



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 LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
11 FEBRUARY 2024

ORGAN PRELUDE

William Walond, 1719-68

Voluntary in D

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 137

1. O wondrous type! O vision fair
of glory that the Church may share,
which Christ upon the mountain shows,
where brighter than the sun he glows!

2. With Moses and Elijah nigh
the incarnate Lord holds converse high;
and from the cloud, the Holy One
bears record to the only Son.

3. With shining face and bright array,
Christ deigns to manifest today

what glory shall be theirs above
who joy in God with perfect love.

4. And faithful hearts are raised on high
by this great vision's mystery;
for which in joyful strains we raise
the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

5. O Father, with the eternal Son,
and Holy Spirit, ever One,
vouchsafe to bring us by thy grace
to see thy glory face to face.

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. 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.*

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.

THE SALUTATION

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*
Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT

God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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 *(please be seated)*

A Reading from the Second Book of Kings (2:1-12).

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his

mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (50:1-6) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; * he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. | 5 | "Gather before me my loyal followers, * those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice." |
| 2 | Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, * God reveals himself in glory. | 6 | Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; * for God himself is judge. |
| 3 | Our God will come and will not keep silence; * before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm. | | |
| 4 | He calls the heavens and the earth from above * to witness the judgment of his people. | | |

The Second Lesson

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (4:3-6).

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 777 (*Wonder, Love, and Praise hymnal*)

1. Sing alleluia forth in duteous praise,
ye citizens of heav'n, O sweetly raise
an endless alleluia.
2. Ye pow'rs who stand before the eternal Light,
let all your choirs re-echo to the height
an endless alleluia.
3. Then let the holy city raise the strain,
and with glad songs resounding wake again
an endless alleluia.
4. Ye who have fought and joined the starry
throng, ye victors, now take up the eternal song,
an endless alleluia.
5. Your songs of triumph shall forever ring,
the hymns which tell the honor of your King,
an endless alleluia.
6. Such song is rest and food and deep delight
to saints forgiven; let them all unite
an endless alleluia.
7. Almighty Christ, to thee our voices sing
all laud forevermore; to thee we bring
an endless alleluia.

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark (9:2-9).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Very 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 VI) *The people may stand, sit, or kneel*

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Jennifer our Bishop; and
for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence (The People may add their own thanksgivings)

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in
your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Almighty God, source of all wisdom and understanding: Look graciously on your church, and so guide the hearts and minds of those who will choose our next presiding bishop, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for all your people, equip us for our ministries, and proclaim your word to us and to the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We acknowledge the native peoples of the land on which we stand:
*We pay our respects to the Pasqua 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.

Celebrant 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

THE OFFERTORY

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

AT THE OFFERTORY

Harold Friedell, 1905-58

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name, two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them: Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now thy garment's hem. As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluya! Alleluya! So knit thou our friendship up. All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee, that by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be. Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully.

AT THE PRESENTATION

Celebrant Almighty God, accept all we offer you this day,
and give us generous hearts to serve you in
all who claim your help.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

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 every-
where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have
caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge
of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 may stand, sit, or kneel.

Celebrant 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 We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

People God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

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 is received by intinction only. If you would like to receive a blessing only, please cross your arms over your chest. 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 Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 618

1. Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
raise the glad strain, Alleluia!
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, powers,
virtues, archangels, angels' choirs,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. O higher than the cherubim,
more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises, Alleluia!
Thou bearer of the eternal Word,
most gracious, magnify the Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
ye patriarchs and prophets blest,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,
all saints triumphant, raise the song,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluia, alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Fanfare

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@stfranciscgvaz.org. 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.

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are given by Wendy & Geoff Hill to the glory of God and in loving memory of Wendy's sister, Jean Kingsnorth.

Lenten Offerings at
St. Francis in the Valley

Lent begins Ash Wednesday: February 14 this year (aka Valentine's Day). The day before, is known as Shrove Tuesday (*Shrove*, derived from *shrive*, refers to the confession of sins as a preparation for Lent' —*Encyclopedia Britannica*) and we will observe it with the traditional Pancake Supper at 5 PM in the Parish Hall. The Ash Wednesday liturgy—with the Imposition of Ashes—will be celebrated at 7 PM; the Imposition of Ashes will also be offered at the 9 AM Eucharist that morning, and with Ashes-To-Go available at the top of the circular drive in front of the church from 11 AM to 1 PM and from 4 to 6 PM (weather permitting). Mike Kuebler starts his Lenten Bible Study series on Tuesday, February 20 (please note starting date

change—see announcement below). On the Wednesdays in Lent—beginning February 21—we will once again feature a Lenten Supper series complete with a great line-up of guest speakers. Lenten Suppers start at 5:30 PM with Stations of the Cross offered beforehand, at 5 PM, in the Courtyard. Fr. Warren will be celebrating a Seder Meal at 4:45 PM on Wednesday, March 27. Look for sign up tables with more information in the Parish Hall and join us for as many of these wonderful Lenten observances as you can.

Lenten Bible Study
Scheduling Change

Mike Kuebler's six-week Lenten Bible Study class will begin Tuesday, February 20, at 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall, rather than February 13—please note scheduling change. The subject of the class will be *The Bible and it's Wisdom Literature*. You can sign up for the class by calling Mike at 520-907-7204 or emailing him at mikelkuebler@yahoo.com.

This Week at St. Francis

Today, 10:30a	Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, Parish Hall
Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Tuesday, 5p	Pancake Supper, Parish Hall
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 10a	Memorials Committee, Meeting Room 2
Wednesday, 7p	The Ash Wednesday Liturgy
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft

Prison Ministry

February is Camp Genesis Month. We are trying to raise funds for camper scholarships and backpacks. Camp Genesis is located at Chapel Rock in Prescott, AZ. The camp is for children who have an incarcerated immediate family member. The cost to send a kid to camp for the week is \$430 including a supply filled backpack. There is no cost to the family of the kids who attend camp; all campers attend camp on a scholarship. This year the camp goal for funding is to include an off-road Jeep trip for the older campers and a special zoo trip for the younger campers.

There are donation envelopes in the pews with a festive llama on them. If you would like to help send a kid to camp you can use the envelopes and place them in the offering baskets or take them to the Prison Ministry table. Backpacks and contents will be purchased by the Diocesan Prison Ministry so all campers have like items. Please continue to pray for the campers. *Rena Robbins*

Library Book Sale

Our massive book sale is scheduled for Sundays, February 18 and 25, but we need your donated books Now so we can plan for our set-up and staffing. So please bring any books you'd like to contribute to the sale (preferably in boxes) and leave them in the Library (just down the corridor from the Parish Hall) on Sunday, or drop them off in the Church Office during the week. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated—and the people who get to find new treasures in your old books will be grateful too. All proceeds (at \$1 per pound) will go toward the purchase of new books for your Parish Library and technical support for our digital catalog which you can access from home.

Parish Newsletter

The deadline for submissions (articles, columns, blurbs, calendar items, etc.) for the Spring issue (March/April) of the Parish Newsletter is this week. Please submit materials via email to gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org.

February in the Boutique

It's hard to believe, but February is here already. And you know what that means, all you thoughtful, caring people out there, VAL-ENTINE'S DAY! It's only one week away so please do come see what the Boutique is offering for that special someone in your life. We're open every Sunday after the 9 o'clock service, so bring your coffee and come see!

Jylene Wright

Hearts & Hands Ministries

► IMAGO DEI MIDDLE SCHOOL TOURS: See for yourself what kind of amazing things are going on with scholars and graduates at Imago Dei Middle School, an Episcopal school in Tucson that offers quality, tuition-free education to low-income families! Join Cameron Taylor, Head of School, on February 26, at 11 AM for a school tour and the opportunity to have lunch with the students. Carpooling from the church is possible, or feel free to drive on your own. It has been a long-standing tradition at St. Francis to consider ourselves as "honorary grandparents" of students at Imago Dei. This is a great opportunity to experience the school firsthand! Please contact Barbara Bundy at 571-332-8713 or bjbundy@verizon.net for more information or to sign up.

► VALLEY ASSISTANCE: Kudos to all of you who continue to bring gifts for the clients of Valley Assistance. The purple bin in the Sexton's closet is there for your gifts of laundry

supplies, toilet tissue and personal items of all sorts.

▶ LOCAL FOOD BANKS: Thank you for continuing to bring non-perishable food for our friends at the food bank; and thanks to the volunteers who gather it and take it every month. We need volunteers for May, August and September. If you're able to help, email Barb Hook at behook@aol.com.

▶ DON'T FORGET: the Sahuarita Food Bank collects cardboard (cereal box style too). The receptacle is on the south side of the Food Bank building, on La Cañada.

▶ THANK YOU: Thanks to Mary Aigner and Carolyn Andersen HEARTS & HANDS now has liaisons for both ST. ANDREWS CHILDREN'S CLINIC and EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT. We are still hoping for liaisons to keep abreast of the needs of SISTER JOSE, a homeless woman's shelter and GENESIS HOUSE, a Green Valley shelter.

▶ JOIN US: And most importantly, if you have a passion for a particular ministry bring your voice to a HEARTS & HANDS meeting the third Monday of the month at 10 AM. If you have questions please contact any Hearts & Hands volunteer or contact Barb Hook at behook@aol.com.

Kino Border Initiative

If you would like to help folks in need at the border, please drop some CLEAN, REUSABLE grocery bags (not the thin plastic type) in the KINO box in the donations room (aka Sexton's closet). These, and purchased 99 cent store bags like them will be put to good use by people heading home in Mexico from Nogales who have no suitcase or backpack.

A Gift of Flowers

If you would like to give a gift of flowers to be

placed on the High Altar in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for many blessings, please call Carol Berg at 520-373-5770 and let her know of your interest. If she is not at home, just leave a message with your name and phone number and she will return your call. Flower donation is \$35.

Forward Day by Day

Daily devotional booklets for February, March, and April, are now available in the Parish Office and Parish Hall.

Prayer Chain

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

Prayer Requests

Remembering those in need of our prayers: Paul Witte, Henry Witte, John Witte, Bob Vint, Sr., Kelly Davis, Sandra Findley, Shirley Underwood, Frank Brown, Delilah Wegrzyn, Tom Moorhead, Elaine & Paul Deysenroth, Linda Greenwald, Jean Schwafel, Jason Camp, Roger Williams, Ellen Sax, Joshua & Chaya Hexter, Jim Ravenelle, The Rev. Pat Kirk, Ann Zublin, Charles Gardner

Remembering those who have died: Joan Henley, Vince Remillard

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

600 South La Cañada Drive
Green Valley, Arizona 85614
520-625-1370

www.stfrancisgvaz.org
www.facebook.com/stfrancisgvaz