

Welcome to Mt. Zion – Finksburg UMC Christmas Eve 2023

Greeting

Video

Prelude

Opening Hymn

What Child is This?

**What child is this who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians fear, for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader: The Angels come bringing good news of great joy. A savior has been born today. Glory to God!

People: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace among those whom he favors!

Opening prayer in unison:

We come with hearts like Mary, treasuring your words, O God. We praise you for the gift of a savior who brings us into your eternal kingdom. May we celebrate today, and go into all the world carrying this joyous news! Amen

Children's Moments

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord, Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky look down where he lay.
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

Special Music *There's Something Going on in Bethlehem*

Joys and Concerns, Prayer Song, Pastoral Prayer

O Come, let us adore him (X3) Christ, the Lord.

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

**Our Father, 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.**

Special Music *O Holy Night* Pastor Shawn Vollmerhausen

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

**It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
to touch their harps of gold.
Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all gracious king.
The world in solemn stillness day,
to hear the angel's sing.**

**For lo! The days are hastening on
by prophet seen of old,
When with the ever circling years
shall come the time foretold
When peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling
And the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.**

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

**Hark! The Herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations rise! Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail!
The Son of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

Message

Pastor Shawn Vollmerhausen

Special Music What We All Want for Christmas is Peace!

Silent Night (Light your candle)

**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, shepherd's quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven after,
heavenly hosts sign 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 the 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.**

Benediction

*We will not be collecting an offering today.
However, if you are moved to support the programs of this church,
donations may be placed in the plates at the back of the church as you leave.*

***You are always welcome at Mt. Zion Finksburg!
Our Sunday Worship Services are held at 9:55 a.m.***