



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 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: ROGATION SUNDAY
MOTHERS' DAY
9 MAY 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPENING HYMN 376

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
blooming meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

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

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our
understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you
in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we
can desire; 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 (10:44-48).

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (98) *Please respond at the half-verse*

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his vic-
tory; * his righteousness has he open-
ly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithful-
ness to the house of Israel, * and all
the ends of the earth have seen the
victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you
lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the
horn * shout with joy before the King,
the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is
in it, * the lands and those who dwell
therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy
before the LORD, when he comes to
judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the
world *
and the peoples with equity.

The Epistle

A Reading from the First Letter of John (5:1-6)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 400

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| <p>1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voices, let us sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!</p> <p>Bright burning sun with golden beams,
pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> <p>2. Dear mother earth, you day by day
unfold your blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluia!</p> <p>All flowers and fruits that in you grow,
let them his glory also show:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> | <p>3. All you with mercy in your heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing now: Alleluia!</p> <p>All you that pain and sorrow bear,
praise God, and cast on him your care:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> <p>4. Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!</p> <p>Praise God the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> |
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THE GOSPEL *(Please stand if you are able)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John (15:9-17).

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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 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.

Silence

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 288

1. Praise to God, immortal praise,
for the love that crowns our days;
bounteous source of every joy,
let thy praise our tongues employ:
all to thee, our God, we owe,
source whence all our blessings flow.

2. All the plenty summer pours;
autumn's rich o'erflowing stores;
flocks that whiten all the plain;
yellow sheaves of ripened grain:
Lord, for these our souls shall raise
grateful vows and solemn praise.

3. As thy prospering hand hath blessed,
may we give thee of our best;
and by deeds of kindly love
for thy mercies grateful prove;
singing thus through all our days
praise to God, immortal praise.

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 439

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| 1. What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to lay aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown
for my soul. | 2. To God and to the Lamb,
I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb
who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme
I will sing. |
| 3. And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free
I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity
I'll sing on. | |

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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

We are overjoyed to be once again worshipping in our church proper (service time 9 AM). Even though we are definitely making progress toward a return to normalcy, there are still pandemic protocols to be observed. We must continue to bring and wear our masks and remember to practice social distancing (unless you are a couple). Reservations will still be 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 remember the weekly deadline for reservations is, and will continue to be, Thursdays at 2 PM.*

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning this month we will no longer be offering ‘communion to go’ in its present format (i.e. picking up a communion wafer here at the Church on Saturday afternoons). If you need a wafer, please contact Fr. Warren (frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org), Father Nelson (nelson@stfranciscgvaz.org), or Deacon Becky (1beckyw@cox.net) and they will make arrangements for you to pick one up at the Parish Office. (You may also leave a phone message for the Clergy at 520-625-1370.) Sunday service leaflets will be available Saturdays on the bench outside the Parish Office.

New Study

With permission from Robbin Brent from *Living Compass*, I will be allowed to use a new study called CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES AND WELL BEING. This study begins on Wednesday, June 2, at 10 AM on Zoom. The booklet is not yet published, but I will be able to share a PDF of the booklet. If interested, please email me (frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org). There are four sessions. *Fr. Warren*

Monday Morning Prayer

When the pandemic entered our lives last year and took the wind out of our sails, a small group of Franciscans, usually numbering no more than a dozen or so, met regularly in the Chapel on Monday mornings for the sole purpose of getting our week started on the right foot with the celebration of Morning Prayer, organized and led by several lay members of the Parish.

Lila Stoffel and Wayne North would like to re-start our Morning Prayer program on Monday mornings and sought out Fr. Warren this past Sunday for his blessing to move ahead.

So, here we are with an invitation for all to join us on Monday morning, May 17, at 11 AM in the Chapel. The 11 o'clock start time is in response to several requests last year for a later time. Answering your questions are Lila at (218) 731-7694, or Wayne at (715) 205-8374

“Becoming the Church Together” Series

IMMIGRATION, THE BIBLE, AND
OUR NEW NEIGHBORS

“Together we will embark on a course to study the Bible and see how it addresses the issue of modern-day immigration. Our goal will be to foster an open, honest, loving, and biblically focused conversation about this important—and challenging—topic. Each lesson focuses on Scripture, while incorporating prayer, activities, videos, and group discussion to help everyone investigate how faith in Christ affects views on immigration. Even as we study issues related to United States law and policy, our first responsibility will always be to examine God’s witness and imagine appropriate responses for our churches as we strive to be disciples of Jesus Christ together.

As we begin reading scripture and applying the truth to how we treat our new neighbors, we can have faith that God will be present with us and guiding us towards loving God and loving our fellow human beings in deeper ways.”

We will meet in-person on Mondays starting July 12 from 10:30 AM to 12 PM, or online Tuesdays starting July 13 from 10:30 AM to 12 PM.

Please email our Curate, the Rev. Nelson Mendoza (nelson@stfranciscgvaz.org), with any questions or to sign up for either in-person or online classes. In-person classes will

be limited to 20 participants, and social distancing requirements will be observed.

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

Fr. Warren

Outreach News

The final April offering of canned fruits, vegetables and soup was delivered to the Community Food Bank Monday May 3. During the month of May we are collecting baby things. We need wipes and baby food (remember: no glass). We also need lots of diapers sizes 4, 5 and 6. You may bring your donations on Sunday when you come to church or you may drop them at the church any time during the week in the basket right inside the courtyard.

St. Francis in the Valley

Episcopal Church

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