



First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

Serving, Giving, Welcoming, Growing in the likeness of Christ

December 19, 2021
CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Stream, Attendance, Prayer Request and Comment online at gilbertumc.org
Hearing-Assistive Devices, Large-Print Bulletins, Bibles and Hymnals are available from Usher

331 S. Cooper Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85233 • 480-892-9166
gilbertumc.org | facebook.com/FUMCofGilbert

Welcome!

Services at 8:30 and 10:00 am • See gilbertumc.org for streaming information

Pre-service Music: “Sussex Carol” | “Little Drummer Boy”
Ralph Vaughn Williams | Katherine Kennicott Davis

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Greeting

Pastor Diamond

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Prelude “Ave Maria”
by Franz Schubert

Lighting of the Advent Candles and Response

(8:30) The Tesarek Family (10:00) The Davis Family

People: We are close to home. May we carry love with us. Amen.

Sung Response: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 1 #211 *Stokey; Coffin; Helmore*

*Call to Worship

Leader: We are seeking—

People: deeper faith, a place to belong, the feeling that God is here in this room.

Leader: We are seeking—

People: joy that overflows, the movement of the Spirit, a hand to hold, when alone in the dark.

Leader: We are seeking—

People: the freedom to be, the courage to love, the conviction to act in the face of injustice.

Leader: We are seeking, but here in this space,

People: We are found.

Leader: Take a deep breath. This is your sanctuary.

All: God is here. We are found.

***Opening Hymn** “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” vs. 1, 3
UM Hymnal #240 WORDS: Charles Wesley MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn

#240

***Opening Prayer**

God of joyous expectation, come to us this day. May the miracles in our lives fill us with wonder. May an encounter with your goodness and grace cause our hearts to leap within us. Receive us into the arms of your mercy, that we may feel you near us and rest secure in your many blessings. Amen.

Cantata "A Song of Christmas"
Program on next page

Scripture Reading Luke 1:39-45

Homily Pastor Rick

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory "O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 1 **#230**
UM Hymnal #230 WORDS: Philip Brooks MUSIC: Lewis H. Redner

***Presentation of the Offering** "Praise God, from whom all Blessings Flow" **#95**
UMC Hymnal #95 Thomas Ken, 1674

***Offering Prayer**

Good and gracious God, we give these gifts for the seekers. We give these gifts for those who need sanctuary. We give these gifts for those who build sanctuaries. We give these gifts for those who have lost sanctuary, and for those who find sanctuary all over the place. Use these gifts to bring us closer to home. With joy and hope in our hearts we pray. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** "Go Tell It on the Mountain" vs. 1, 3 **#251**
UM Hymnal #251 WORDS: adapt. John W. Work, Jr. MUSIC: William Farley Smith

***Blessing**

Postlude "While By Our Sleeping Flocks We Lay"
by Hugo Jüngst

**Please stand as you are able*

Thank you for joining our services today!

If you have any questions or comments please contact us at connection@gilbertumc.org

CLERGY: Pastor Rick Casebolt and Pastor Diamond Pate

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Randy Van Der Pol ORGANIST: Jeff Hendrickson

A Song of Christmas

“Prelude of Joy”

by George Frederick Handel (1685-1759); arranged by Joseph M. Martin (BMI)

“A Song of Christmas”

Words by J. Paul Williams (ASCAP); music by Joseph M. Martin (BMI)

“Come, Emmanuel”

Words from Latin hymn; arranged by Michael Barrett (BMI)

“Prepare the Way”

Words and music by Michael Barrett (BMI)

“Call the Baby Jesus”

Words and music by Michael Barrett (BMI) and Joseph M. Martin (BMI)

“Sleep, Little Lamb”

Words and music by Joseph M. Martin (BMI)

“Come, Hear the Music”

Words by J. Paul Williams (ASCAP); music by Joseph M. Martin (BMI)

“Christmas Songs of Joy”

Additional words and arrangement by Michael Barrett (BMI)

SOPRANO

Michelle Butler Gayle Disch Jeannie High Erna Huitema Sylvia Moore Divina Katching
Samantha Mutach Evelyn Plummer Carol Smith Chris Thompson Jonie Woolsey Kelly Wyatt

ALTO

Laura Boever Jo Goslar
Susan Libbert Cathy Panella
Joyce Steiner Pam Stressman
Pam Turner

TENOR

Ernie Broughton
Eric Butler
Craig Thompson

BASS

Rick Hartmann
Israel Mutach
Chris Odell
Ed Stressman

MUSICIANS

Sara Butler Jeff Carter Midori Hall Jeff Hendrickson Tim Ryan Charles Specht Mark Turner

Blue Christmas Service

Tuesday, December 21 • 6:30 pm



How to Give to First Gilbert

Online Text In Person App Mail Stock Offer



Visit gilbertumc.org for more information

Christmas Eve Services

4:30 pm—Family Service

Pick-up Pageant; Carols; Live Nativity; Petting Zoo

7:00 pm—Candlelight Service*†

Lessons and Carols

10:00 pm—Candlelight Service*

Holy Communion and Handbell Choir

Masks strongly recommended while indoors

**Livestream available at gilbertumc.org/worship*

†Childcare available in the Nursery 7-8pm

“Close to Home” Advent Worship Series includes liturgy, prayers, fine art, logos and design elements licensed from A Sanctified Art LLC. Visit sanctifiedart.org for more information.