

Welcome to Gilbert Presbyterian Church!

As the new pastor, having begun my ministry here on June 1, 2025, I am delighted to greet you and invite you to explore our vibrant faith community. Whether you're new to Gilbert, seeking a spiritual home, or simply curious about who we are, I extend my warmest welcome. I have found this church to be a truly welcoming and caring place, and I hope you will experience the same warmth and connection.

At Gilbert Presbyterian, our heart is devoted to serving our community and growing in faith together. Our mission work reflects Christ's love in action—through local outreach like food drives, partnerships with homeless shelters, and support for families in need right here in Gilbert. We are committed to making a tangible difference, sharing God's compassion beyond our walls.

Equally central is our commitment to discipleship—striving daily to become more like Jesus. Through inspiring worship, Bible studies, and small groups, we deepen our faith, encourage one another, and seek to live out Christ's teachings with humility and grace. Our community is a place where questions are welcomed, relationships are cherished, and all are invited to grow closer to God.

I invite you to join us at a service, event, or outreach opportunity to experience our mission firsthand. Please feel free to reach out to me directly or contact our church office at (480) 892-6753 to learn more or share your questions. Come as you are, and let's discover together how God is moving in our lives and in Gilbert.

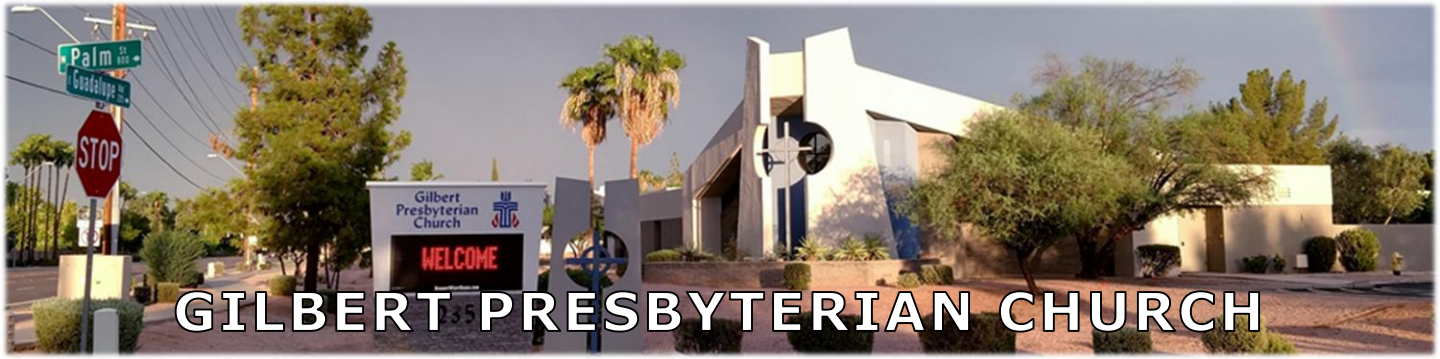
In Jesus' Love,

Pastor Christian Johnson

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GILBERT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WHERE DID WE COME FROM??

In 1982, the Presbytery of Grand Canyon committed to the development of a new Presbyterian church in Gilbert, AZ. The current five-acre property of Gilbert Presbyterian Church (GPC) was purchased in 1982, and ground was broken in 1987, after several years of planning and fund-raising. The first worship service in the current building was held in April 1988. In 2000, a second building was erected to provide a venue for education, nursery care, and fellowship activities; the building was officially dedicated as The Palmer Center, in honor of Pastor Terry Palmer when he retired in 2019, after a long term of service.

WHO ARE WE??

The original church commissioned 112 charter members in 1984. Our membership numbers have risen and fallen since that time, and now with more than 100 members; we are currently at 104. Our members span all ages, and we pride ourselves on our inclusiveness.

Over the years, our church has had five permanent pastors. We are thrilled to welcome our new pastor, Reverend Christian Johnson, who joined us in June of 2025.

In the Presbyterian tradition, GPC has two boards of elected officials. The board of deacons is composed of 12 members. Deacons are responsible for the care and nurture function of our church, and each is assigned responsibility for a "flock" of 8-10 families. The board of elders is also composed of 12 members. Elders are responsible for overall management of various church functions, including worship, Christian education, finance, personnel, buildings and grounds, evangelism, mission, and stewardship; committees have been established to accomplish each of these tasks, and additional task forces are created on an ad-hoc basis such as technology team, property management, resources, etc. We are a small, but mighty, church!!

WHAT DO WE DO??

Gilbert Presbyterian has weekly worship services on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM. Worship services are also livestreamed on YouTube, Facebook, and GPC's website. Music is a meaningful part of worship, and our music ministry team oversees all aspects of music in worship, including the chancel choir, children's choir, and handbell choir.





GILBERT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

New member's classes are held when individuals who have visited the church are interested in learning more about GPC, about the Presbyterian faith, and are considering joining. If you are interested in attending a class, please contact the church at 480-892-6753. Classes are held as needed in a small group with Pastor Christian on an on-going basis.

Christian Education classes for all ages are held at 10:30 AM. There are two different classes for adults (one a more traditional Bible study format, and the second a video-based class). Christian Education classes for younger children are held immediately following the children's message portion of the worship service. Childcare is provided in the nursery and Pre-K rooms for our smallest of members through age 5.

HELPING OTHERS!!

Mission activities are important to GPC. We prepare lunches for East Valley Mens' Center, assemble nutrition packs for Feed My Starving Children, prepare and serve dinner at the UMOM homeless shelter, contribute to the needs of the Guadalupe Presbyterian Church, launder used clothing for the Heavenly Threads program, and provide gifts for needy children with the "Christmas Angel" tree.

Gilbert Presbyterian reaches out to our larger community by providing meeting space for support groups for those overcoming addictions, serving as a polling place for local elections, hosting blood drives several times a year, and making space available for homeowner association meetings.

We are part of a larger Presbyterian community, as part of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, which includes 55 churches throughout Arizona. We also work with nearby Presbyterian churches to host a summer day camp program for children.

WHERE ARE WE GOING??

With our recent successful search for a new pastor, we have had the opportunity to reflect on our focus as a faith community. Thanks to Pastor Christian, we are in the process of identifying our priorities for a bright and fruitful future. GPC is constantly evolving with new forward-thinking ideas, and we would love to welcome you to join us on our journey!!



KIDS ARE WELCOME

God put the wiggle in children, so do not feel the need to suppress it in God's house!

Look for our activity bags or children's bulletins near the entrance.

You might want to sit towards the front, where your children can see and hear better.

Feel free to quietly explain what is happening. Sing, pray, and participate - your child will follow.

**We also offer additional options if you choose:
A quiet area just outside the sanctuary.
A nursery/toddler room in the Palmer Center.**

**Need to leave? No problem, but do come back.
Sometimes kids just need a break!**

We believe that the way we welcome children directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in God's house.

To our members: The presence of children is a gift to the church and a reminder that we are growing! Please welcome the children as Jesus did. Find ways and words to encourage their parents.

As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14