



SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Green Valley, Arizona

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
1 MARCH 2026

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

ORGAN PRELUDE

Gerald Near, b. 1942

Aria on 'Wondrous Love'

OPENING HYMN 147

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.
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 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

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

THE SALUTATION

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

THE COLLECT

God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON (*Please be seated*)

A Lesson from the Book of Genesis (12:1-4a).

The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

THE PSALM (121) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come? | 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right
hand, |
| 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth. | 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by
day, * nor the moon by night. |
| 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not
fall asleep. | 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all
evil; * it is he who shall keep you safe. |
| 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel
* shall neither slumber nor sleep; | 8 The LORD shall watch over your going
out and your coming in, * from this time
forth for evermore. |

THE SECOND LESSON

A Lesson from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (4:1-5, 13-17).

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader *The Word of the Lord.*

People *Thanks be to God.*

GRADUAL HYMN 635

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|--|--|
| 1. If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
and hope in him through all thy ways,
he'll give thee strength whate'er betide thee,
and bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on a rock that nought can move. | 2. Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving;
so do thine own part faithfully,
and trust his word, though undeserving;
thou yet shalt find it true for thee;
God never yet forsook in need
the soul that trusted him indeed. |
|--|--|

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John (3:1-17).

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of

continued

the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Rev. Daniel J. Messier

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *The people may stand, sit, or kneel*

The Leader and People pray responsively

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

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

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

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

Celebrant

Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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

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

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People together

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the
power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people
The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

People And also with you.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYER (TO BE SAID BY ALL)

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

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

AT THE OFFERTORY

Paul O. Manz, 1919-2009

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice: Let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If thou, Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee that thou mayest be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope; my soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning. Let Israel hope in the Lord for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is redemption, and he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (Psalm 130 - KJV)

AT THE PRESENTATION

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

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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand, sit, or kneel.

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

The Celebrant continues

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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

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

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Together Our Father, who art in heaven...
...for ever and ever. Amen.

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

AGNUS DEI, Hymnal S166

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.*

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The elements are offered at the Communion Rail and may be received either kneeling or standing. Wine 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 Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members

continued

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 439

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

Gerald Near

Chorale

We Welcome You

A WARM WELCOME to all and, if you are a visitor, we encourage you to make yourself known to your fellow worshippers and to our St. Francis clergy. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card and hand it to an usher or one of the clergy, or place it in the offering basket. We would love to hear from you; and plan to join us in the Parish Hall following the service for a cup of coffee.

Wednesday Program during Lent "JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH LENT."

This year we will not have speakers but, instead, using the Lenten Gospel stories, we will begin each night following the journey of Jesus geographically. Then we will entertain you and invite your participation through skits, trivia, and table discussion.

Beginning February 25, the program schedule is as follows: Week 1: Jesus' Baptism and

temptations in the wilderness. Week 2: The Wedding at Cana. Week 3: The feeding of the 5,000. Week 4: The Samaritan woman at the well. Week 5: The raising of Lazarus.

Remember that each evening begins with STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 5 PM (led by a different Parish group each week) followed by an SAT-prepared soup and salad supper (homemade—yum!) about 5:30.

Easter Baskets

The Crossroads Rescue Mission in Nogales, Arizona is planning their annual FAMILY EASTER DINNER and CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT to be held on Sunday, March 29.

Your LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS committee once again, has committed to contribute 100 Easter Baskets filled with Easter grass, a small toy, and wrapped candy for their event.

Every Sunday a container will be available in the Parish Hall for your donations.

Please put Wednesday, March 25, on your calendar and join us in the Parish Hall at 10 AM to assemble the baskets as they will be delivered to Crossroads Rescue Mission that afternoon prior to their Easter Dinner on Sunday, March 29.

Finally, if shopping is not your “thing,” you can write a check to St. Francis with Easter Baskets on the memo line and we will find a bunny to shop for you. Thank you so much for your generosity.

News from SAT

Our new year is here, and the Social Activities Team has lots of things on our calendar for 2026. We hope you'll be able to join us.

If you'd like to help out with any of our activities, contact Tisha Stril at tishastril@gmail.com. Your Social Activities Team looks forward to seeing you all.

This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Tuesday, 9a	Men's Group, Conf Rm
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Cpl
Wednesday, 5p	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday, 5:30p	Lenten Soup Supper
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft
Thursday, 3:30p	Search Committee, Conference Room
Friday, 4p	Praise Singers

A Note from your Treasurer

Given that we have many ministries supporting both our church community and various outreach opportunities, I would like to clarify how cash receipts through methods other than the collection plate should be handled. It is essential to be transparent in all financial activities, accurately representing our costs and outgoing support. Example: Let's say the A/V team has a special collection at coffee hour for an additional camera for our live stream. The A/V leader purchases the camera with the cash. Some time later, I, a contributor, ask the church for proof that the collection was used for the correct purpose—not on record. Additionally, the actual cost of the camera is not reflected in our “Live Steaming” expenses—no transparency. The net is that all money collected should be forwarded to the finance office, not used for direct expenses or direct support. Upon receipt, the finance office will issue a check for the specified purpose. Additionally, if there are expenses associated with the particular activity generating the income, they can be paid either by our finance office or can be paid out of pocket, and the receipt forwarded to the finance office for reimbursement. Not only does this ensure transparency, it also documents that the contributions given

by individuals actually go for the intended purpose. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please feel free to give me a call or email. And: thank you to all involved in the many ministries that support our parish life and the many outreach opportunities. You are awesome! (*treasurer@stfrancisgvaz.org /231-290-0436*)

Prison Ministry

We are getting closer to our goal of \$4,869 for transportation costs to Camp Genesis. So far we have received \$3,782. Thank you. We are well on our way to getting the campers to Chapel Rock in Prescott. *Rena Robbins*

Loving Our Neighbors

Prayer is a good way to show love for our neighbors. Everyone can use prayers; and it is what we are called to do. During the Lenten Season, please pray for the women in Perryville Prison, the folks who use the food banks to help feed their families, the women who find shelter and safety at Sister Jose's shelter, the students at Imago Dei Middle school, the kids from Angel Tree and Camp Genesis, Crossroads Mission in Nogales and Lutheran Social Services. These are some of the groups our committee supports. We appreciate your continued support.

Forward Day by Day

Daily devotional booklets for February, March, and April 2026, are now available in the Parish Office, Narthex, and Parish Hall.

Prayer Chain

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

Centering Prayer

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

Prayer Requests

Remembering those in need of our prayers: Kelly Davis, Delilah Wegrzyn, Jean Schwafel, Jim Ravenelle, Bob Hutson, Jerry Lounsberry, Bonnie Haifley, Eva Jenkins, Isaac Garcia, Tomi Adams, Stephen North, Connie Nord, Paul Deysenroth, Elaine Deysenroth, Clark Adams, Ken Mattson, Bill Symons, Penne Williams, Gary Bates, Lee Parks. Pray for those who have died, remembering especially, Tom Moorhead.

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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Glenn Matto, *Verger*
Gerald Near, *Director of Music,*
Parish Communications
Deborah Harby, *Parish Administrator,*
Finance Officer
Megan McAllister, *Junior Finance Officer*
Gary LaBarre, *Senior Warden*
Mark Stril, *Junior Warden*
J. Michael Case, *Organist*
Sophia Witte, *Handbell Ensemble Director*