



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*
Glenn Matto, *Verger*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO
THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
9 MARCH 2025

ORGAN PRELUDE

J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

Have mercy, Lord (BWV 721)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 143

1. The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.
2. Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law; and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.
3. So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions' might;
- and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.
4. Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spirits strengthen with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.
5. O Father, Son, and Spirit blest, to thee be every prayer addressed, who art in threefold Name adored, from age to age, the only Lord.

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People *His mercy endures for ever.*

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.

TRISAGION *(Hymnal S100: the People are invited to join the Choir.*

Trisagion is traditionally sung or said three times.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE SALUTATION

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson *(Please be seated)*

A Lesson from the Book of Deuteronomy (26:1-11).

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

THE PSALM (91:1-2, 9-16) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, * abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the LORD, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, * my God in whom I put my trust."
- 9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge, * and the Most High your habitation,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, * neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, * to keep you in all your ways.
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, * lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; * you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; * I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; * I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him, * and show him my salvation.

THE SECOND LESSON

A Lesson from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (10:8b-13).

"The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 147, stanzas 1 - 3

1. Now let us all with one accord,
in company with ages past,
keep vigil with our heavenly Lord
in his temptation and his fast.

2. The covenant, so long revealed
to those of faith in former time,

Christ by his own example sealed,
the Lord of love, in love sublime.

3. Your love, O Lord, our sinful race
has not returned, but falsified;
author of mercy, turn your face
and grant repentance for our pride.

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke (4:1-13).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HYMN 147, STANZAS 4 - 5

4. Remember, Lord, though frail we be,
in your own image were we made;
help us, lest in anxiety,
we cause your Name to be betrayed.

5. Therefore, we pray you, Lord, forgive;
so when our wanderings here shall cease,
we may with you for ever live,
in love and unity and peace.

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 IV) *The people may stand, sit, or kneel*

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

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

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

*Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;
bring offerings and come into his courts. (Psalm 96:8)*

AT THE OFFERTORY

David Halls, b. 1963

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and forgive me all my sin. For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me. (Psalm 51: 2-3)

AT THE PRESENTATION

Celebrant God our refuge and strength, receive all we offer you this day,
and through the death and resurrection of your Son
transform us to his likeness.

We ask this in his name.

People Amen.

AT THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer B*)

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 Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every
way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to
triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves
alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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) 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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your
Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from
the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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, AGNUS DEI (*Hymnal, S161*)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us 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 is received by intinction only. 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 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 529

1. In Christ there is no East or West,
in him no South or North,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2. Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be!

Who serves my Father as his child
is surely kin to me.

3. In Christ now meet both East and West,
in him meet South and North,
all Christly souls are one in him,
throughout the whole wide earth.

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Gerald Near, b. 1942

The glory of these forty days

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@stfrancisgvaz.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.

Green Team

Randy Peterson, from Imago Dei Middle School, will give an overview of their garden-to-table program and what the students are learning about taking care of Mother Earth at our Green Team Meeting on Wednesday, March 12. Join us in the Parish Hall at 10 AM. Snowbirds, parishioners and members are welcome. *Susan Burch*

Lenten Soup Suppers

Our traditional Lenten Soup Suppers begin this Wednesday, March 12, with STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 5 PM, DINNER at 5:30 and GUEST SPEAKER at 6:15. The series continues March 19, 26, and April 2 and 9. Our first presenter is Deacon Becky Williamson who will speak to us on *Practicing Lent: When giving up chocolate isn't enough*. There is no charge for the dinner, just a donation as you are able. Sign ups are already underway in the Parish Hall.

Fr. Warren's Lenten Class

Fr. Warren will once again be leading a class from the LIVING WELL THROUGH LENT series: *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit in Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*. Join him in the Parish Hall on Tuesdays at 10 AM, beginning March 11, or at Bobbi Tucker's house on

Thursdays at 1 PM, beginning March 6. You will be able to register for the classes in the Parish Hall following services this morning.

This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Tuesday, 10a	Fr. Warren's Lenten Class, Parish Hall
Tuesday, 4p	Vestry, Conf Room
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 10a	DOK, Vulliamy Room
Wednesday, 5p	Stations of the Cross, Courtyard
Wednesday, 5:30p	Lenten Soup Supper, Parish Hall
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft
Friday, 4p	Contemporary Band
Saturday, 4p	Holy Eucharist, Chapel

St. Francis 60th Anniversary

There will be a sign-up sheet for a 60th Anniversary Planning Committee this Sunday in the Parish Hall. If you would like to participate, sign up!

Heart and Hands

► The St. Francis Heart and Hands Committee is busy planning for our annual gathering of supplies to fill the 100 Easter Baskets we will be sending to the Crossroads Rescue Mission in Nogalas, Arizona.

Every Sunday in March our collection box will be in the Parish Hall happily accepting your generous donations of Easter baskets, Easter grass, small toys, and individually-wrapped candy. If shopping is not your thing you can write a check to St. Francis with *Easter Baskets* on the memo line and we know a bunny who will shop for you.

► IMAGO DEI NEWS: It's not too late to sign up to direct your Arizona state tax credit to Imago Dei Middle School. Your contribution

is subtracted in full from your Arizona state tax liability, essentially specifying how to use your own tax dollars! You can visit az-esf.org to make your tax credit gift or stop by the Imago Dei table on Sunday for more information. If you've already made a tax credit gift, thank you! And if you would like to do still more to support the school's mission of breaking the cycles of poverty through education, donations are always welcome and appreciated.

Besides designating your Arizona state tax credit to Imago Dei Middle School, you can also specify your tax dollars to go to any of the public or private schools as well as most of the organizations that we support, such as Youth on Their Own, food banks and homeless shelters.

You may also be able to claim a federal deduction for your donations. You should consult your tax adviser for specific tax advice.

Lenten Home Communion

We are bringing back LENTEN HOME COMMUNIONS, where a small group will gather weekly at someone's home for communion and a shared supper. Home Communion will be held Thursday evenings at 6 PM, starting March 13 and going through April 10. Signup sheets will be available in the Parish Hall during coffee hour. We ask that you sign up for only one to start with to give everyone an opportunity, but if slots are open close to the date, you may fill that opening.

Parish Treasurer Needed

Given the immediate need to fill the Treasurer's role, the following is a brief description of the responsibilities associated with the position. (Please contact Fr. Warren or Senior Warden Gary LaBarre if this is some-

thing you would be interested in.) The Treasurer is a non-voting member of the Vestry, but has a voice in Vestry deliberations; he or she oversees the financial health of the Parish, signs checks weekly, summarizes monthly financial reports for the Vestry, prepares the annual budget, prepares financials for the parochial report, shares financial information with the Parish, and is Chairperson of the Finance Committee. If you have specific questions please give me a call or send me an email: *Gloria Cadwalader* (231-290-0436 or treasurer@stfranciscgvaz.org)

Voices and Bells

New members are urgently needed for our Parish Choir and Handbell Ensemble. These two music groups are the long-standing backbone of liturgical music-making at St. Francis. You don't have to be a professional musician to be a contributing member of either group (we have professionals ready and eager to assist you). The Parish Choir meets to rehearse on Thursday afternoons from 2 until 4 o'clock. To join the group contact Music Director Gerald Near (gerald@stfranciscgvaz.org). To become a member of the Handbell Ensemble (they meet Monday mornings from 10 o'clock until NOON) get in touch with Director Sophia Witte at 520-509-5037 or, via email, at smw_witte@yahoo.com.

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 get in touch with Deborah at the Parish Office (520-625-1370 or, via email, deborah@stfranciscgvaz.org) and let her know of your interest. Flower donation is \$35.

Forward Day by Day

Daily devotional booklets for February, March, and April 2025, 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, jnrats@gmail.com

Prayer Requests

Remembering those in need of our prayers: Kelly Davis, Shirley Underwood, Frank Brown, Delilah Wegrzyn, Tom Moorhead, Elaine & Paul Deysenroth, Jean Schwafel, Joshua & Chaya Hexter, Jim Ravenelle, Ann Zublin, Bob Hutson, Haley Hutson, Stephen North, Wil, Carolyn, Jerry Lounsberry, Sue, Bonnie Haifley, Laura Thomas, Eva Jenkins, Lorraine Albin Miklovich, Joanne Wolfe Sprague, Marion Lewald, Bill Moore, Jill Lebar, Norma, Ken Jakubiak.

Remembering those who have died: Ellen Sax

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Linda Hutson, *Deacon*

Glenn Matto, *Verger*

Gerald Near, *Director of Music and
Parish Communications*

Deborah Harby, *Finance Officer*

Megan McAllister, *Finance Assistant*

Gary LaBarre, *Senior Warden*

Jim Ratley, *Junior Warden*

J. Michael Case, *Organist*

Sophia Witte, *Handbell Ensemble Director*

Matthew Harby, *Lead Sexton*

Nathaniel Martinez, *Sexton*