



SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Green Valley, Arizona

The Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, Rector
The Rev. Nelson Mendoza, Curate
The Rev. Becky Williamson, Deacon

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
29 NOVEMBER 2020

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPENING HYMN 66

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

2. Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art:
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

3. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

THE BLESSING AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Celebrant May God almighty, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us
in great humility, sanctify with the light of his blessing this Advent
Wreath, and may he whose Second Coming in great power and great glory
we await, make us steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

Amen.

Celebrant Our King and Savior now draws near.

People O come let us adore him, alleluia.

(The first candle is lighted)

Celebrant Let us pray. Loving God, we thank you for sending your son Jesus, the one
foretold by the prophets, the one on whom we place all our hope. Help us
prepare our hearts for His coming again.

People To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls: In you, O God, we trust.

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.*

Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People *Amen.*

TRISAGION

Celebrant Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,

People *Have mercy upon us.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from The Book of the Prophet Isaiah (64:1-9).

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you

have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (80:1-7, 16-18) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Epistle

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1:3-9)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader *The Word of the Lord.*

People *Thanks be to God.*

GRADUAL HYMN 615

1. "Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth that kingdom's day.
2. But the slow watches of the night
not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right
the silent stars are strong.
3. And lo, already on the hills
the flags of dawn appear;
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
proclaim the day is near:
4. the day to whose clear-shining light
all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might,
and every hurt be healed;
5. when knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad;
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark (13:24-37).

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.
Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch

THE 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world;
for our Bishop Jennifer; for this gathering; and for all
ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the sick [especially _____]; and for the poor,
the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially _____].

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

THE CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest alone stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins

through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all

goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in

eternal life. **Amen.**

AN ADVENT LITANY*

Reader In joyful expectation let us pray to our Savior and Redeemer,
saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!"

O WISDOM, FROM THE MOUTH OF THE MOST HIGH, you reign over
all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

*AN ADVENT LITANY Copyright © 2004 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. All rights reserved. Reproduced under license from ABC Publishing, Anglican Book Centre, a ministry of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, from *Anglican Liturgical Library*. Further copying is prohibited.

O LORD, AND HEAD OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O BRANCH OF JESSE, STANDING AS A SIGN AMONG THE NATIONS, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O KEY OF DAVID AND SCEPTER OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O MORNING STAR, SPLENDOR OF THE LIGHT ETERNAL AND BRIGHT SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O KING OF THE NATIONS, YOU ALONE CAN FULFIL THEIR DESIRES: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O EMMANUEL, HOPE OF THE NATIONS AND THEIR SAVIOR: come and save us, Lord our God.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

THE PEACE

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

OFFERTORY HYMN 56 *O come, O come Emmanuel*

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

AT THE PRESENTATION

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord,

People And of thine own have we given thee.

AT THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand, or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior

Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Together Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant [Alleluia.] Christ our passover is sacrificed for us;

People *Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]*

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Together Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 345

1. Savior, again to thy dear Name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon thy Name.

2. Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;
with thee began, with thee shall end the day:
from harm and danger keep thy children free,
for dark and light are both alike to thee.

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for their family, and to
the Lord for his many blessings, by Bob and
Sharon Thornby.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Journeying the Way of Love:

ADVENT CURRICULUM

For the season of Advent, JOURNEYING THE WAY OF LOVE offers four sessions to be explored as we await the coming of Christ by moving through the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke.

◆Advent I: The Annunciation: Saying “Yes” to the Journey;

◆Advent II: Mary and Elizabeth: Journeying with Family and Friends;

◆Advent III: The Birth of John the Baptist: Journeying with Community; and

◆Advent IV: The Birth of Jesus: Journeying with the World.

Fr. Warren will be offering four in-person classes in the Parish Hall (only ten participants allowed) on Tuesday mornings (9 to 10 AM) starting December 1 and continuing on December 8, 15, and 22, with a ZOOM option offered on the same dates at 11 AM, unlimited participants welcome.

Materials for each week will be emailed to participants taking the Zoom option and handed out to in-person participants.

To reserve your space get in touch directly with Fr. Warren via email (frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org).



Coffee Zoom!

Join Fr. Warren for a mid-week coffee break via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10 AM. You can get the necessary link from Beth-el (email her at bethelklein@stfranciscgvaz.org) or directly from Fr. Warren (frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org).



Handbells anyone?

St. Francis Handbell Ensemble will resume rehearsals beginning Tuesday, December 1, at 1:30 PM in the Choir Loft. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Sophia Witte at 520-509-5037 or e-mail her at smw_witte@yahoo.com. We had a small group that got together to play for Fr. Colville’s last service at St. Francis, and we decided at that time that we would like to continue rehearsing. We are able to social distance in the Loft. Masks are required.



Centering Prayer Group

The Centering Prayer Group is meeting once again, but on Zoom rather than in-person. Meetings include 25 minutes of silence followed by a short *Lectio Divina* and a few minutes for community reflection. If you would like to join in, get in touch with James or Sophie Luffman: James at jmluffman@hotmail.com or Sophie at sophieluffman@hotmail.com. They will be pleased to hear from you.



The Boutique is Open

Our Talents Unlimited Boutique is open (by appointment only). Watch for the article in the December Newsletter for information on all the new and exciting items available and, remember, all proceeds go to Clergy Discretionary Funds. call Jylene Wright at 812-455-2476 to get your very own private, care-free shopping time. We have unique gifts at totally reasonable prices!



The Keys to the Kingdom (or the Campus anyway)

If you have keys in your possession for any of the doors to the Church/Parish Hall/Office complex, and you no longer have a need for them, we would greatly appreciate having them returned to Deborah Harby in the Finance Office.



Outreach Stars - revised!

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we will not be collecting toys this year, so the office (which is not actually open yet) will not be filled with bikes and toys as usual. But that doesn't mean we're forgetting the children! Of course not! We will be collecting gift cards and checks for the kids this year instead of bikes, trikes and toys.

The Outreach Elves will begin their Salvation Army collection at this week's BBQ and during the weeks following. The promised goal is fifty \$50 gift cards for teenagers. (Suggestions are Walmart, Visa or Big 5 Sporting Goods.) You may take a star with a name or, if you wish, send a minimum \$50 check (made out to St. Francis, with CHRISTMAS STARS written in the memo line).

All gift cards and/or checks should be brought to the Parish Office. Please write XMAS STARS on the envelope, and bring your contribution in by December 2.

Bea Dow (520-260-4511) and Nancy Symons (520-904-4173) are this year's elves, so if you have a question, please contact one of them; and know that your generosity will bring blessings and joy to a teenager in our community.



Amazon Smile

If you purchase goods from Amazon.com (and who doesn't?), a percentage of the price can be sent to your favorite charity (or church - hint, hint) as a donation. All you have to do is sign up for Amazon Smile. Talk about easy money! Try it.



Altar Flowers

Would you like the flowers on the altar to be given in thanksgiving or in remembrance of someone or something you cherish? We would like to restart this tradition here at St. Francis. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please call Carol Berg at 520-373-5770 with your request. If she is not at home, leave your name and number and she will get back to you. Flower donation is \$35.00.



Weekend worship changes!

In-person worship is now the 8 AM eucharist every Sunday in the Courtyard. We are masked and socially separate, for safety. Reserve your seat with Beth-el at 520-625-1370.

Wafers-to-go continue to be offered from the front driveway on Saturday from 3 to 5 PM. Pick up wafers for online worship on SATURDAY ONLY—no longer on Sunday morning.