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## First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

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

December 18, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Stream, Attendance, Prayer Request and Comment online at [gilbertumc.org](http://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](http://gilbertumc.org) | [facebook.com/FUMCofGilbert](https://facebook.com/FUMCofGilbert)

# Welcome!

Services at 8:00 and 9:30 am • See [gilbertumc.org](http://gilbertumc.org) for streaming information

*\*please stand as you are able*

## Pre-service Music

“Mary, Did You Know?”

*by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene; arr. by Amy J. Snyder © 1991 Word Music, LLC and Rufus Music*

## Ringing of the Bell

## Welcome and Greeting

Pastor Adriana Hernandez

## Bringing in the Light of Christ

## Prelude

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Wesleyan Bell Choir

*Traditional Polish carol; arranged and directed by Marilyn Harter*

## Lighting of the Advent Candles

(8:00) The Lane Family

(9:30) The Ouellette Family

**Sung Response:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 4 **#211** *Stookey; Coffin; Helmore*

*O come, thou Root of Jesse’s tree, an ensign of thy people be;*

*Before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples of thy mercy call.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## \*Call to Worship

(8:00) Eric Butler (9:30) Larson Hemingson

Leader: We are always looking for evidence that God is with us.

**People: That sign is in the One to come—the One that God is sending.**

Leader: We want to know for sure that everything is in God’s care.

**People: And so we cry to the heavens in our distress.**

**Our cries are heard! God is responding in love and hope.**

Leader: Let us come before God with expectant hearts and spirits!

**All: Let us be ready to receive the blessed gift of the Savior.**

**\*Opening Hymn**      “Angels From The Realms Of Glory” vs. 1, 2, 4      **#220**  
*UM Hymnal #220 WORDS: James Montgomery MUSIC: Henry T. Smart*

**\*Opening Prayer**

Lord of all life and all seasons, help us open our hearts to hear the words of promise and love that you send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive your gift of grace and peace. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.

**Anthem**      “Ding Dong! Merrily on High”      Chancel Choir  
*arr. by Larry Shackley; digital arr. by Marty Province*

**Scripture Reading**      Isaiah 7:10-16 | Matthew 1:18-25

**Message**      Pastor Rick Casebolt

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn of Response**      “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”      **#196**  
*UM Hymnal #196 WORDS: Charles Wesley MUSIC: Rowland H. Prichard*

**Offering**

**Offertory**

(9:30) “For Unto Us A Child Is Born/Open the Eyes of My Heart”  
*CCLI Song # 7100943 G. F. Handel | Michael Rossback | Paul Baloche © Integrity Worship Music et a*

**\*Doxology**      “Praise God, from whom all Blessings Flow”      **#95**  
*UMC Hymnal #95 Thomas Ken*

**\*Offering Prayer**

Gracious One, you have restored us in body and in soul.  
You have given us abundant life, more than we could have ever imagined.  
You have made your face shine upon us to make us whole.  
Holy One, bless now the offerings of our hearts and lives, that we might shine  
as you shine, and share your blessings with others. Amen.

**\*Closing Music (8:00)** “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” vs. 1-3  
*UM Hymnal #240 WORDS: Charles Wesley MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn*

**#240**

**\*Blessing**

**Postlude (8:00)** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”  
*by John Zundel and Charles Wesley*

*Thank you for joining our services today!*

If you have any questions or comments please contact us at [connection@gilbertumc.org](mailto:connection@gilbertumc.org)

CLERGY: Pastor Rick Casebolt and Pastor Adriana Hernandez  
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Randy Van Der Pol ORGANIST: Marilyn Harter

## Christmas Services at First Gilbert

Wed. Dec. 21 6:30 pm Blue Christmas Service

Sat. Dec. 24 4, 6, 10 pm Christmas Eve Services

Sun. Dec. 25 9:30 only Christmas Day Service

Invite a Friend ~ Everyone is Welcome



## How to Give to First Gilbert

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Visit [gilbertumc.org](http://gilbertumc.org) for more information

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