



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 31, 2024 at 9:30 am
Easter Sunday



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

Dance Prelude on “Thine Is the Glory” by G.F. Handel
Brass Ensemble arr. Kenneth J. Grinnell

“Danza” T. by Susato, arr. Kevin McCheney
Chancel Bell Choir

“On That Blessed Easter Morn” by Mary Caldwell
Chancel Choir

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship*

Rev. Hope Hutchison

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

Gathering Hymn*

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”
vs. 1-4

UM Hymnal No. 302

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!
3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!
4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Centering Prayer

God, just as you raised Jesus from the dead, you offer us new and transformed lives in the risen Christ. We rejoice and give thanks for this good news, which has been handed down to us from generation to generation. May we, too, be witness of the resurrection, sharing your promise of forgiveness and grace with all people. On this day of holy resurrection, hear us in our Breakthrough Prayer, a prayer that calls for holy resurrection in the life of this church:

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

The Children of Richfield UMC

**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

“He Is Arisen!”
Chancel Choir

by Chiarini/Palestrina
arr. Patrick M. Liebergen

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments / 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.**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

Mark 16:1-15

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.

After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.

Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table, and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Here Comes the Son”

Rev. Nate Melcher

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sharing Our Gifts

This year’s Easter offering supports The Minnesota FoodShare, and the ministries of Richfield UMC. Make your gift in-person, by mail, or online: richfieldumc.org/give.

Thank you for your generosity as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

Offertory

“Antiphon”
Tanner VanderKrabben

by Ralph Vaughan Williams

THANKSGIVING

Doxology*

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

Now all the vault of heav’n resounds

In praise of love that still abounds:

“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”

Sing, choirs of angels loud and clear!

Repeat their song of glory here:

“Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of Gratitude and Easter Proclamation*

Majestic One, today we celebrate the miracle that was created for all who are ready to receive. Your absolute decree of the Risen Son reminds us that our faith is connected intimately to your amazing, unwavering love. The unconditional love that you repeatedly uplift is our reminder to love all of your children. Multiply these gifts so the promises of a seemingly distant heaven become more of a reality on Earth. Glory Hallelujah! Amen and amen!

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Thine Be the Glory”

UM Hymnal 308

1. **Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.**

Refrain:

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.**

2. **Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. (Refrain)**
3. **No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. (Refrain)**

Benediction*

He is risen!
He is risen, indeed!
He is risen!
He is risen, indeed!
He is risen!
He is risen, indeed!

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

Postlude

“Toccata in F” (from Symphony V)
Sonja Gustafson

by C. M. Widor

**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

This Wednesday, April 3

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 11, from 1:00-2:00 pm, Both in-person and online

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

We will journey with Doug as he explores towns and villages throughout the state of Minnesota. Doug will share stories, history, and humor to explain how towns received their names. You are invited to stay after the program and enjoy a delicious 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 11:30 am and the luncheon itself is a potluck.** Following lunch, there are two speakers: the Rev. Carol Zaagsma & Mr. Dave Nuckols, clergy & lay delegates to General Conference, respectively. General Conference, 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.

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: **April 14** (note 2nd Sunday in April) and May 5

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: richfieldumc.org/pubtheology

UMCOR Sunday: April 14 - Special Collection & Kit Packing after Worship

UMCOR Sunday is one of six designated special Sundays of the United Methodist Church. During worship, we will celebrate this Sunday by taking a **special offering to benefit the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)**. This special offering will help to underwrite the administrative costs of UMCOR so that 100% of funds given to response and recovery efforts can be sent to where they are needed most. Then, **following worship, we will be packing hygiene kits in the Fellowship Hall**. These kits contain the most needed items that people need the most during a time of crisis. They will be sent to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Illinois, where they can be deployed whenever they are needed to respond to people in crisis.

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!

Ongoing and Open

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

April 1, 2024 - Miracle Creek by Angie Kim

May 6, 2024 - Once We Were Home by Jennifer Rosner

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, Bev Crandall’s nephew, Jeffrey, 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: Nick Dewey and family in the death of Nick’s grandmother, Lolita.

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 31, 2024

Easter Day

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

Monday, April 1, 2024

1:30 pm Women Who Read

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

9:00 am Men's Bible Study

6:00 pm Film Theology

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Friday, April 5, 2024

Saturday, April 6, 2024

8:30 am Men's Group

10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, April 7, 2024

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

9:45 am Sunday School

10:45 am Reconciling Ministries Team

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Rich Frevert, Sonja Gustafson, Grant Jensen, Rev. Bill Johnson, Cory Lau,
Tanner VanderKrabben, Chancel Bell Choir, Chancel Choir

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: Juan Nieves Lebrón, 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 31 is Merry Rendahl.

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- Copyright and license agreements can impact our ability to always present expansive language for God and inclusive language for humankind. All are invited to sing or pray the words on their heart. For more, visit richfieldumc.org/worship.
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Richfield United Methodist Church

5835 Lyndale Avenue S., Mpls., MN 55419

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Worship Livestream and Subscribe: youtube.com/richfieldumc

Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational

Richfield UMC gathers on Dakota land. More at richfieldumc.org/land.