



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 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
11 APRIL 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPENING HYMN 193

1. That Easter day with joy was bright,
the sun shone out with fairer light,
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord.
2. His risen flesh with radiance glowed;
his wounded hands and feet he showed;
those scars their solemn witness gave
that Christ was risen from the grave.
3. O Jesus, King of gentleness,
do thou thyself our hearts possess
that we may give thee all our days
the willing tribute of our praise.
4. O Lord of all, with us abide
in this our joyful Eastertide;
from every weapon death can wield
thine own redeemed for ever shield.
5. All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to thee, who, dead, again dost live;
to God the Father equal praise,
and God the Holy Ghost, we raise.

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen
People *The Lord is risen indeed.*
Alleluia.

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.*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (4:32-35).

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (133) *Please respond at the half-verse*

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, * and runs
down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the
blessing: * life for evermore.

The Epistle

A Reading from the First Letter of John (1:1—2:2)

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 209

1. We walk by faith, and not by sight;
no gracious words we hear
from him who spoke as none e'er spoke;
but we believe him near.

2. We may not touch his hands and side,
nor follow where he trod;
but in his promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound,
to call on you when you are near,
and seek where you are found:

4. that, when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
we may behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John (20:19-31).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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 (FORM IV)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

People *And also with you.*

OFFERTORY HYMN 304 (stz 1 - 3)

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord,
 forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall
 his life laid down for me.

2. I come with Christians far and near
 to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
 in Christ's communion bread.

3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
 each proud division ends.
That love that made us makes us one,
 and strangers now are friends.

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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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...
...for ever and ever. Amen.

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Lord, we died with you on the cross.

People Now we are raised to new life.

Celebrant We were buried in your tomb.

People Now we share in your resurrection.

Celebrant Live in us, that we may live in you.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

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 208

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done,
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun.

Alleluia!

2. The powers of death have done their
worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shout of holy joy outburst.

Alleluia!

5. Lord! by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live and sing to thee.

Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. The three sad days are quickly sped,
he rises glorious from the dead:
all glory to our risen Head!

Alleluia!

4. He closed the yawning gates of hell,
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell!

Alleluia!

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Carolyn Gates and Wil Wiemer
in loving memory of her husband Dale Gates and his father Rupert Wiemer;
and by Elaine Walker in loving memory of her mother Florence McNaught.*

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 (always keeping in mind the present need for social distancing). If you would like to know more about the Parish please speak with Fr. Warren or Fr. Nelson after the service or get in touch with them via email at: frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org or nelson@stfranciscgvaz.org. They will be very pleased to hear from you.

Weekend Worship at St. Francis

Sunday, in-person worship is now the 9 AM eucharist and celebrated for the rest of April in the Courtyard. **Please note the time change.** In May we hope to be once again in the church proper. Please continue to bring and wear your mask and remember to observe social distancing (unless you are a couple). Reservations are still necessary until we are otherwise informed by the Diocese. Reserve your place with the Parish Administrator via email (preferred), at gerald@stfranciscgvaz.org or, alternatively, you may call the Parish Office—520-625-1370—and leave a message for Parish Administrator Gerald Near. Please be sure to include first and last names of worshippers as well the date of the service you wish to attend. (We are not able to take reservations for multiple services, only the next service upcoming.) We will not reply to your email, or phone call, unless we are at capacity.

Please continue to pick up wafers for on-line worship on Saturdays from 3 to 4 PM at the front driveway of the church. Be sure to wear your mask!

Wednesday Zoom Coffee Hours To Resume

Join Fr. Warren for his 10 AM Wednesday coffee hours via Zoom. He will be including ongoing discussions from the Lenten Living Well study. Email him directly and he will send you the necessary link (frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org).

Seeing the Future

Are you interested in seeing the church energized as we move beyond the pandemic? If the answer is yes, then I need you! I am putting together a small group to talk about the future opportunities and mission of the Parish.

I am also rebooting the STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE. It is *Not* just about money! Stewardship is a year round living out of our baptismal call that involves our time and sharing of talents, as well as how we support our ministries to live our mission to be the Heart and Hands of Jesus.

If you are interested in one or both, please contact me at frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org

Organist Today

Sophia Witte, parishioner and director of the St. Francis Handbell Ensemble, is at the organ this morning.

Outreach News

April is with us and we are collecting canned fruit, vegetables and soup for the Community Food Bank. Last month we delivered over 300 pounds of rice, beans, and pasta sauce. Will we beat our record? Feel free to bring your offerings to church at any time. There is a basket available as you enter the courtyard from the parking lot. Staff and volunteers will also be available to receive your offerings as you pick up your wafers on

Saturday afternoon and, as always, the basket will be there for you when you come to church Sunday morning.

The History of Our Parish

While planning the celebration of St. Francis in the Valley's 50th anniversary many documents, pictures and memories were donated by the congregation. We would like to continue collecting these important documents in order to have a complete record of the development of the Parish. There are many ways you can help. See what you have to donate from your own collection of memories. This could include your personal thoughts, pictures of events, and your story with the Parish. There will be a container available Sunday mornings to receive your submissions. We need everyone's help in making this project a success. Thanks in advance,
Joyce Davison (jadglendale@gmail.com)

Altar Flowers

The coronavirus pandemic has made it necessary to downsize our services and many things related to them, including altar flower displays. As an alternative to a large array on Easter Day, we suggest giving flowers for a specific Sunday throughout the Easter season and beyond. Should you wish to give flowers in memoriam or as a thanksgiving, we will acknowledge your dedication in the service leaflet as we have always done. Make your wishes known to Carol Berg (520-373-5770) and she will make the proper arrangements. Flower donations are \$35. Let us hope that next year we will be able to fill the church with blooms for both Easter and Christmas.

Covenant Fund

Thanks to the COVID pandemic we were not able this year to schedule our traditional Christmas Card Party, the annual event that raises money for the St. Francis Covenant Fund. The fund—administered by the Rector—was established in 1993 by Dorothy Baldwin to provide temporary financial aid for needy St. Francis Parishioners.

The need is still with us, and you can help relieve the suffering by dropping off a check to Finance Officer Deborah Harby, or you can contribute online through the Parish website. The need this year is even greater, so please help if you can.

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.

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Reddell, *Bishop*
The Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, *Rector*
The Rev. Nelson Mendoza, *Curate*
The Rev. Becky Williamson, *Deacon*
Gerald Near, *Parish Administrator*
Deborah Harby, *Finance Officer*
Julie Reppenhagen, *Senior Warden*
Kristi Menix, *Junior Warden*