



RICHFIELD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June 2, 2024 at 9:30 am  
Second Sunday after Pentecost

# SO MANY QUESTIONS

If God loves everyone, can I?

[richfieldumc.org](http://richfieldumc.org)

**Bold = in unison**

**\* Rise in body or spirit**

## ENTRANCE

Prelude

“Mississippi Mud”  
London Owens

by William Gillock

“In Spring”  
Buerkley Owens

by Cornelius Gurlitt

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship\*

Paul Watne

God is with us here and now!

**God is everywhere we go!**

Jesus is with us here and now!

**Jesus is with us everywhere we go!**

The Holy Spirit is with us here and now!

**The Holy Spirit is with us everywhere we go!**

Gathering Hymn\*

“Open My Eyes That I May See”  
verses 1, 2, 3

UM Hymnal 454

1. Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!
2. Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!
3. Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Hope Hutchison

God of Creation, God of Compassion, you are the source of our strength and the dwelling place for our refuge. In you, we know that all things are possible. Justice, mercy, inclusion, progress, and acceptance - your divine tools are gifts for our human lives. Thank you for when we rose to the occasion in your name. Forgive us for when we do not. Hear us in our silent confessions to you...

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Children's Choir

“All Are Welcome”

by Marty Haugen

Congregational Refrain:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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

“Fourteen Reveries, No. 1”  
Matthew Bennett, piano  
Groth Scholarship recipient

by Brad Mehldau

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

# PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 31:8-9

Michael Watne

Speak out for those who cannot speak,  
for the rights of all the destitute.  
Speak out; judge righteously;  
defend the rights of the poor and needy.

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

Sermon

“Speak Up!”  
“So Many Questions” Worship Series 1 of 9

Michelle Bahr

## THANKSGIVING

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sacrament of Holy Communion

FWS Hymnal #2257-a, b, c, d

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; God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

...proclaiming the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

...all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever:

**Amen. Amen. Amen**

**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

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 Hymn\*

“Draw the Circle Wide”

by G. Light/M. Miller

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.  
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.  
No one stands alone, we'll stand side by side.  
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.  
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.  
No one stands alone, we'll stand side by side.  
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song: no one stands alone  
Standing side by side, Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song: no one stands alone  
Standing side by side, Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.  
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.  
No one stands alone, we'll stand side by side.  
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song: no one stands alone.  
Standing side by side, Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song: no one stands alone.  
Standing side by side, Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Benediction\*

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

Postlude

“It Could Happen to You”  
Matthew Bennett, piano

by Jimmy Van-Heusen

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

Welcome Matthew Bennet. Matthew will be a junior at Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA. Matthew will study Piano Performance and is a graduate of Mahtomedi High School, Mahtomedi, MN.

**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: Sunday, June 2

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**Semi-Annual Meeting / Church Conference and Potluck Lunch**  
Today following worship | In-Person (Fellowship Hall) and Online  
The church conference will begin at 11:00 am.

Zoom Meeting ID: 886 0975 2661 / Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799

You are invited to a potluck lunch and church conference for the purpose of voting on new elected leaders, receiving reports, and welcoming new members. In-person participation is highly encouraged, and a Zoom option will be available.

## Maple Syrup Sale

The annual Children's/Youth ministry Maple Syrup Sale is today, June 2. This year's syrup is an especially nice, limited edition. Some of the sap was collected by our kids. \$10 per bottle.

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

Location: Davanni's, 6345 Penn Ave S., Richfield

Next Gathering: June 2 (then, summer hiatus)

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: [richfieldumc.org/pubtheology](http://richfieldumc.org/pubtheology)

## Film Theology | First Wednesdays at 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Hybrid: Grace Room and [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 popcorn! Pastor Nate will lean on his Film Studies BA to guide our discussion. Here is the spring lineup: June 5 - Civil War (release date: Apr 12) More info: [richfieldumc.org/filmtheology](http://richfieldumc.org/filmtheology)

**Next Sunday: Outdoor Worship, June 9** - Richfield Bandshell at 9:30 am  
[636 East 66th Street](#) Richfield (free parking at Ice Arena)

Summer Outdoor Worship Series: "And I Say It's All Right: Beatles at the Bandshell" **June 9** (Richfield Bandshell), **July 14** (Lake Harriet Bandshell), and **August 11** (Richfield Bandshell) Note for online worshipers: While the outdoor summer worship series happens at the bandshell, online and phone worshipers will experience a hand-selected trio of worship service rebroadcasts.

## Field Trip: St. John's Illuminated Bible Museum

**10:30 am-3:30 pm, Saturday, June 8; Cost: ~\$15 for lunch, tour is free**  
Take the church bus for a trip to St. John's University for a guided tour of the St. John's Illuminated Bible. This edition of the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible was handwritten using ancient techniques and will last for generations to come. Meet at the church campus, drive to St. John's and have "all you care to eat" brunch in the campus refectory (~\$15 per person, scholarships available). We'll return at 3:30 pm. The bus has room for 14 passengers, or you may travel on your own. Please sign up in the Commons and contact Pastor Nate for more information. Learn more at [saintjohnsbible.org](http://saintjohnsbible.org)

## Church Spring Cleaning Day

**Saturday, June 15, 8:00 am-12:00 pm with pizza lunch to follow**

Help prepare areas for new ministries and mission partners by organizing, cleaning, and repairing spaces throughout campus. Projects include organizing classrooms, sorting storage areas, light repair jobs, and more. To lend a hand, please RSVP by signing up in the commons area or contacting Jerry Schilling at [gpschill@aol.com](mailto:gpschill@aol.com).

## Ongoing and Open

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

June 3 - The Little Old Lady Who Broke All The Rules by Catharina Ingelman Sundberg

Contact Fern Albertson, [wfalbertson@gmail.com](mailto:wfalbertson@gmail.com), to get connected.

### **Tuesdays, 9:30 am | Women's Bible Study**

Contact Molly Reko, [mollyreko@comcast.net](mailto:mollyreko@comcast.net), to get connected.

### **Wednesdays, 9:00 am | Men's Bible Study**

Contact Kent Johnson, [kentjmn@gmail.com](mailto:kentjmn@gmail.com), to get connected.

### **Saturdays, 8:30 am | Men's Support Group**

Contact Kent Johnson, [kentjmn@gmail.com](mailto: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, Robert McCoy, stepson of Curt Stull, Rev. Marylee Fithian, Harvey Ehman, brother of Roxie Hillger, Mitzi Taylor, Don Morrow, Lori Claussen, Tristan, great-grandson of Marylee Fithian, Mandy Beardsley’s father, John, and Marlys Hudson.

We pray for those who seek comfort: Jane Parry and Winona Davis.

We pray for those who grieve:

The family and friends of Joyce Walls, who died May 28, especially Sandy and Steve Meyer. Service arrangements are pending.

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, June 02, 2024

9:30 am Worship Service  
(+Live streamed & archived)  
10:30 am Maple Syrup Sale  
10:45 am Potluck and Church Conference  
7:00 pm Pub Theology

### Monday, June 03, 2024

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

### Tuesday, June 04, 2024

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

### Wednesday, June 05, 2024

9:00 am Men's Bible Study  
6:00 pm Film Theology

### Thursday, June 06, 2024

### Friday, June 07, 2024

### Saturday, June 08, 2024

8:30 am Men's Group  
10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group  
10:30 am Field Trip: St. John's Illuminated Bible Museum

### Sunday, June 09, 2024

9:30 am In-Person Worship Service at the  
**Richfield bandshell**  
9:30 am Online Worship Service

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Special Ushers: Bea Melcher, Gertie Melcher, Brenna Nelson-Phelan, Kjell Nelson-Phelan

Musicians: Matthew Bennett, Sonja Gustafson, Buerkley Owens, London Owens,  
Tanner VanderKrabben, Victor Zupanc, Chancel Choir

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

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 June 2 is Pat Norton.

### Permissions and Acknowledgements:

- 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](http://richfieldumc.org/worship).
- "Call to Worship" and "Prayer of Confession" by Rev. Nate Melcher.
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### Richfield United Methodist Church

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Richfield UMC gathers on Dakota land. More at [richfieldumc.org/land](http://richfieldumc.org/land).