred into fruit-bearing action that results in faithful stewardship. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine”

UM Hymnal 606

1. Come, let us use the grace divine,
and all with one accord,
in a perpetual covenant
join ourselves to Christ the Lord;
Give up ourselves, thru Jesus' power,
his name to glorify;
and promise, in this sacred hour,
for God to live and die.
2. The covenant we this moment make
be ever kept in mind;
we will no more our God forsake,
or cast these words behind.
We never will throw off the fear
of God who hears our vow;
and if thou art well pleased to hear,
come down and meet us now.
3. Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
let all our hearts receive,
present with thy celestial host
the peaceful answer give;
to each covenant the blood apply
which takes our sins away,
and register our names on high
and keep us to that day!

Benediction*

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

Postlude

“Keep Me in Your Heart for a While”

by Warren Zevon

**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

Next Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday, worship at 9:30 am Arrive early to receive a palm branch to wave during the gathering hymn processional.

Children's Sunday School-Following the Time with Children, meet teachers in the Nook.

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 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

March Madness: Join these non-betting, 100% for fun, NCAA basketball brackets!

Winners will select from a list of nonprofit partners to receive a donation on behalf of the church, courtesy of the elected leaders of the Church & Society Team. **Sign Up:**

Go to tinyurl.com/RUMC2024WomensNCAA and Click/Tap "Sign Up."

Then **Create an account** with CBS Sports. Uncheck the boxes to opt out marketing emails if you wish. Next Click/Tap "Join Now" to join the pool. Remember, **we have two pools**, so after you sign up for the Women's pool, then sign up for the Men's pool too at tinyurl.com/RUMC2024MensNCAA. You **MUST create your brackets BEFORE** the first games of the tournament. First games are on March 21 and 22.

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:

April 3- *Kung Fu Panda 4* (release date: March 8)

April Time for LIFE—Thursday, April 11th, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm, Both in-person and online

Program: Name That Town with historian and storyteller, Doug Ohman

Doug will share stories, history, and humor to explain how towns received their names. Stay after the program and enjoy a dessert. The Cost is \$5.00, payable on the day of the event, for in-person participants only. Please RSVP no later than Sunday, April 7th. Sign up in the Commons, call the church office (612-861-6086), or email kbergeland@richfieldumc.org.

Minnesota Reconciling Ministries Luncheon

Gather to discuss/learn of LGBTQ+ issues in our denomination and to enjoy the company of other Reconciling Ministries persons from other UMCs. **The luncheon will be held at the Hennepin Avenue UMC on Sat., April 13. Gathering begins around 11:00 am and the luncheon itself is a potluck.** Following lunch, there are two speakers: the Rev. Carol Zaagsma and Mr. Dave Nuckols, clergy and lay delegates to General Conference, respectively. General Conference, the only official policy-making body for the UMC, begins its meeting in Charlotte, NC on the 23rd, ten days after the luncheon. You are invited to attend the luncheon to learn the latest ideas and events concerning our life as a Reconciling denomination and church from two persons who are directly and importantly involved. If you have any questions, please speak with Rev. Wayne Albertson.

Ongoing and Open

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

April 1, 2024 - Miracle Creek by Angie Kim

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, Robert McCoy, stepson of Curt Stull, Rev. Marylee Fithian, Marlene Davis, Bev Crandall’s nephew, Jeffrey, Phyllis Killam, Lori Claussen, and Harvey Ehman, brother of Roxie Hillger.

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 17, 2024

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

Monday, March 18, 2024

5:00 pm Care Minister Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Coffee with the Pastor

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

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

Thursday, March 21, 2024

Friday, March 22, 2024

1:00 pm Olson Visitation
2:00 pm Jayne (Myre) Olson Memorial Service

Saturday, March 23, 2024

8:30 am Men's Group
10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group
2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

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

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Stephen Klosinski, Greg Locke, Rev. Nate Melcher, Victor Zupanc

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

Tech: Rev. Bill Johnson, TY Moore, Juan Nieves Lebrón, Dale Olson

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 17 is Gretta Thorson.

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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.