



THE LIGHT

of the world

CHRISTMAS EVE, 10:00PM

DECEMBER 24, 2022

—GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE —

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Silent Night

Lau

CALL TO WORSHIP

Every Christmas Eve, we gather together in this same room,
to tell the same story of a baby born in a manger.

The plot never changes. There are never any surprise twists.
So why do we do it? Why do we keep telling this same story?

We tell this story because our spirits need to hear it.

Over and over and over again, like water in the desert,

we need to be reminded that God has drawn close to this hurting world.

We need to be reminded that God just couldn’t stay away.

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH 234 (vs. 1-3)

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

—LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD—

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE READING

The Prophecy

Isaiah 9:1-2,6-7

The Story of Mary & Joseph

Luke 1:26-35, Matthew 1:18-23

Sung Response:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

UMH 211, vs. 1

Jesus is Born

Luke 2:1-7

Sung Response:

O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH 230, vs. 1,4

ANTHEM

Baby, What You Goin’ to Be?

Sleeth/Gilpin

Morning Glory Choir

The Angels & Shepherds

Luke 2:8-18

Sung Response:

Angels We Have Heard on High

UMH 238, vs. 1-2

ANTHEM

Sing, O Heavens

Martin

Chancel Choir

—RESPONDING IN LOVE—

OFFERTORY *In the Bleak Midwinter* Archer

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

SOLO *O Holy Night* Adam
Nicole Camilleri, soprano

—MOVING IN GOD'S WAY—

INVITATION TO CANDLE LIGHTING John 1:1-5, 14

SHARING THE CHRIST LIGHT

The candle lighters will light their candles from the pastor's candle. They then will light the candle of the first worshipper in each pew who will pass the light down the pew. When the light comes to you, please tip your unlit candle toward the lighted candle.

*HYMN *Silent Night* UMH 239

**Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born.**

**Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face;
with dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night,
wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing,
alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!**

Please extinguish your candle gently — and hold the candle still.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*HYMN *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* UMH 240

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Toccatina on "Angels We Have Heard on High"* Elliott

You are invited to be seated for the postlude.

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Hymns: Abingdon Press; Liturgy from | A Sanctified Art

Merry Christmas!

Thank you for worshipping with us this Christmas Eve at the Fairport United Methodist Church! It is a blessing to have you here to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Here at Fairport UMC, ALL are welcome as beloved children of God. We extend a special thank you to our readers and musicians today for sharing their gifts.

You are invited to enter into the Christmas story as if you were really present for the birth of Christ. Let the amazing news of the birth of our Savior fill your hearts with hope, love and grace. This story is God's story and this is YOUR story. Let it overwhelm you with joy!

If you are in a position to make a special Christmas Gift today, please use the envelopes in the pew racks. All that is given in these envelopes will go to help purchase beds for Ukrainian refugees in Rochester through Saint's Place. Gifts not in the envelopes will go toward our church's operating budget. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Again, we are glad you have chosen to be with us, and we invite you to participate in future opportunities for worship, fellowship, and outreach.

Sunday, December 25th and Sunday, January 1st: Worship at 9:30am

Regular Sunday Schedule

9:00am - Worship & Sunday School for all ages

10:30am - Worship (*this service is also livestreamed*)

Please visit our website www.fairportumc.org for more information.

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Richelle Goff

Music Ministry Director: Nicole Camilleri

Family Ministry: Joy Leinenbach

Administrative Assistant: Kevin Gordon, Custodian: Jamie Gualteri

Please ensure that cell phones are silenced.

**indicates you may stand in body or spirit*

bold print indicates congregational response