



First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

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

December 17, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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

Welcome!

Services at 8:00 and 9:30 am • See gilbertumc.org for streaming information
**please stand as you are able*

Pre-service Music *“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee & Joy to the World (with O Come, O Come Emmanuel) *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”*

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome and Greeting Pastor Adriana

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Prelude *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

Lighting of the Advent Candles (8:00) Ramirez Family (9:30) Redman Family
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH 211 Verse 3

***Call to Worship** Liturgist

Leader: Have you noticed? Are you paying attention? God is doing a new thing.

People: **We watch and wait in the fierce joy of the coming Messiah.**

Leader: You know the captives? God is bringing freedom. You know the brokenhearted? God is bringing healing.

People: **We watch and wait in the fierce joy of the coming Messiah.**

Leader: Beloved, listen. God is calling you. To be freed and to free your neighbors. To be healed and to heal your community. To testify to the Light among us.

People: **We watch and wait in the fierce joy of the coming Messiah.**

Leader: So, let us join our voices and our hearts as we proclaim the story of the one whose coming we anticipate and yet is already as close as our own breath.

All: **We come to watch, to wait, and to worship in the fierce joy of Jesus Christ, the coming Messiah. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn** *"O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing"* Vs. 1,2,3,4,5,7 #57

***Opening Prayer** Liturgist

God of Joy, We rejoice in the reality of who you are. We live within the joy of your love for us. Our contentment comes and goes. Our happiness ebbs and flows. Our feelings depend upon our circumstances, our physical health, our brain chemistry. But our joy is deeply rooted in our identity as your beloved children. And we give you thanks. Amen.

Cantata *"Sing With Joy"* Choir

Scripture Reading Isaiah 61 : 1-4; 8 | John 1:6-8; 15, 19-23

Homily Pastor Rick

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Time of Offering

(8:00) (9:30) *"What Child Is This"* Praise Band

***Doxology** *"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"* #95

***Offering Prayer** Liturgist

God of peace, you have restored our hope and sanctified our dreams. May this offering express the joy we feel for the gift of your salvation. May our gifts reflect our wonder and gratitude for being clothed in the garments of salvation and the robes of righteousness. May our tithes and our very lives help restore the dreams of the downhearted, and fill the hungry with good things. Amen.

***Closing Music** (8:00)(9:30) *"Joy To The World "* Vs. 1,2,4 #246

***Blessing
Postlude** *"Gloria, in Excelsis Deo!"*



JOY! SING A SONG OF CHRISTMAS

composed and arranged by Joel Raney, Michael Barret, Joseph M. Martin Joel Raney

directed by Randy Van Der Pol; assisted by Marilyn Harter
narrated by Rick Casebolt and Adriana Hernandez

1. "Come Emmanuel!"

from- 'Sing A Song Of Christmas' A Cantata by Michael Barrett & Joseph M. Martin

3. "Sleep Little Lamb"

from- 'Sing A Song Of Christmas A Cantata by Michael Barrett & Joseph M. Martin

Solos by Martin Province, and Jo Gosler

2. "Prepare The Way"

from- 'Sing A Song Of Christmas' A Cantata by Michael Barret & Joseph M. Martin

4. "Jesus, What A Wonderful Child"

From- 'Joy!' A Cantata by Joel Raney

5. "Tell It On The Mountain"

From 'Joy!' A Cantata by Joy Raney Solo by Ernie Broughton

SOPRANO

Michelle Butler Lorraine Cientiempo Gayle Disch Heather Ford Erna Huitema Sylvia Moore
Evelyn Plummer Sue Reeves Carol Smith Chris Thompson Jonie Woolsey Kelly Wyatt
Elice Province, Veronica Dailey

ALTO

Laura Boever Jo Goslar Susan Libbert Cathy Panella Joyce Steiner Pam Stressman Erna Huitema
Megan Hamblin

TENOR

Ernie Broughton Eric Butler
Craig Thompson Scott Gardner Marty
Province George Dailey

BASS

Michael Crann Rick Hartmann
Jim Reeves Ed Stressman Bob Martin Jim Wilkins

MUSICIANS

Pam Turner Mark Turner Marilyn Harter Tim Ryan

Thank you for joining our services today!

TODAY'S LITURGISTS: MEGHAN RULE & LAUREL REDMAN

How to Give to First Gilbert

Online



Text



In Person



App



Mail



Stock Offer



Visit gilbertumc.org/giving for more information