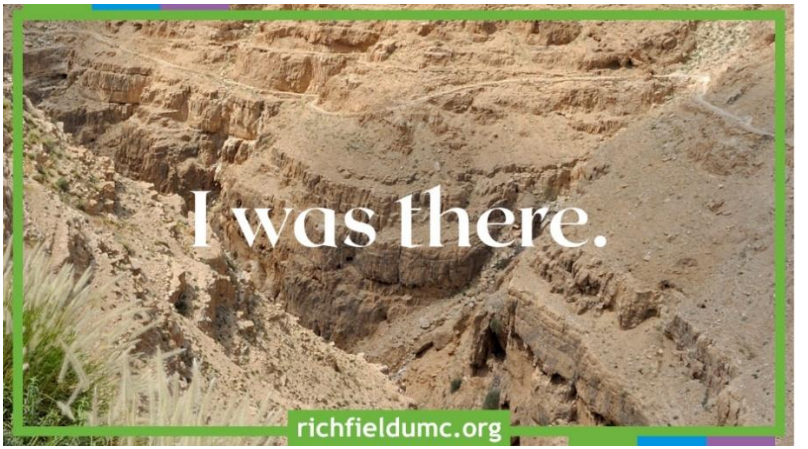
RICHFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 1, 2026 at 9:30 am
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost



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

ENTRANCE

Prelude	"For All the Saints" C. Ore	Sonja Gustafson
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher

Call to Worship*

We walk this path called life.
It leans this way, it bends that way.
We strive to follow this path by following you.
You always lead the way.
We see your path leads through our neighbor.
Your path is the path of love.

Gathering Hymn* "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" UM Hymnal 110

1. **A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;**
   our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
   For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
   his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
   on earth is not his equal.
2. **Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,**
   were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
   Dost ask who that may be?
   Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabaoth, his name,
   from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.
3. **And though this world, with devils filled,**
   should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed
   his truth to triumph through us.
   The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
   his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;
   one little word shall fell him.
4. **That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;**
   the Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth.
   Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
   the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and loving God, we awaken each day and seek to fix our gauge on you. It's through you that we more truly see your world, our souls, and our neighbors. We confess to you that nothing lifts our spirit to yours than to help a neighbor. We confess to you that we do not always rise to the occasion. Sometimes, we flee it. Forgive us. Awaken us to your possibilities. Hear us now in our silent confessions to you…

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

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 mutual signs of peace.

Celebrating All Saints of the Church

Roll Call of the Saints

David Couillard
Ron Larson
Lynne Alexander
Mitzi Taylor
Mark Blomsness
June Berglund
Jerry Robertson
SuzAnn Tarvin
Mark Bosch
Kathy Gertsema

Prayer of Remembrance

Almighty God, your saints are one with you in the mystical body of Christ: give us grace to follow them in all virtue and holiness until we come to those inexpressible joys which you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Hymn* "For All the Saints" UM Hymnal 711, vs.1, 2, 4, 6

1. **For all the saints, who from their labors rest,**
   who thee by faith before the world confessed,
   thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia, Alleluia!
2. **Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;**
   thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
   thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia, Alleluia!
4. **O blest communion, fellowship divine!**
   We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
   yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia, Alleluia!
6. **From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,**
   through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
   singing to Maker, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia, Alleluia!

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 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Chancel Choir
Dorsey/arr. Schrader

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Gospel Reading Luke 10:25-30 Sarah Callahan

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead.

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

Sermon "The Parable of the Hidden Robber" Rev. Nate Melcher
"I Was There" Worship Series 1 of 4

Responsive Hymn "Come and Find the Quiet Center" TFWS Hymnal 2128, vs. 1

1. **Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,**
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

THANKSGIVING

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sacrament of Holy Communion TFWS 2257

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.

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.*

Receiving the Sacrament

Music During Communion "God Will Take Care of You"
arr. Harold DeCou

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* "Soon and Very Soon" UM Hymnal 706

1. **Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;**
   Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
   Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
   Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.
2. **No more dy-ing there,**
3. **No more cry-ing there,**

Benediction*

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

Postlude Sonata I, mvt. I
Charles W. Ore

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

Pub Theology, today, Sunday, November 1
7:00 pm-8:00 pm (in-person only) at Pizza Lucé (800 W 66th St, Richfield, MN)
Remaining Fall **First Sunday** Gatherings: Nov. 1, Dec. 6
Pub Theology is a drop-in discussion about faith, God, and life over a tasty beverage in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. More information: richfieldumc.org/pubtheology

Craft and Vendor Fair | This 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.

Youth Group: First Thursdays of the Month | This Thursday, November 5, 6:30-7:30
Open to youth grades 6th-12th, email Becca at bwhitaker@richfieldumc.org with questions.

Youth Field Trip: Feed My Starving Children and Pizza Party
Saturday, November 7, 2:30pm-6:30pm, off-campus
Youth families can meet at Feed My Starving Children (990 Lone Oak Road, Eagan, MN 55121) for a shift alongside teens from Hillcrest UMC and Portland Avenue UMC. After our shift, we'll carpool to Portland Avenue UMC (8000 Portland Ave S, Bloomington, MN 55420) for a pizza party. Please RSVP to Becca Whitaker at bwhitaker@richfieldumc.org.

Time for LIFE: Learning, Inspiration, and Fellowship Together
Program: *Travels to the Mediterranean,* with Pastor Nate
Date: **Tues., Nov. 10, program 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 next Sunday, November 8
Hear Pastor Nate share stories, history, and photos from his trip to the Mediterranean. ●The science and spiritual wonder of the total solar eclipse ●The spectacle of cathedrals where human ingenuity meets God's majesty ●Ruins dating to the time of Jesus & more.

Concert Series | We need 2-5 volunteers per concert. Be a greeter for concert goers, host the music ensemble, help lock up, etc. When you volunteer, you help your church financially and get to see a great show! Contact Pastor Nate at nmelcher@richfieldumc.org to help.

Orkestar Biz Ime | **Wednesday, November 18 at 7:30pm**
Folk music in the Balkan tradition (free) The Laurel School of Music presents a free concert by Orkestar Biz Ime. Focusing on Eastern Europe and music of the Rom ("Gypsy") people. The repertoire reaches from Albania to Ukraine with many stops in-between.

Additional Upcoming Concert Dates

Richfield Symphonic Band | **Sunday, December 6 at 3:00pm**
Holiday-inspired band concert (freewill donation) Learn more at rsband.org.

Morris Park Singers | **Monday, Dec. 7 at 7:30pm AND Monday, Dec. 14 at 7:30pm**
"For the Love of Sound" concert, ticketed event. Tickets at morrisparksingers.org.

Metropolitan Men's Choir | **Sunday, December 13 at 3:00pm**
Holiday-inspired choir concert (freewill donation) metropolitanmenschoir.org

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

Monday, November 02, 2026
1:30 pm Women Who Read

Tuesday, November 03, 2026
9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 04, 2026
9:00 am Men's Bible Study
7:00 pm SPRC Meeting

Thursday, November 05, 2026
6:30 pm Youth Group
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
9:00 pm Night Owl Bible Study

Friday, November 06, 2026

Saturday, November 07, 2026
8:30 am Men's Group
10:00 am-2:00 pm Craft Fair
10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group
2:30 pm Youth Field Trip

Sunday, November 08, 2026
8:30 am Walker Jewelry Sale
9:30 am In-Person Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:40 am Children's Sunday School
10:45 am Confirmation Class

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 November 1 is Pat Norton.

We thank those who help make this worship a ministry of grace:
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Communion Servers: Kate Currie, Doris Townsend
Staff: Rev. Nate Melcher, Kay Bergeland, Sonja Gustafson, Rev. Bill Johnson
Josh Neuenschwander, Pat Noonan, Linda Schmidt, Becca Whitaker, Victor Zupanc
Tech Crew today: Rev. Bill Johnson, Juan Nieves Lebrón, 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.