



SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Green Valley, Arizona

The Rev. Daniel J. Messier, *Interim Rector*
The Rev. Becky Williamson, *Deacon*
The Rev. Linda Hutson, *Deacon*
The Rev. Mike Kuebler, *Deacon*
Glenn Matto, *Verger*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
19 APRIL 2026

We appreciate the silencing of all electronic devices and ask that, out of respect for those who wish to pray quietly or listen to the music played on the organ, all conversation be held until coffee hour following the service, to which all are cordially invited.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Charles Callahan, 1951-2023

Carillon on 'The strife is o'er'

OPENING HYMN 199

1. Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness!
God hath brought his Israel
into joy from sadness:
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.

2. 'Tis the spring of souls today:
Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death
as a sun hath risen;
all the winter of our sins,
long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give
laud and praise undying.

3. Now the queen of seasons, bright
with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts,
comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem,
who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains
Jesus' resurrection.

4. Neither might the gates of death,
nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal
hold thee as a mortal:
but today amidst thine own
thou didst stand, bestowing
that thy peace which evermore
passeth human knowing.

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

Together 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. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS. DEO (GLORY TO GOD)

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.

THE SALUTATION

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT

God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON (*Please be seated*)

A Lesson from the Acts of the Apostles (2:14a, 36-41).

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and

exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (116:1-3, 10-17) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, * because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

2 The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; * I came to grief and sorrow.

3 Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: * "O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

10 How shall I repay the LORD * for all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation * and call upon the Name of the LORD.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD * in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the LORD * is the death of his servants.

14 O LORD, I am your servant; * I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving * and call upon the Name of the LORD.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD * in the presence of all his people,

17 In the courts of the LORD's house, * in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON

A Lesson from the First Letter of Peter (1:17-23).

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL 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!

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!

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!

THE GOSPEL *(please stand, as you are able)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke (24:13-35).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then

enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Rev. Daniel J. Messier

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 *The people may stand, sit, or kneel*

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving.

We pray for one another, for our families and friends, through whom we learn to love and to be loved. Thank you for all who care for us. Give us grace to serve Christ by serving our neighbors and our community, loving others as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Leader We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone in Jesus Christ. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble. Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Leader We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of these lands. Help us and people everywhere to share with justice and peace the resources of the earth. Give wisdom to those in authority among us and to all leaders of the nations.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Leader We pray for your Church throughout the world, thanking you for all who serve Christ and his kingdom. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their work and witness in the world. Unite us in your truth and love, that we who confess your name may also reflect your glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Leader We remember with thanksgiving all who have died in Christ, and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may enter with them into the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The People may add their own petitions, silently or aloud.

Leader Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you. Hear the prayers of your people.

Leader We gratefully acknowledge the Native Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather:

We pay our respects to the Pascua Yaqui and Tohono O'odham, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home here today.

Together Almighty and everliving God, you are with us in every transition and change. Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide the Search Committee, Vestry and parish family to be of one heart and mind in our search for a new Rector who will be your faithful servant and who will minister to your flock. By your light, O Lord, draw us to those with vision and passion for St. Francis' future. Guide them as they discern your call. Raise up for us a faithful pastor and dynamic preacher of your gospel, who will shepherd us as your flock. Strengthen our ministries and work with us in the building of your kingdom. Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People together

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, 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.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYER (TO BE SAID BY ALL)

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of life and for all the blessings you have poured upon your servants celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, especially those standing before us today. As they begin another year, we pray that you continue to guide, protect, and shower them with your grace. May this new year be filled with love, joy, and peace, as they walk closer to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God. (Ephesians 5:2)*

Prelude on 'This joyful Eastertide'

AT THE PRESENTATION

Celebrant Gracious God, accept these gifts,
and with them our lives, to be used in your service;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer B; Expansive Language version*)

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 Christ's death he has destroyed death, and by Christ's 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand, sit, or kneel.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

The Celebrant continues

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Francis and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, 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 Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

AGNUS DEI

Celebrant Jesus, Lamb of God:

People have mercy on us.

Celebrant Jesus, bearer of our sins:

People have mercy on us.

Celebrant Jesus, redeemer of the world:

People give us your peace.

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 the Communion Rail and may be received either kneeling or standing. Wine may be received by taking a sip from the common cup (preferred method), or by intinction (dipping your host into the wine). If you prefer intinction, you dip it immediately in the small cup after receiving it from the clergy. If you would like to receive a blessing only, simply cross your arms over your chest. After receiving Communion, if you would like personal prayers for yourself or others, members of the Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) will be available in the Chapel to pray with and for you.

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.
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 296

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold;
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Alleluia!
2. We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn we share with him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ.
Alleluia!
3. The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God.
Baptized we live with God the Three in One.
Alleluia!
4. A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing:
Alleluia! Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Michael McCabe, b. 1941

Trumpet Tune in C

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. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card and hand it to an usher or one of the clergy, or place it in the offering basket. We would love to hear from you; and plan to join us in the Parish Hall following the service for a cup of coffee.

Green Team Eco-SWAP

Sunday, April 26, during coffee hour, gently used, quality items will be given away free. (It's a swap meet). Clean out your closets and collect up to 10 items. Bring them to church and put them in the Parish Hall donation

tubs. As Father Dan said, "One person's junk is another's treasure." Check the St. Francis NEWS FROM THE PEWS email for suggested items to collect, or call Susan Burch 520-528-4271.

PLEASE NOTE: The GREEN TEAM will meet at Posada Java at 2 PM on Tuesday, April 21, for Eco-Swap Prep, and again on Saturday, April 25, at 2 PM for set up in the Parish Hall.

Prison Ministry

It is time to return the PRAYER HEARTS for Camp Genesis campers. If you have been praying for a camper please stop by the Prison Ministry table for instructions about returning the hearts. Also if you have a sewing machine you are no longer using Prison Ministry could make good use of it. *Rena*

Loving Our Neighbors

▶ CROSSROADS NOGALES MISSION is looking for people to help serve meals. If you would like to lend a hand contact the mission at 520-287-5828.

▶ SISTER JOSE WOMEN'S SHELTER has an Amazon Wish List for most needed items. Please check out WAYS TO GIVE on their website *sisterjose.org* to find the list. Sister Jose's is always in need of new underwear, new socks, used athletic shoes and hygiene products. Consider checking their website for most current information about the expansion.

▶ IMAGO DEI GRADUATION for sixteen Imago Dei scholars is set for Friday, May 15, at Second Sky Community Center, 4141 East Irvington Street, Tucson, at 5:30 PM. (Please note: this is a new location!) You are cordially invited to attend as "honorary grandparents!" To celebrate the accomplishments of these sixteen scholars, please consider giving a donation to the fund to gift each of the graduating scholars with \$100, a gift which has been the tradition at St. Francis in the Valley since 2011. (A donation of any amount is greatly appreciated.) Please make your check payable to *St. Francis*, with the notation "Imago Dei Graduation Gift" on the memo line. You may put your check in the offering basket, mail it to the church, deliver it to the Parish Office, or stop by the Imago Dei table at Coffee Hour on Sundays, April 19, April 26, and May 3. Thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity. *Barbara Bundy*

May/June Newsletter

Copy for the next issue (May/June, 2026) of the St. Francis Parish newsletter (The Franciscan Staff) is now due; please send your copy—via email—to *gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org* as soon as possible.

This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 10a	Loving Our Neighbors Meeting Room 2
Tuesday, 9a	Men's Group, Conf Rm
Tuesday, 2p	SAT, Conference Room
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Cpl
Wednesday, 10a	DOK, Vulliamy Room
Wednesday, 3p	Search Committee, Conference Room

Prayer Chain

For Prayer Chain requests contact Jim Ratley at 253-365-5093 or, via email, *jnrats@gmail.com*.

Centering Prayer

The St. Francis Centering Prayer Group meets off-campus via Zoom; if you would like to know more about the group and how to participate, contact Sophie Luffman at *s.luffman@icloud.com* or 520-262-3876.

Prayer Requests

Remembering those in need of our prayers: Kelly Davis, Delilah Wegrzyn, Jean Schwafel, Jim Ravenelle, Bob Hutson, Linda Hutson, Jerry Lounsberry, Bonnie Haifley, Eva Jenkins, Isaac Garcia, Tomi Adams, Stephen North, Connie Nord, Paul Deysenroth, Elaine Deysenroth, Clark Adams, Ken Mattson, Gary Bates, Lee Parks, Joyce Davison, Pat Ryan, Neal Hursh, Barbara Hook. Pray for those who have died, remembering especially Tommy Bjornstad.

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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