



September 22, 2024 at 9:30 am
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Bold = in unison

*** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude

Sonata No. 7 IV. Finale: Allegro; Presto
Penelope Corbett, violinist and Groth Scholar
Garret Ross, accompanist

by Beethoven

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship*

We gather to pray.

We gather to praise.

May our prayers extend beyond ourselves.

May our praise rise to the heavens.

May our lives be salty with love.

May our prayers be reflections of peace.

1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
in living echoes of thy tone;
as thou hast sought, so let me seek
thine erring children lost and lone.
2. O strengthen me, that while I stand
firm on the rock, and strong in thee,
I may stretch out a loving hand
to wrestlers with the troubled sea.
5. O use me, Lord, use even me,
just as thou wilt, and when, and where,
until thy blessed face I see,
thy rest, thy joy, thy glory share.

Centering Prayer

Faithful God, inspire us to be faithful to one another. Open our hearts to meet the needs in our midst and in the wider world. Open our minds to notice the beauty and gift of your creation. Open our mouths to sing your blessings, joyfully and gratefully. Open our lives to welcome the stranger, seek the lost, and create peace in a troubled world. 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

Becca Whitaker

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 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus ”
arr. Hughes

Sonja Gustafson

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading James 5:13-20

If any of you are suffering, they should pray. If any of you are happy, they should sing. If any of you are sick, they should call for the elders of the church, and the elders should pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. Prayer that comes from faith will heal the sick, for the Lord will restore them to health. And if they have sinned, they will be forgiven. For this reason, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous person is powerful in what it can achieve. Elijah was a person just like us. When he earnestly prayed that it wouldn't rain, no rain fell for three and a half years. He prayed again, God sent rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

My brothers and sisters, if any of you wander from the truth and someone turns back the wanderer, recognize that whoever brings a sinner back from the wrong path will save them from death and will bring about the forgiveness of many sins.

Scripture Reading Colossians 4:12

Epaphras, who is one of you, says hello. He's a slave of Christ Jesus who always wrestles for you in prayers so that you will stand firm and be fully mature and complete in the entire will of God.

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

Sermon

“God Provides Care”
“Footnotes of Faith” Worship Series 3 of 4

Rev. Nate Melcher

Celebrating Our Pastoral Care Teams

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

"A Living Prayer"
by Alison Krause

Victor Zupanc

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*

Gracious Lord, we join together in prayer. We recognize that daily prayer impacts our spiritual health. Likewise, offering our tithes to you impacts our spiritual health. The acts of praying and giving unify our church community and place our collective attention on you. As we practice these spiritual disciplines, we hope to draw even closer to you. We pray in the name of the Jesus Christ who offers salvation to all throughout our world. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“How Great Thou Art”
verses 1, 2, and 4

UM Hymnal 77

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
consider all the *worlds thy hand have made,
I see the stars, I hear the *rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze; [Refrain]
4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! [Refrain]

Benediction*

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

Postlude

Sonata No. 2 II. Blues Moderato
Penelope Corbett, Groth Scholar
Garret Ross, accompanist

by Ravel

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

Welcome Penelope Corbett, Groth Scholarship recipient.

Penelope will be a senior at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. She will be studying violin performance and is a graduate of Stillwater Area High School, Stillwater, 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

The Annual Fall Food Drive: Now through Sept. 29

The drive benefits VEAP, our longtime partner who is celebrating 50 years serving the community. Pick-up the list of needed items. Or, donate online at richfieldumc.org/give

Pizza with the Pastor / New Member Class, September 29 after worship.

Interested in Learning more about Richfield UMC or becoming a member?

Come have lunch, meet people, and explore how to be involved in the life of the church and/or become a member (New Member Sunday is October 13). **Please RSVP to Pastor Nate by Wednesday, September 25 to help us prepare.**

Email: nmelcher@richfieldumc.org call 612.861.6086.

Prayer Partners (Adults matched with children Grades K-12)

Begins Sept. 29 after worship (10:40-11:00 am) Children and their matched adults will connect for around 20 mins with a guided check-in, a moment to pray, and a snack. Adults, to pair up this year contact Becca Whitaker at bwhitaker@richfieldumc.org.

Coffee with the Pastor

New Day: 9:00 am-12:00 pm, most Thursdays, Sign up: calendly.com/natemelcher
Pastor Nate is meeting with church members like you to check-in, reconnect, and pray. Sign up with the calendar link (if you cannot go online, please call the office) for a meeting at Starbucks (5351 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis). Your drink is on Pastor Nate.

Youth Group (Grades 7-12) 6:15 pm-7:30 pm

1st Wednesdays of the Month, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 4—Youth Group returns at an earlier time. On 1st Wednesdays, we'll have pizza, check-in and have an activity such as a card game, Jackbox games, Pub Theology with root beer floats, service projects, and more.

Pub Theology, First Sundays, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm, Dates: Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1

Location: Davanni's Pizza and Hoagies (6345 Penn Ave S, Richfield) Pub Theology is a drop-in, informal discussion on faith, God, and life over a tasty beverage. Arrive early to order a tasty beverage and/or dinner, then stay for conversation led by Pastor Nate.

Toddler Sunday School (Infants - Preschool) 9:30-10:20 am: Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1

Parents/Guardians can bring their toddler and preschool-age children to Toddler Sunday School for a Bible story, a snack, and free play on the **1st Sundays of the month**. All children are welcome to return to the sanctuary to receive Holy Communion with their families, too. RSVP to help us plan, contact Becca at bwhitaker@richfieldumc.org.

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

Amazing Hummingbirds! With Stan Tekiela, naturalist and photographer
New day: Tuesday, October 8th, 1:00 - 2:00 pm; social dessert time to follow
Cost: \$5.00 for in-person participants; payable the day of the event

RSVP: No later than Sunday, October 6th. Sign up in the Commons, call the church office (612-861-6086), or email kbergeland@richfieldumc.org

The church bus is available: Please call the church office (612-861-6086) by Wednesday, Oct. 2nd, if you would like to ride the church bus.

UWF Craft Fair: Saturday, November 2, 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Join us on Saturday November 2nd from 10am until 2pm. Get your holiday shopping done early and support local crafters and businesses. **If you or someone you know is interested in having a table please contact Rhonda Olson, rhonda.s.olson@gmail.com or Toni Locke at toni@ggrreegg.com or [612-840-9797](tel:612-840-9797).**

Ongoing and Open

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

To join by Zoom, email Fern wfalbertson@gmail.com. The book for October 7, 2024 is West With Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge. If you are a woman who enjoys good books and thoughtful discussion, then consider joining fellow readers for Women Who Read.

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 in the Sanctuary:

The Nook - A space connected to the Sanctuary perfect for having a quiet or wiggly moment.

Art Cart - Children can fill a bag with items in The Nook to bring with them to worship with their families in the pews.

Time with Children - Children of all ages are invited to experience a message just for them. Parent/guardians are welcome to join their children too.

Sunday School - (Grades K-6) After Time with Children in worship, the Sunday School teachers lead children to the classroom for a Bible story, a snack, and an activity. **2024 Sunday School (9:40 am-10:30 am):** September 22, October 13, October 27, November 10, November 17, December 8, December 22.

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: for the marriage yesterday, Sept. 21, of RUMC members Hannah Moland and Jack Mettlach.

We pray with gratitude.

We pray for those who seek healing: 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, John Darling, Michele Wegscheid and family, Ann Johnson, and Phil Williams.

We pray for those who seek comfort: Paula Milani.

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, September 22, 2024

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 9:40 pm Children's Sunday School
- 11:00 am Youth Outing to Minnesota's
Largest Candy Store
- 3:30 pm Choir Director Audition

Monday, September 23, 2024

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

- 9:00 am Men's Bible Study
- 5:30 pm RUMC Foundation Meeting
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 26, 2024

Friday, September 27, 2024

Saturday, September 28, 2024

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

Sunday, September 29, 2024

- 9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
- 9:40 pm Children's Sunday School
- 10:40 am Prayer Partners
- 10:45 am Pizza with the Pastor/New
Member Class

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

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Musicians: Penelope Corbett (Groth Scholar), Garret Ross,
Sonja Gustafson, Victor Zupanc, Chancel Choir
Liturgists: Rev. Nate Melcher, Becca Whitaker
Tech: Rev. Bill Johnson, Juan Nieves Lebrón, Steve Warner

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 September 22 is Merry Rendahl.

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Richfield United Methodist Church

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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.