



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 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY
16 MAY 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPENING HYMN 494

1. Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own;
awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

2. Crown him the Son of God
before the worlds began,
and ye, who tread where he hath trod,
crown him the Son of man;
who every grief hath known
that wrings the human breast,
and takes and bears them for his own,
that all in him may rest.

3. Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

4. Crown him of lords the Lord,
who over all doth reign,
who once on earth, the incarnate Word,
for ransomed sinners slain,
now lives in realms of light,
where saints with angels sing
their songs before him day and night,
their God, Redeemer, King.

5. Crown him the Lord of heaven,
enthroned in worlds above;
Crown him the King, to whom is given
the wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns,
as thrones before him fall,
crown him, ye kings, with many crowns,
for he is King of all.

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, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great
triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us
your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ
has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory
everlasting. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:15-17, 21-26).

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (1) *Please respond at the half-verse*

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, * nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful! | 4 It is not so with the wicked; * they are like chaff which the wind blows away. |
| 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, * and they meditate on his law day and night. | 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, * nor the sinner in the council of the righteous. |
| 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; * everything they do shall prosper. | 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, * but the way of the wicked is doomed. |

The Epistle

A Reading from the First Letter of John (5:9-13)

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

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 325

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. | 2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. |
| 3. Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. | |

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.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

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 460

1. Alleluia! sing to Jesus!
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia! bread of Heaven,
Thou on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

3. Alleluia! King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own:
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest:
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration
of the 70th wedding anniversary of Joan and Robert Henley.*

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@stfrancisgvaz.org or nelson@stfrancisgvaz.org. They will be very pleased to hear from you.

Outreach News

Kudos to all the St. Francis parishioners who were so generous and giving for the babies. We took 40 pounds of baby food, wipes and diapers to the Community Food Bank Monday morning. That included 39 dozen diapers. WOW! The babies and their families thank you. We will continue to collect baby food (remember no glass) wipes and diapers in sizes 4, 5 and 6 all during May. You may bring your offerings to the church at any time and place them in the basket at the courtyard entrance or bring them to church on Sunday.

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@stfrancisgvaz.org). There are four sessions. *Fr. Warren*

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@stfrancisgvaz.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@stfrancisgvaz.org), Father Nelson (nelson@stfrancisgvaz.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.

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

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

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Episcopal Church

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