



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 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
15 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**

Robert Powell, 1932-2025

*When Jesus Wept*

**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

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

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; 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 First Book of Samuel (16:1-13).

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the pres-

ence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

**THE PSALM (23)** *Please respond after the asterisk.*

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures  
\* and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul \* and guides me  
along right pathways for his Name's  
sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me; your rod and your  
staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the  
presence of those who trouble me; \* you  
have anointed my head with oil, and my  
cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall  
follow me all the days of my life, \* and I  
will dwell in the house of the LORD for  
ever.

### **THE SECOND LESSON**

A Lesson from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (5:8-14).

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!  
Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL HYMN 676

### *Refrain*

There is a balm in Gilead,  
to make the wounded whole,  
there is a balm in Gilead,  
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged,  
and think my work's in vain,

but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. *Refrain*

2. If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus,  
and say, "He died for all." *Refrain*

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John (9:1-41).

*People Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but

we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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.

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, espe-  
cially 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**

Martin How, 1931-2022

*Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee  
more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.*

*-words: Richard of Chichester, 1197-1253*

#### **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.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare  
with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in

works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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  
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 690

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand;  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.
2. Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar

lead me all my journey through;  
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side;  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee.

## THE DISMISSAL

### ORGAN POSTLUDE

François Couperin, 1668-1733

*Fugue on the Kyrie*

## 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.

## Easter Flowers

We will be taking your requests for Easter Flowers following the service this morning. Just visit the table in the Parish Hall to place your order. (During the week Easter Flower forms are available in the Parish Office.) Flowers may be given as memorials or

thanksgivings; a \$35 donation is appreciated.

## 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.

Programs remaining in the series, as follows: 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.

## Taizé Service

Prayer in the spirit of the Taizé Community is a meditative form of common prayer. Gathered in the presence of Christ, we sing uncomplicated, repetitive songs, uncluttered by too many words, allowing the mystery of God to become tangible through this beauty of simplicity. Please join with your voices in the Chapel on Wednesday, April 1, at 6 PM.

## Easter Baskets

Join us in the Parish Hall at 10 AM on Wednesday, March 25, to help assemble Easter Baskets for distribution by the CROSSROADS RESCUE MISSION on Sunday, March 29 at their annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt. Donations of a small toy or wrapped candy are still needed.

## This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Monday, 10a	Loving Our Neighbors, Meeting Room 2
Tuesday, 9a	Men's Group, Conf Rm
Tuesday, 2p	SAT, Conference Room
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

## Prison Ministry

The goal for CAMP GENESIS Transportation has been met and was exceeded. The current total is \$6,682; this is an incredible number! The campers will now have transportation and we can provide a lunch during the trip both going and returning. Thank you is inadequate; please know that the kids, Deacon Kim, and Prison Ministry appreciates the Episcopopeople of St. Francis church so much.

## 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 young ladies of Camp Genesis by name. They are: Trinity, 15; Arryis, 12; Tatum, 10; Mireya, 9; Kenzie, 12; Esmeralda, 11; Aisling, 12; Marilyn, 11; Reagan, 14; Mia, 10; and Esmarie, 15. Thank you for your prayers.

## Prayer Chain

For Prayer Chain requests contact Jim Ratley at 253-365-5093 or, via email, [jnjrats@gmail.com](mailto:jnjrats@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](mailto: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, Linda Hutson, Jerry Lounsberry, Bonnie Haifley, Eva Jenkins, Isaac Garcia, Tomi Adams, Stephen North, Connie Nord, Paul Deysenroth, Elaine Deysenroth, Clark Adams, Ken Mattson, Gary Bates, Lee Parks, Kristopher Keski. the Salinas-Cook Household. Pray for those who have died.

## St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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