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## First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

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

December 25, 2022

CHRISTMAS DAY

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

# *Welcome!*

Service at 9:30 am • See [gilbertumc.org](http://gilbertumc.org) for streaming information

*\*please stand as you are able*

**Pre-service Music**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Welcome and Greeting**

**Bringing in the Light of Christ**

**Prelude**

**Statement of Faith—Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Serenity Prayer**

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;  
Courage to change the things I can; And wisdom to know the difference.  
Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time;  
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;  
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;  
Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;  
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with  
Him Forever and ever in the next.

### **\*Opening Hymn**

“Joy to the World”

#246

### **\*Opening Prayer**

Loving God, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

**Anthem** "I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day"

**Scripture Reading** Isaiah 52:7-10 | John 1:1-14

**Message**

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn of Response** "I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light" vs. 1 #206

**Offering**

**Offertory**

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

**\*Offering Prayer**

O God, in this sacred season, we offer you these treasures from our stores, along with the gift of our hearts. We place these gifts on your altar to help build the kingdom you opened to us on this day of Christ's birth. We lift our hearts to you, even as we place our lives into your care, as we follow your Son, who is the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

**\*Closing Music** "Go Tell It On The Mountain" #251

**\*Blessing and Postlude**

*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

## How to Give to First Gilbert

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