



**RICHFIELD**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**July 7, 2024 at 9:30 am**  
**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**



**Bold = in unison**

## **ENTRANCE**

Prelude

**“Crystal Silence”**  
Victor Zupanc, soloist

by Chick Corea

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

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.*

The LORD's Prayer

Bea Melcher

**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.**

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of thy name.
3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life, and health, and peace.
7. In Christ, your head, you then shall know,  
shall feel your sins forgiven;  
anticipate your heaven below,  
and own that love is heaven.

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.*

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading

John 7:37-52

Gertie Melcher

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’ ” Now he said this about

the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Messiah." But some asked, "Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" So there was a division in the crowd because of him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why did you not arrest him?" The police answered, "Never has anyone spoken like this!" Then the Pharisees replied, "Surely you have not been deceived, too, have you? Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, which does not know the law, they are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus before and who was one of them, asked, "Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?" They replied, "Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee."

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

Sermon

"Student Teachers"  
"Best Supporting Actor" Worship Series 2 of 3

Rev. Nate Melcher

## THANKSGIVING

Sharing Our Gifts

*Your gift in-person, by mail or phone, or online at [richfieldumc.org/give](http://richfieldumc.org/give) supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church.  
Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

Prayer of Gratitude / 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.*

# SENDING FORTH

Sending Song

“How Beautiful”  
Chancel Choir

by Tom Fettke

Benediction

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

Postlude

“As a Fire Is Meant for Burning”

TFWS Hymnal 2237

1. As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God’s name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.
2. We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God’s delight.
3. As a green bud in the springtime is the sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness ’mid earth’s peoples, many hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,  
may our lives reflect the radiance of God’s new and glorious dawn.

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

**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, and Roxie Hillger.

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

We pray for those who grieve:

The family and friends of Joyce Walls, who died May 28, especially Sandy and  
Steve Meyer. A memorial service will be held at the church on Saturday, July  
13 at 11:00 am. Visitation the hour prior to the service.

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.

# RICHFIELD UMC NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today, Sunday, July 7—Online Only Worship**

9:30 am, [youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc) or 888.650.5835

**Summer Holiday Worship Series: “Best Supporting Actor” Online-Only** May 26 (Memorial Day weekend), July 7 (Independence Day weekend), and September 1 (Labor Day weekend) During these special online-only worship services, Pastor Nate will preach a 3-part interconnected sermon exploring the relationship between Jesus and Nicodemus in the Gospel of John. Please do not come to campus these Sundays; instead, experience worship online, thanks.

**Summer Movie Nights begin this Wednesday.**

**Wednesdays in July, Movies start at 5pm**, bring your dinner and eat during the movie. We'll have snacks too! Great family fun!

July 10: Ice Age

July 17: Inside Out

July 24: Fantastic Mr. Fox

July 31: Charlotte's Web

**Next Sunday, July 14**

**Outdoor Worship** - Lake Harriet Bandshell at 10:00 am (note time)

[4135 W Lake Harriet Pkwy , Minneapolis](#) (parking in paid lots or free on the street)

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.

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

**Sign up:** [calendly.com/natemelcher](https://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!

**2024 Is Our Church's 170<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

This milestone birthday is our chance to celebrate our ministry and outreach in the community since 1854. **In August, we are finalizing our plans for the fall celebration, so we want to hear from you now!** To help your church celebrate 170 years of history and dreams of what's to come, please contact Pastor Nate at [nmelcher@richfieldumc.org](mailto:nmelcher@richfieldumc.org) or 612-861-6086.

## Ongoing and Open

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

The August 5, 2024 book is *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks

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.

## 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, July 07, 2024

9:30 am Online-Only Worship Service

*Please do not come to campus  
this Sunday; instead, experience  
worship online or by phone.*

*Thank you, and have a blessed  
Independence Day weekend.*

### Monday, July 08, 2024

### Tuesday, July 9, 2024

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

### Wednesday, July 10, 2024

9:00 am Men's Bible Study

5:00 pm Summer Movie Night  
*Ice Age*

### Thursday, July 11, 2024

### Friday, July 12, 2024

### Saturday, July 13, 2024

8:30 am Men's Group

10:00 am Walls Visitation

10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

11:00 am Joyce Walls Memorial  
Service

### Sunday, July 14, 2024

10:00 am In-Person Worship Service  
at the **Lake Harriet  
Bandshell**

10:00 am Online Worship Service

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.

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Chancel Choir, Sonja Gustafson, Tanner VanderKrabben,  
Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Bea, Gertie, and Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech Crew: Pat Eder, Rev. Bill Johnson, Juan Nieves Lebrón, Rev. Nate Melcher,  
TY Moore, Dale Olson, 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 July 7 is Kate Currie.

**Permissions and Acknowledgements:**

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**Richfield United Methodist Church**

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Worship Livestream and Subscribe: [youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc)

**Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational**

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

