RICHFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 5, 2024 at 9:30 am
Second Sunday after Christmas

Bold = in unison *** Rise in body or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude — "Bright and Glorious is the Sky" / "Brightest and Best" arr. Cassler — Sonja Gustafson

Welcome — Rev. Chris Kliesen Wehrman

Call to Worship*

Bring your gifts and bring your love to honor the One of love.
Bring your worship and bring your praise to pay homage to Christ Jesus.

Gathering Hymn* "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" UM Hymnal 247
vs. 1 and 2

1. **O Morning Star, how fair and bright**
   thou beamest forth in truth and light,
   O Sovereign meek and lowly!
   Thou Root of Jesse, David's Son,
   my Lord and Master, thou hast won
   my heart to serve thee solely!
   Thou art holy, fair and glorious, all-victorious,
   rich in blessing, rule and might o'er all possessing.

2. **Thou heavenly Brightness! Light divine!**
   O deep within my heart now shine,
   and make thee there an altar!
   Fill me with joy and strength to be
   thy member, ever joined to thee
   in love that cannot falter;
   toward thee longing doth possess me; turn and bless me;
   here in sadness eye and heart long for thy gladness!

Prayer of Confession

Jesus, we yearn for your grace to fill our lives. We yearn to accept your love so fully that our hearts might overflow with love for your world. Gift us, not just with your mercy and grace, but with an openness and confidence to receive your gifts. Shine through our hearts and actions that others may find in us generous friends. May our prayers and our actions bring your light to the world. Hear us now in our silent confessions to you…

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

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 "Come Sunday" David Nyberg
by Duke Ellington

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading 1 Chronicles 28:1-10 Sarah Callahan

David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the officials of the tribes, the officers of the divisions that served the king, the commanders of the thousands, the commanders of the hundreds, the stewards of all the property and cattle of the king, and his sons, together with the palace officials, the mighty warriors, and all the warriors. Then King David rose to his feet and said, "Hear me, my brothers and my people. I had planned to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the Lord, for the footstool of our God, and I made preparations for building. But God said to me, 'You shall not build a house for my name, for you are a warrior and have shed blood.' Yet the Lord God of Israel chose me from all my ancestral house to be king over Israel forever, for he chose Judah as leader, and in the house of Judah my father's house, and among my father's sons he took delight in making me king over all Israel. And of all my sons, for the Lord has given me many, he has chosen my son Solomon to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of the Lord over Israel. He said to me, 'It is your son Solomon who shall build my house and my courts, for I have chosen him to be a son to me, and I will be a father to him. I will establish his kingdom forever, if he continues resolute in keeping my commandments and my ordinances, as he is today.' Now therefore in the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the Lord, and in the hearing of our God, observe and search out all the commandments of the Lord your God, that you may possess this good land and leave it for an inheritance to your children after you forever.

"And you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve him with single mind and willing heart, for the Lord searches every mind and understands every plan and thought. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will abandon you forever. Take heed, now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house as the sanctuary; be strong, and act."

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

Sermon "The Epiphany" Rev. Chris Kliesen Wehrman
"In a New Year" Worship Series 1 of 4

THANKSGIVING

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sacrament of Holy Communion UM Hymnal p. 18, setting B

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, **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**
God of power and might. **God of power and might.**
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest. **Hosanna in the highest**.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, **hosanna,**
in the highest, i**n the highest.**

...proclaiming the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, **Christ has died,**
Christ is risen, **Christ is risen,**
Christ will come again! **Christ will come again.**

All honor and glory is your, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen, amen **Amen, amen**
amen **amen.**

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.

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.

Receiving the Sacrament

There is no barrier between you and the table.
All who seek the grace of Jesus are welcome.

Music During Communion

"The Church's One Foundation"
"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"
arr. Jan Sanborn

Prayer After Receiving the Sacrament

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 Hymn* "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UM Hymnal 206

1. **I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.**
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:
In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

3. **I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.**
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)

Benediction*

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

Postlude "Go Tell It on the Mountain"
setting by Wilbur Held

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

Today Sunday, January 5, 2025

Welcome Rev. Chris Kliesen Wehrman
While Pastor Nate is on renewal leave, January 5 through May 5, 2025, Pastor Chris will work part-time with the church. Please pray for her ministry with Richfield UMC and encourage her in every way for this season.

While Pastor Chris is with the church, we also welcome her spouse, **David Nyberg**, as Chancel Choir interim director. David's been a church musician most of his life as a clarinetist and vocalist and he directed the Prospect Park UMC choir.

Toddler Sunday School (Infants – Preschool) 9:30-10:20 am
Parents/Guardians bring your 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**.

Weekly Online Book Study: "Everything Good About God Is True"

7:00 pm on Thursdays, January-May
Pastor Nate created an online weekly series to run while he's on renewal leave. Each video explores a chapter of his favorite Christian spirituality book of 2024, *Everything Good About God Is True*. Author Bruce Reyes-Chow helps readers consider why we choose faith and how to create a "faith montage" through personal stories, generous theology, reflection questions, and prayer. Pick up your free copy (1 per household, while supplies last). Read and watch at your pace: chapters average 6-7 pages and videos premiere on our YouTube channel and Facebook page.

Open Gym: Winter Prayer Walks

10:30 am – 1:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays
in the Fellowship Hall
Combine cardio workouts with peaceful prayer. Church members and their friends can come to Fellowship Hall for a morning walk. Have a low-impact workout in a warm room this winter. Turn on music or a devotional podcast on your headphones, read the new prayer and poetry posters on the walls, and do some light cardio in the comfort and privacy of your church building. It takes 34.5 laps to walk a mile – how many steps will you take?

Souper Bowl of Caring Drive | Now through February 9

We kick off 2025 with one more donation drive inspired by our 170th birthday. Our goal is to receive 170 cans of soup and other shelf-stable canned goods for our annual SOUPer Bowl of Caring food drive to benefit our longstanding partner, VEAP Food Shelf. Bring new canned goods or some from home (please check the "best by" date!), and/or give funds toward this latest drive. We'll bless all donations we receive on Team Colors Sunday, February 9, 2025.

Epiphany Worship Series #1: "In a New Year" | January 5-26, 2025

The season of Epiphany encompasses themes such as rebirth, companionship, and journey. For many, this beginning of a new year can also be a time of new beginnings and a fresh start. In a new year, you are invited to dive into key stories in the life of Jesus and renew your commitment as a beloved child of God to reach new people and heal a broken world.

Ongoing and Open

1st Mondays, 1:30 pm | Women Who Read
To join by Zoom, email Fern wfalbertson@gmail.com. Next meeting January 6. In January, we will gather to exchange recommendations for books and generate our 2025 reading list. 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 worshiping 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)** On Specified dates after Time with Children in worship, the teachers lead children to the classroom for a Bible story, a snack, and an activity.
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 seek healing: Laurel Lien, Agnes Danzl, Jim Vetsch, Rev. Marylee Fithian, Harvey Ehman, brother of Roxie Hillger, Mitzi Taylor, Don Morrow, John Darling, Michele Wegscheid and family, Pat Robertson, and Marge Osterdyk.
We pray for those who seek comfort: Paula Milani.
We pray for those who grieve:
- Lauren Hauter and her son Jack in the death of Lauren's mother, Phyllis.
- John Darling in the death of his brother, Robert.

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, January 05, 2025
Souper Bowl Drive Now through Feb. 9
9:30 am Worship Service (+Live streamed & archived)
9:30 am Toddler Sunday School

Monday, January 06, 2025
1:30 pm Women Who Read

Tuesday, January 07, 2025
9:30 am Women's Bible Study
10:30-1:30 Indoor Walking
7:00 pm SPRC Meeting

Wednesday, January 08, 2025
9:00 am Men's Bible Study
6:15 pm Youth Group
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 09, 2025
10:30-1:30 Indoor Walking
7:00 pm Online Book Study

Friday, January 10, 2025

Saturday, January 11, 2025
8:30 am Men's Group
10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, January 12, 2025
9:30 am Worship Service (+Live streamed & archived)
9:40 am Children's Sunday School

We thank those who help make this worship a ministry of grace:
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Musicians: Sonja Gustafson, David Nyberg
Liturgists: Rev. Wayne Albertson, Sarah Callahan, Rev. Chris Kliesen Wehrman, DeAnna Wichman
Tech: Pat Eder, Rev. Bill Johnson, 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 January 5 is Kate Currie.

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Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational.
Richfield UMC gathers on Dakota land. More at richfieldumc.org/land.