



SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Green Valley, Arizona

The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, *Rector*  
The Rev. Becky Williamson, *Deacon*  
The Rev. Linda Hutson, *Deacon*

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
18 DECEMBER 2022

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

Anonymous

*Salvation unto us has come*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN 56 stanzas 7 & 8**

7. O come, Desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind;  
bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!

8. 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!

**THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Officiant: We light a fourth candle on our Advent Wreath—the candle of love. Its light reminds us of the love God has for each of us.

*(The fourth candle is lighted.)*

Let us pray. Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us to remember that Love is patient, kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish; love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends.

*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.*

## THE 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

**P**urify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus  
Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives  
and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (7:10-16).

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep  
as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to  
the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to  
weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you  
a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him  
Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil  
and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose  
the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

**THE PSALM** (80:1-7, 16-18) *Please respond at the half-verse*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim. | 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * the son of man you have made so strong for yourself. |
| 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.                  | 17 And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.                |
| 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.                          | 18 Restore us, O LORD 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.                          |   |

**The Epistle**

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (1:1-7).

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

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

Reader *The Word of the Lord.*

People *Thanks be to God.*

## GRADUAL HYMN 54

1. Savior of the nations, come!  
Virgin's Son, make here your home.  
Marvel now, both heaven and earth,  
that the Lord chose such a birth.
2. Wondrous birth! Oh, wondrous child  
of the Virgin undefiled!  
Mighty God and Mary's son,  
eager now his race to run!
3. Thus on earth the Word appears,  
gracing his created spheres;  
hence to death and hell descends,  
then the heavenly throne ascends.
4. Come, O Father's saving Son,  
who o'er sin the victory won.  
Boundless shall your kingdom be;  
grant that we its glories see.

## THE GOSPEL *(Please stand if you are able)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew (11:2-11).

*People Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

**N**ow the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## THE SERMON The Rev. Canon W.T. Holt III

### 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 (FORM I)** *The People may stand, sit, or kneel*

*Deacon or other leader*

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Jennifer our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

In the communion of Francis and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

*To you, O Lord our God.*

We acknowledge the native peoples of the land on which we stand:

*We pay our respects to the Pascua Yaqui and Pima tribes for their care of this land.*

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

*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.**

**THE PEACE** *All stand*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

## THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts. *Psalm 96:8*

## AT THE OFFERTORY

Italian Carol, *arr.* Charles Wood, 1866-1926

*Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary! For so when he did meet thee, Spake mighty Gabriel, And thus we greet thee. Come weal, come woe, Our hymn shall never vary. Hail Blessed Virgin Mary! Ave, ave Maria! To gladden priest and people, The angelus shall ring from ev'ry steeple, To sound his virgin birth, Alleluia! Ave, ave Maria! Archangels chant Osanna, And Holy, Holy, Holy, before the Infant born of thee, thou lowly, Aye maiden child of Joachim and Anna; Archangels chant Osanna. words by G.R. Woodward, 1848-1934*

## AT THE PRESENTATION

Priest 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, sit, 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. Take them in remembrance  
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith,  
with thanksgiving.

#### **THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.  
The elements are offered at one of two standing Communion Stations at the front  
of the church. To avoid crowding the center aisle during the distribution of the  
Sacrament, only one row at a time will move forward; please remember to follow  
Usher's directions.*

#### **PRAYER FOR THE SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (to be said by all)**

In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that  
those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and  
blood. We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

#### **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.

*continued*

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.

## THE BLESSING

### CLOSING HYMN 58

1. Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,  
once for our salvation slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

2. Every eye shall now behold him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.

3. Those dear tokens of his passion  
still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation  
to his ransomed worshipers;  
with what rapture, with what rapture  
gaze we on those glorious scars!

4. Yea, amen! let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory;  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

## THE DISMISSAL

### ORGAN POSTLUDE

Johann Seb. Bach, 1685-1750

*If thou but trust in God to guide you*

*Altar greens are given to the Glory of God by  
Bea Dow in memory of Peter Dow.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### We Welcome You

A warm welcome to all and, if you are a visitor, we encourage you to make yourself known to your fellow worshippers and to our St. Francis clergy. If you would like to know more about the Parish please speak with Fr. Warren or get in touch with him via email at: [frwarren@stfrancisgvaz.org](mailto:frwarren@stfrancisgvaz.org). Please take the time to fill out a visitor card and hand it to an usher, greeter, or one of the clergy, or place it in the offering basket. We would love to hear from you.

At the organ this morning  
Sophia Witte, our Handbell Ensemble director, is our organist this morning.

### Blue Christmas Service Today at 3 PM

For many people the holiday season is not filled with joy; rather it's a time of sadness, depression, grief. Our Blue Christmas service of readings and music is offered as a way of acknowledging and honoring those feelings together with others who are also experiencing a sense of loss and aloneness. Please join

us—and invite others you may know who are suffering this season—as we look to the coming of the Christ Child for hope and comfort.

### Christmas Items 30% off in the Boutique

There's still time to get those beautiful Christmas items in the Boutique as all Christmas merchandise is 30% off this Sunday. So even if you are set for this year, **NOW** is the time to enjoy getting real deals for next Christmas! Please note that the Boutique will be closed on Christmas day and New Year's day. *Jylene Wright*

### This Week at St. Francis

Today, 3p	Blue Christmas Service
Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Monday, 10a	Hearts & Hands, Conference Room
Tuesday, 9a	Men's Group, Conference Room
Tuesday, 10a	Advent Study, Parish Hall
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft

### 🎄 Saturday, Christmas Eve 🎄

5:30 pm Christmas Music

6 pm The Holy Eucharist

### Sunday, Christmas Day

9 am The Holy Eucharist

### Christmas Flowers Form

If you would like to donate a poinsettia (one or more) to beautify the Chancel during the Christmas Season (from Christmas Eve through Sunday, January 1) please fill out the Christmas Flowers form (you'll find them on the tables at the entrances to the church) and drop it off at the Parish Office (600 S. La

Cañada, GV, AZ 85614) by tomorrow, Monday, December 19. PLEASE make every effort to print legibly so we don't have to call you.

### Advent Study Led by Fr. Warren

Fr. Warren is leading a four-week Advent Study class called *Living Well Through Advent 2022*. Join him in the Parish Hall from 10 to 11 AM on Tuesday, December 20, for the final session (*Simplicity and Faith*).

### Care Team

We are looking for a few parishioners willing to prepare a meal for fellow parishioners who might have had recent surgery or an illness. Team members would be asked to fix and deliver a meal to the person in need. Usually this care would cover just a week or two, so you would be asked to cook once or twice at the most. If you feel that you could help with this important service, contact Tommy Reid (520-288-9393 or e-mail [ctreid83@gmail.com](mailto:ctreid83@gmail.com)).

### Hearts & Hands

HEARTS & HANDS is asking that you consider the sick folks, especially the children, at *Casa de Misericordia* in Nogales where Kathleen the nurse (who, by the way, is also a Verger) ministers to those waiting for asylum. We have given Kathleen a gift to purchase prescription medications, but she is also asking for our help with these particular meds:

- Tylenol and Ibuprofen for ages 1 and 2
- Children's decongestants and cough medicine
- Adult decongestants cough drops and lozenges
- hydrocortisone and Neosporin

Please bring your offerings to the church on Sunday. There will be a basket for your gifts.

## Prayer Chain

For PRAYER CHAIN requests contact Jim Ratley at 253-365-5093 or, via email, at [jnrats@gmail.com](mailto:jnrats@gmail.com).

## 2023 Gratitude & Giving Campaign

If you have not yet filled out your ESTIMATE OF GIVING form, it can be completed online by going to the St. Francis in the Valley website ([stfrancisgvaz.org](http://stfrancisgvaz.org)) where you will click on the "2023 Gratitude in Giving Campaign" button. This will take you directly to the campaign information and the ESTIMATE OF GIVING form which can be completed online or, if you choose, can be printed and manually filled out and mailed to the church or dropped in the collection basket. Please return ASAP as the budgeting process has begun. Please note: you can share your estimate anonymously, if you so choose.

## Prison Ministry

Imagine a drum roll....Final count, 301 Christmas cards, signed, sealed, addressed, stamped, blessed by Bishop Reddall and delivered to the Post Office on November 22. Mailed in November to allow Perryville Prison to do its thing prior to delivering the cards to the women. You folks are amazing! Over 500 cards were donated and every cent of postage was also donated, plus a little extra. Thank you for your support of Episcopal Prison Ministry! *Rena Robbins*

## 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.

## Forward Day by Day

Daily devotional booklets for November and December 2022 and January 2023 are now available in the Parish Office, Parish Hall and Narthex.

## Prayer Requests

REMEMBERING THOSE in need of our prayers: Paula Chamberlain, Kathy Ravine, Linda Ravenelle, Dennis Ballantine, Clyde Tardy, Kelly Davis, Sue Howell, Maks Borowicz, Gail, Eileen Fanning, Tom Moorhead, Cheryl Tardy-Albin, Shirley Underwood, Rita Beil, Franck Brown, Carol Putnam, Roger Williams, Neil Helgath

REMEMBERING THOSE who have died: Doris Kuzmak, Laura Douglas, Alex

## St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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[www.stfrancisgvaz.org](http://www.stfrancisgvaz.org)

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The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Reddall D.D.,  
*Bishop*

The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch,  
*Rector*

The Rev. Becky Williamson, *Deacon*

The Rev. Linda Hutson, *Deacon*

Gerald Near, *Parish Administrator*

Deborah Harby, *Finance Officer*

Julie Reppenhagen, *Senior Warden*

Kristi Menix, *Junior Warden*

J. Michael Case, *Organist*