



SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Green Valley, Arizona

The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, *Rector*
The Rev. Becky Williamson, *Deacon*
The Rev. Linda Hutson, *Deacon*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

17 MARCH 2024

ORGAN PRELUDE

Michael Burkhardt, b. 1957

Preludes on Three Lenten Hymns

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.*

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 *(Hymnal S100: the People are invited to join the choir.
Trisagion is traditionally sung 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, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ 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 Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (31:31-34).

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (51:1-13) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

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|--|---|
| 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; * in your great compassion blot out my offenses. | 3 For I know my transgressions, * and my sin is ever before me. |
| 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness * and cleanse me from my sin. | 4 Against you only have I sinned * and done what is evil in your sight. |
| | 5 And so you are justified when you speak * and upright in your judgment. |

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|---|--|
| <p>6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, * a sinner from my mother's womb.</p> <p>7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, * and will make me understand wisdom secretly.</p> <p>8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; * wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.</p> <p>9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, * that the body you have broken may rejoice.</p> <p>10 Hide your face from my sins * and blot out all my iniquities.</p> | <p>11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, * and renew a right spirit within me.</p> <p>12 Cast me not away from your presence * and take not your holy Spirit from me.</p> <p>13 Give me the joy of your saving help again * and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.</p> |
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The Second Lesson

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (5:5-10).

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son,
today I have begotten you";

as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 441

1. In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.
2. When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me:
lo, it glows with peace and joy.
3. When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds new luster to the day.
4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.
5. In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John (12:20-33).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from

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

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

Deacon In this season of repentance and renewal, let us pray for the concerns of the Church and the world, saying "Lord, in your mercy, Renew us."

Lector For the whole Church of God, and for all its members:
May the Church truly become the united body of Christ, hearing and living out God's call in the world. We pray for all baptized Christians in their ministries, for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Jennifer, our Bishop, and for all clergy and other ministers. Lord, in your mercy,
Renew us.

For our nation and every nation:
May all people learn to live together in peace, respecting one another's differences and autonomy. May all leaders be ever mindful of their responsibilities to their own people and to others in the world. We pray for our President, Congress, Courts, state and local officials, and for all leaders around the world. Lord, in your mercy,
Renew us.

For this community and all communities:
May we live together in love and harmony, striving for the building up of all members, for wholeness and justice, striving until none are left behind. Lord, in your mercy,
Renew us.

For the concerns of the whole world:
May those who face natural disaster find grace and relief; may those who face conflict and war find a loving spirit; and may all of us come to treat our neighbors as ourselves so that we and all this world may truly come to be God's new creation. Lord, in your mercy,
Renew us.

For all those who are in any pain or sorrow:

May they come to know your love and care and be brought to wholeness;
for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for the poor, the persecuted,
and those in prison, for those who are lonely, homeless, or hungry; for all those
we now remember...Lord, in your mercy,

Renew us.

For all the blessings of this life:

May we truly celebrate the life we have been given and our time with one another;
for new beginnings, anniversaries, and birthdays, and for all the joys of this life;
we thank you for other thanksgivings we now offer, silently or aloud... Lord,
in your mercy,

Renew us.

For all who have died:

May those who now live in the joy of God's presence with blessed Francis and
all the saints find their rest in God's peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

Renew us.

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

We acknowledge the native peoples of the land on which we stand:

*We pay our respects to the Pasqua Yaqui and Pima tribes
for their care of this land.*

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

Leader and People

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

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

THE PEACE

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

People And also with you.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

THE OFFERTORY

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

AT THE OFFERTORY

Paul A. McKlveen

Lenten Meditation
The St. Francis Handbell Ensemble

AT THE PRESENTATION

Celebrant God our refuge and our 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

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.

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, 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, please cross your arms over your chest. Please remember to follow Usher's directions.

PRAYER FOR THE SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (TO BE SAID BY ALL)

In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.
Together Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 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

Johann Seb. Bach, 1685-1750

Fugue in E Minor (The 'Cathedral')

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.

Lenten Offerings at St. Francis in the Valley

The fifth in our series of Lenten soup and salad suppers with guest speaker presentations will be Wednesday at 5:30 PM; join us beforehand, at 5 PM in the Courtyard, for STATIONS OF THE CROSS. The presentation this Wednesday will be by DANCING IN THE STREETS, led by their Founder and Artis-

tic Director, Soleste Lupu-Rodgers. Tickets for the soup suppers are priced at \$6. ▶ Fr. Warren will be preparing and presenting a *Seder Meal* in the Parish Hall at 4:45 PM, on the Wednesday in Holy Week, March 27; donations will be gratefully received to cover costs; if you would like to attend, a sign up sheet is available in the Parish Hall after the services this morning.

Organist this morning

Sophia Witte, our Handbell Ensemble director, is at the organ this morning.

This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Tuesday, 9a	Men's Group, Conf Rm
Tuesday, 10:30a	Bible Study, Parish Hall
Tuesday, 10:30a	Green Team, Mtg Rm 2
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 5p	Stations of the Cross, Courtyard

Wednesday, 5:30p Lenten Supper,
 Parish Hall
 Thursday, 2p Parish Choir, Loft
 Next Sunday, 9a Palm Sunday Liturgy
 Next Sunday, 4p Taizé Service, Chapel

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 the beauty of simplicity. A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of prayer. They express the basic reality of faith that can quickly be grasped by the intellect, and that gradually penetrates the whole being. Please join us on Palm Sunday at 4 PM in the Chapel.

Prison Ministry

We would like to thank everyone who donated to GOFUND CAMP GENESIS. We raised \$3,388 to fund scholarships and backpacks for almost eight campers. Thank you!

We will be hosting an AROUET REENTRY SIMULATION on Saturday, April 13, from 10 AM to 12 PM in the Parish Hall. The event is free and lunch is included. A sign up sheet will be at the Prison Ministry table. If you missed the first Reentry Simulation this is your opportunity to experience what reentry is like for newly released inmates. Please consider participating in this very informative event. *Rena Robbins*

Easter Baskets

Crossroads Rescue Mission in Nogales is having their annual Easter Dinner on Sunday, March 31, and our HEARTS & HANDS COMMITTEE has agreed to contribute 100 filled

Easter Baskets for the Children's Easter Egg Hunt, and we need YOUR help to meet our goal. Look in the Parish Hall for the marked container where you can put your donations. Your shopping list includes: ▶ Easter baskets, ▶ small toys and ▶ wrapped candy. If shopping is not your thing you may write a check to St. Francis—writing *Easter Baskets* on the memo line. Then, join us on Wednesday, March 27, in the Parish Hall at 9 AM (PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE) to help us put the baskets together.

Urgent Need

We are looking for crucifers, acolytes, servers, and Altar Guild members, and the need is great and urgent. If you have experience in any of these areas of service, please consider stepping up to help. If you haven't experience but are willing to learn, we will be delighted to train you. Questions? Get in touch with Norma Pool (Altar Guild) or Fr. Warren (all the rest).

A Note from your Treasurer

FEBRUARY 2024 FINANCIAL RESULTS

Operating Income	Actual	Budget
	\$119,676	\$105,677
Operating Expenses	Actual	Budget
	\$50,069	\$51,006

YEAR TO DATE

Operating Income	Actual	Budget
	\$160,387	\$147,188
Operating Expenses	\$121,074	\$124,443

The income number for the month of February includes the 2024 allocation from the Trust of \$63,766. Thanks and Praise to the Trust for its support.

Hearts & Hands Ministries

▶ There's still time to make a dollar-for-dollar AZ tax credit contribution to support

Imago Dei Episcopal Middle School in Tucson. Simply go to www.az-esf.org/donate/ and select IMAGO DEI MIDDLE SCHOOL when making your contribution. The deadline for making and claiming a tax credit under the AZ Charitable Tax Credit for 2023 is April 15, 2024. Your support for Imago Dei Middle School is very much needed and appreciated!

► Following the great presentation by Cameron Taylor, Head of Imago Dei Middle School and Holly Hancock von Guillaume, director of Santa Theresa Tile Works at the recent Soup Supper, there will be a tour of both the school and the Tile Works on Friday, March 22. The school tour will be at 11 AM followed by lunch with the students, culminating in a visit to the nearby Tile Works. Please contact Barbara Bundy at bjbundy@verizon.net to sign up.

► Save the Date! Graduation is on Friday, May 17! More information as the date gets closer.

► THANK YOU for continuing to bring non-perishable food for our friends at the local Food Banks. And thanks to the volunteers who gather it and take it every month. We need a volunteer for September; if you can help, email Barb at behook@aol.com.

► HELP NEEDED: We are still hoping for HEARTS & HANDS liaisons to keep abreast of the needs of SISTER JOSE, a homeless woman's shelter and GENESIS HOUSE, a Green Valley shelter.

► In addition to all the above, members of HEARTS & HANDS dedicate these next weeks of Lent to reaching out to our visitors. Meet someone new. Introduce them to all that happens during the week at St. Francis.

► JOIN US: And most importantly, if you have a passion for a particular ministry bring your voice to a HEARTS & HANDS meeting the

third Monday of the month at 10 AM. If you have questions please contact any Hearts & Hands volunteer or contact Barb Hook at behook@aol.com.

Kino Border Initiative

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

Forward Day by Day

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

Prayer Chain

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

Prayer Requests

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

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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