



Saint Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

Green Valley, Arizona

The Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, Rector
The Rev. Nelson Mendoza, Curate
The Rev. Becky Williamson, Deacon

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (MID-LENT) 27 MARCH 2022

ORGAN PRELUDE

Aria

Flor Peeters, 1903-86

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 537

1. Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring
with loving zeal;
the poor, and them that mourn,
the faint and overborne,
sin-sick and sorrow-worn,
whom Christ doth heal.

2. Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring
with fervent prayer;
the wayward and the lost,
by restless passions tossed,
redeemed at countless cost
from dark despair.

3. Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring
with one accord;
with us the work to share,
with us reproach to dare,
with us the cross to bear,
for Christ our Lord.

4. Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring
with joyful song;
the new-born souls, whose days,
reclaimed from error's ways,
inspired with hope and praise,
to Christ belong.

COMMISSIONING OF VESTRY MEMBERS

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People *His mercy endures for ever.*

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.*

TRISAGION *(sung by the Choir)*

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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

A Reading from the Book of Joshua (5:9-12).

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (32) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away! | 5 | Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt. |
| 2 | Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile! | 6 | I said," I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." * Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin. |
| 3 | While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long. | 7 | Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; * when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them. |
| 4 | For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; * my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer. | 8 | You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; * you surround me with shouts of deliverance. |

9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; * I will guide you with my eye.

10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; * who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; * but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; * shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

The Epistle

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (5:16-21).

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 686

1. Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

2. Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither, by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke (15:1-1, 11b-32).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So Jesus told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Nelson Mendoza

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

Deacon or other leader

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world,
we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel
to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those preparing for baptism and for their teachers and sponsors,
we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation
may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer;
for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected,
we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, we pray to you, Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

We acknowledge the native peoples of the land on which we stand:
We pay our respects to the Pascua Yaqui and Pima tribes for their care of this land.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest alone stands and says

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

THE PEACE

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

People And also with you.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

AT THE OFFERTORY

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-47

*Lord, in thy mercy grant us peace throughout all generations; Thou art alone our sword
and shield, Lord who dost guide the nations. Defend us, O God, we pray thee.*

(Martin Luther)

AT THE PRESENTATION

Priest God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation:

People and make us a living sacrifice to you,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

AT THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

Through 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.

Then the Celebrant continues

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

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

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

*Worshippers wishing to receive Communion are invited to receive the elements at
one of two standing Communion stations at the front of the church. To avoid crowd-
ing the center aisle during the distribution of the Sacrament, only one row at a time
will move forward; 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 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,
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,
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,
I will ever give to thee.

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Chaconne

Louis Couperin, ca. 1626-61

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Welcome You

A warm welcome to all and, if you are a visitor, we encourage you to make yourself known to your fellow worshippers and to our St. Francis clergy. If you would like to know more about the Parish please speak with Fr. Warren or Fr. Nelson after the service or get in touch with them via email at: *frwarren@stfrancisgvaz.org* or *nelson@stfrancisgvaz.org*. Please take the time to fill out a visitor card and hand it to an usher, greeter, or one of the clergy, or place it in the offering basket. We would love to hear from you.

New Mask Protocols

At their March 8 meeting, the Vestry voted to make the use of masks optional for all worship services and activities at St. Francis effective immediately. The Vestry continues to recommend the use of masks for anyone who is immune-compromised and for those who feel more comfortable wearing masks in public.

The use of hand sanitizer will continue to be offered, and the Vestry is asking parishioners to not crowd the pews, but limit numbers per pew to five or six people.

The new mask protocol may be updated as needed.

Relief for Ukrainian Refugees

EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT is working with The Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe, the Diocese of Europe, the Anglican Alliance and United Society Partners in the Gospel as the churches prepare to mobilize on potential immediate and long-term responses to assist Ukrainian refugees in Poland, Romania, Hungary and other parts of Europe. Donations to Episcopal Relief and Development's UKRAINE CRI-

SIS RESPONSE FUND (<https://support.episcopalrelief.org/ukraineresponse>) will help the organization and its partners continue to provide assistance to people displaced by the crisis in Ukraine.

Lenten Study with Fr. Warren

LIVING WELL THROUGH LENT 2022

Theme: Letting Go with All Your Heart,
Soul, Strength and Mind

Sessions remaining:

Week 4 – March 29: Letting Go in Love

Week 5 – April 5: Letting Go of Shoulds

Week 6 – April 12: Letting Go of Expectations

Study booklets include Daily reflections and exercises from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day. Sessions will be held Tuesdays from 11 AM until NOON in the Parish Hall beginning March 8. You can sign up for the class and pick up a booklet (one per couple, please) in the Parish Office.

This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 9a	Morning Prayer, Chapel
Tuesday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Tuesday, 11a	Lenten Study, Parish Hall
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 5p	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday, 5:30p	Lenten Supper, Parish Hall
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft

2022 Lenten Series

Our guest lecturers for the remaining 2022 Wednesday Lenten Series include Bishop Jennifer Reddall (March 30—Stations of the Cross at 5 PM), Canon Anita Braden (April 6, please note that Stations of the Cross will be prayed **in the Church** that evening, starting at **4:30 PM**), and Fr. Warren Leibovitch (April 13—no Stations of the Cross that evening).

Fr. Warren's presentation will include a Seder Meal (*see announcement below for details*). Mark your calendar so you won't miss these opportunities to enhance your Lenten observance.

Tickets—priced at \$7 per person—will be on sale after Sunday services. Look forward to some wonderful soups and even, this year, dessert! You may also sign up in the Parish Office during the week. Please note: supper by reservation only.

April 13 Seder Meal

Join us at 5 PM in the Parish Hall Wednesday, April 13, for a traditional Seder meal planned and prepared for us by Fr. Warren. Please note that the event begins promptly at 5 PM, and that Stations of the Cross will not be prayed that afternoon. As seating is limited it will be necessary to register in advance if you wish to attend; plan to sign up during Sunday coffee hour or in the Parish Office during the week. The menu will include chicken matzo soup, braised brisket, roasted potatoes, green beans and carrots, wine and grape juice, and an unleavened dessert. Donations to cover costs will be collected at the event.

Wednesday, April 6, Stations of the Cross

The St. Francis Parish Choir will be leading Stations of the Cross before the Wednesday Lenten Series presentation on April 6. The service will begin at 4:30 pm and will be held in the Church.

Easter Baskets

On Sunday, April 17, families will gather at the Crossroads Rescue Mission in Nogales for a celebratory Easter Dinner. Each child is to receive an Easter Basket filled with tradi-

tional Easter goodies donated and prepared by us here at St. Francis. We were in the middle of putting this together last year when Covid canceled it. We ended up storing the supplies collected and last week we checked and found that we have enough baskets and grass for our 100 basket donation for this year. However, we do need wrapped candy and small toys to fill them.

You will find a container in the Parish Hall marked "Crossroads Easter Basket Supplies" for your donations. Mark your Calendars—Thursday April 14 at 10 AM—and join us in the Parish Hall to fill those baskets. Please put wrapped candy and small toys on your shopping list. AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP. *Jan Hall*

New Boutique Items

Spring is in the air and Easter will soon be here! Come see the unique, beautiful items the St. Francis' Boutique is offering for your shopping pleasure. Your support is so important as all profits go right back to St. Francis for use in the Rector's Discretionary Fund. It's easy shopping during coffee hour each Sunday; your purchase is the gift that keeps on giving. Come in, take a look! *Jylene Wright*

Prayer Chain

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

Exploring the thought of C.S. Lewis

Clive Staples Lewis was arguably the greatest Christian *apologist*—as in 'one who speaks or writes in defense of someone or something'—of the twentieth century. (His books and essays are read and admired across all denominational lines in the twen-

ty-first century too.) In his writings Lewis tackled many of the teachings of the church which trouble, or at least have the tendency to puzzle, contemporary Christians; he approaches them with clarity and a genuine interest in making them not only understandable, but also a solid foundation upon which to build a lasting faith. Lewis brings to his apologetic work the same depth of understanding and deftness of thought he exhibits in his celebrated work as a scholar.

Would you be interested in joining a study/discussion group on the thought of C.S. Lewis? If so, email Gerald at gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org and he will be glad to get information to you on a proposed recurring class devoted to this great Christian thinker.

Cruzando Fronteras

Our parishioners have been most generous in their response to requests for winter needs. Although Vicks and Chapstick are no longer needed, baby diapers are always welcome. The families at La Casa de la Misericordia are most grateful. Thanks to all of you for your generosity.

Kino Border Initiative

The Initiative continues to serve a midday meal consisting of beans, rice, and a stew incorporating meat or poultry, and tortillas. Recipients must still use donated plastic containers with lids since on-site seating is not possible at this time. Please continue to put donated containers in the marked box in the Parish Hall. They are taken to the Comedor weekly by Samaritans when they assist with meal prep and distribution.

Food Bank Gifts

As you shop the oft-times empty shelves at the grocery please remember that there are

also empty shelves at our Food Bank. Let's buy extra of what is available and on sale to help our neighbors. There are baskets for your gifts as you enter the Church through the Courtyard and at the Chapel entrance.

Home Communion

St. Francis is once again offering home Communion to parishioners unable to attend church services. If you would like a Lay Eucharistic Volunteer to bring you the Sacrament, please contact Deacon Becky (480-204-0022) or via email (1beckyw@cox.net).

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed for April

Contact Gail Haight (520-490-2739) and let her know you would like to help. She will be pleased to hear from you.

Altar Flowers

Would you like the flowers on the altar to be given in thanksgiving or in remembrance of someone or something you cherish? We would like to restart this tradition here at St. Francis. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please call Carol Berg at 520-373-5770 with your request. If she is not at home, leave your name and number and she will get back to you. Flower donation is \$35.

Saturday Eucharist

Our next Saturday Eucharist will be celebrated April 9 at 4 PM in the Parish Hall.

ST. FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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