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First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

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

December 24, 2022 | **10:00 pm**

CHRISTMAS EVE

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

Candlelight Celebration!

Service at 10:00 pm

Pre-service Music: “Still, Still, Still/O, Holy Night”
arr. by and © Tiffany Hobson / by Adolphe Adam © MCMVIII by Carl Fischer

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Greeting Pastor Rick Casebolt and Pastor Adriana Hernandez

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Prelude “I Wonder as I Wander” Wesleyan Bell Choir
traditional carol; arr. by Marilyn Harter

Lighting of the Advent Candles and Response The Carpenter Family

People: Welcome Home.

Sung Response: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 6 #211 *Stookey; Coffin; Helmore*

***Call to Worship** Philip Tesarek

Leader: Sing, choirs of angels.

People: Sing in exaltation.

Leader: Let the shepherds in the fields rejoice.

People: Let the stars in the sky worship the newborn king.

Leader: For heaven has come down to earth.

People: Salvation has come to our homes this day.

Leader: Sing, choirs of angels.

All: Sing in exaltation.

***Opening Hymn** “Angels We Have Heard On High” vs. 1-3 #238
UM Hymnal #238 WORDS: trad. French carol MUSIC: transl. Edward Shippen Barnes; harm. Austin C. Lovelace

***Opening Prayer**

God of love, choirs of angels sang to your glory on the night of Jesus’s birth. Open our mouths to sing your praise, that we might join the heavenly chorus. As the shepherds left their sheep in the fields may we leave our cares behind, that we too may find the hope of our salvation in the Christ child. On this most holy of nights, may our worship befit the Prince of Peace, who came to show us the depths of your love. Amen.

Special Music	“Christmas in the Trenches”	
The First Lesson	Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19	
Carol	“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” vs. 1, 2	#196
Meditation		
The Second Lesson	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	
Carol	“O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs. 1, 3	#230
Meditation		
The Third Lesson	Luke 1:26-35, 38	
Carol	“To a Maid Engaged to Joseph” vs. 1, 3, 6	#215
Meditation		
The Fourth Lesson	Luke 2:8-16	
Carol	“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” vs. 1, 3	#240
The Fifth Lesson	John 1:1-14	
Carol	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” vs. 1, 3, 6	#234
Meditation		
Pastoral Prayer		

Offering

Offertory

“Gesù Bambino”

WORDS: Fredrick H. Martens MUSIC: Pietro A. Yon

***Doxology** “Praise God, from whom all Blessings Flow” **#95**

*Offering Prayer

God of Surprise and wonder, you came in a way no one expected. When we looked for you in power and might, you came in weakness and vulnerability. As we worship you anew this night, open our hearts to those you came to save, especially the least and the lost. May the gifts we offer into your service continue the work you began in the manger so many years ago. Amen.

The Sacrament of Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Music during Communion

*Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*Sharing the Light of Christ "Silent Night, Holy Night" vs. 1-3 #239

As the flame is passed, please keep all lit candles upright.

To light your candle, tilt it to receive the Light from your neighbor.

Do not blow out your candle; please use the cup to extinguish it.

Please place unlit, used candles and holders in containers as you exit.

*Christmas Blessing

Postlude

"Silent Night" (Reprise)

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 Adriana Hernandez

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Randy Van Der Pol ORGANIST: Marilyn Harter

Christmas Day New Year's Day

First Gilbert will have one service 9:30am Sun. Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

How to Give to First Gilbert

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Stock Offer



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