RICHFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 25, 2026 at 9:30 am
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

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

ENTRANCE

Prelude	"Annie's Song" by John Denver	Victor Zupanc
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher

Gathering Hymn* "You Who Are Thirsty" TFWS Hymnal 2132

You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink from waters flowing.
You who are hungry, come to the bread and eat of his holiness.
You who are tired, find rest. You who are weak, find strength.
You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink.

You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink from waters flowing.
You who are hungry, come to the bread and eat of his holiness.
You who are tired, find rest. You who are weak, find strength.
You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink.

They will freely feed all of them who are weak.
They will quench the righteous thirst of all who humbly seek.

Centering 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.

Time with Children Becca Whitaker

Sharing the Peace

May the peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**
Please greet your neighbor here - & online - with mutual signs of peace.

Celebrating God's Mission Celebrating Our Mission Trip

Lighting Our Conflux Candles

You are invited to safely light a candle or lamp to celebrate the moments this week when your life's journey met God's heart.

Celebration Music "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"
traditional spiritual

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading Ephesians 4:1-8; 4:25-5:2 Shana Hoffer

I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people."

***

So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for temptation. Those who steal must give up stealing; rather, let them labor, doing good work with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

Sermon "God is great. So what?!" Rev. Nate Melcher
"God's Mission, God's People" Worship Series 4 of 4

Sharing Our Stories Shari Burt

Responsive Hymn "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" v. 6, UM Hymnal 117

6. **O God, our help in ages past,**
our hope for years to come;
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Thanking God's People Sunday Morning Volunteers

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sharing Our Gifts *Your gift in-person, by mail, or online at richfieldumc.org/give supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church. Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

Offertory "Here I Am, Lord" UM Hymnal 593

1. **I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,**
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:
Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. **I, the Lord of the snow and rain, I have borne my people' pain.**
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

3. **I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,**
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

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/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* "We Are the Church" UM Hymnal 156
verses 1, 2, and 5

Refrain:
I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!

1. **The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,**
   the church is not a resting place, the church is a people. (Refrain)
2. **We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces,**
   all colors and all ages, too, from all times and places. (Refrain)
5. **At Pentecost some people received the Holy Spirit**
   and told the Good News through the world
   to all who would hear it. (Refrain)

Benediction*

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

Postlude "What a Wonderful World
by Bob Thiele

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.

Announcements

Today, Sunday, October 25 | Commitment Sunday
Thank you for prayerfully completing the commitment sheet and bringing it to worship today. Together, our generosity ensures that this church can thrive not only for those who call this church their home but for those who come to us seeking connection, grace, and love. If you did not receive an Annual Giving Commitment packet, please ask an usher for a packet.

This Evening: Charge Conference
There is a Charge Conference at Hillcrest UMC (9100 Russell Ave S, Bloomington, MN 55431) today, Sunday, Oct. 25 at 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm to approve clergy compensation for 2027. Administrative Board members have voice and vote. Church members may attend and per Annual Conference instructions should please RSVP with Pastor Nate (nmelcher@richfieldumc.org, 612-861-6086) in advance, thank you.

Reminder: Next Sunday, November 1, Daylight Saving Time Ends: Move Clocks Back One Hour

Craft and Vendor Fair | Saturday November 7, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Get a jump on your holiday shopping and support local businesses. Please spread the word and contact Toni Locke at toni@ggrreegg.com or 612-8409797 with any questions.

Time for LIFE: Learning, Inspiration, and Fellowship Together
Program: *Travels to the Mediterranean,* with Pastor Nate
Date: Tuesday, November 10, program from 1:00 - 2:00 pm, with tasty Mediterranean treats to follow
Cost: $10.00 for program and food
RSVP: Sign up in the Commons or call the church office by Sunday, November 8
Come hear Pastor Nate share stories, history, and photos from his family's recent trip to the Mediterranean this summer. Experience the science and spiritual wonder of the total solar eclipse. See the spectacle of cathedrals where human ingenuity meets God's majesty. Learn about Roman ruins dating to the time of Jesus, island settlements from the Bronze and Iron Ages, and prehistoric cave paintings from 27,000 years ago. This special presentation will leave us feeling deep wonder and awe, humility, and a powerful sense of connection to the vast universe.

Note: Date change for the December Time for LIFE Program. The new date is Tuesday, December 15, 1:00 - 2:00 pm, with a special holiday dessert to follow

Coffee with the Pastor
Sign up at calendly.com/natemelcher
Pastor Nate is meeting with church members like you to catch-up, reconnect, and pray. Sign up with the calendar link (if you cannot go online, please call the office) for a meeting. Let's have a great cup of coffee and connect!

Ongoing and Open

1st Mondays, 1:30 pm | Women Who Read
If you are a woman who enjoys good books and thoughtful discussion, then consider joining fellow readers for Women Who Read. To join by Zoom, email Fern wfalbertson@gmail.com. The next meeting and book to discuss is:
November 2, The Book Club for Troublesome Women by Marie Bostwick

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.

Thursdays, 9:00 pm | Night Owl Bible Study
Online-Only by Zoom Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338/Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799
Read and discuss the worship scripture readings with fellow night owls. No experience necessary. Come for a welcoming, drop-in experience to go deeper in your faith and make new connections. More information: richfieldumc.org/biblestudy

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!

Options to help your family have a good experience when worshiping in the Sanctuary:
The Nook - A space connected to the Sanctuary for having a quiet or wiggly moment.
Art Cart - Children can fill a bag with items in The Nook to bring with them to 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-5)** 2nd & 4th Sundays during worship time 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.
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:
People in need of a loving church home, Our church's journey toward vitality, The babies and toddlers who are cared for each weekday by CFC (Caring For Children, the early learning ministry at the church) and their families.
Our prayers are a beautiful expression of care and solidarity for each other.
We pray in celebration and gratitude.
We pray for those who seek healing: Barb Rogers, Kirsten Klosinski, Pat Noonan, Pat Robertson, Caroline Riley, Nathan, son of Dorothy Holland, Eric, nephew of Lori Claussen, Marilyn Dodge, Bob Mills, Shar Salisbury, John Darling, Jim Vetsch, Agnes Danzl, and Laurel Lien.
We pray for those who seek comfort: Marlene Davis, Phyllis Olson, Dorothy DeFreese, and 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, October 25, 2026
Commitment Sunday
9:30 am In-Person Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:40 am Children's Sunday School
10:45 am Confirmation Class
4:00 pm Charge Conference at Hillcrest UMC

Monday, October 26, 2026

Tuesday, October 27, 2026
9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, October 28, 2026
9:00 am Men's Bible Study

Thursday, October 29, 2026
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
9:00 pm Night Owl Bible Study

Friday, October 30, 2026

Saturday, October 31, 2026
8:30 am Men's Group
10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, November 01, 2026
All Saints Sunday
Homebound Communion Sunday
9:30 am In-Person Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
7:00 pm Pub Theology

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 October 25 is Merry Rendahl.

We thank those who help make this worship a ministry of grace:
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Staff: Rev. Nate Melcher, Kay Bergeland, Sonja Gustafson, Rev. Bill Johnson
Josh Neuenschwander, Pat Noonan, Linda Schmidt, Becca Whitaker, Victor Zupanc
Tech Crew today: Linda Blomsness, Rev. Bill Johnson, Bea Melcher, Steve Warner

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Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational

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