



# Saint Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

Green Valley, Arizona

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

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO

### PALM SUNDAY

13 APRIL 2025

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#### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

#### THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Celebrant Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.  
People *Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.*

Celebrant Let us pray.  
Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.  
People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace.  
People *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN 156

1. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;  
thy humble beast pursues his road  
with palms and scattered garments  
strowed.

2. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
The angel armies of the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.

4. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
the Father on his sapphire throne  
expects his own anointed Son.

5. Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**A**lmighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (50:4-9a).

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**THE PSALM (31:9-16)** *Please respond at the half-verse*

9 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; \* my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

10 For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; \* my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \* when they see me in the street they avoid me.

12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \* I am as useless as a broken pot.

13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; \* they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. \* I have said, "You are my God.

15 My times are in your hand; \* rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \* and in your loving-kindness save me."

**The Second Lesson**

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians (2:5-11)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reader *The Word of the Lord.*

People *Thanks be to God.*

**GRADUAL HYMN 435, STANZAS 1-4**

1. At the Name of Jesus  
every knee shall bow,  
every tongue confess him  
King of glory now;  
'tis the Father's pleasure  
we should call him Lord  
who from the beginning  
was the mighty Word.

2. Humbled for a season,  
to receive a Name  
from the lips of sinners,  
unto whom he came,  
faithfully he bore it  
spotless to the last,  
brought it back victorious,  
when from death he passed;

3. bore it up triumphant,  
with its human light,  
through all ranks of creatures,  
to the central height,  
to the throne of Godhead,  
to the Father's breast;  
filled it with the glory  
of that perfect rest.

4. Name him, Christians, name him,  
with love strong as death,  
name with awe and wonder  
and with bated breath;  
he is God the Savior,  
he is Christ the Lord,  
ever to be worshiped,  
trusted, and adored.

**THE GOSPEL** (*Please stand if you are able*)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke (19:28-40).

*People Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king  
who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,  
and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

#### **GRADUAL HYMN 435, STANZAS 5-6**

5. In your hearts enthrone him;  
there let him subdue  
all that is not holy,  
all that is not true;  
crown him as your Captain  
in temptation's hour;  
let his will enfold you  
in its light and power.

6. Christians, this Lord Jesus  
shall return again,  
with his Father's glory  
o'er the earth to reign;  
for all wreaths of empire  
meet upon his brow,  
and our hearts confess him  
King of glory now.

**THE SERMON** The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch

#### **THE NICENE CREED**

**W**e 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**

### **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:** *Palm Sunday Processional*

Melchior Teschner

*The St. Francis Handbell Ensemble*

### **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 with angels and archangels we raise our voices in joyful praise 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 stand, sit, or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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**

*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 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.

**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 after the service or get in touch with him via email at: *frwarren@st-francisgvaz.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.

*Organist this morning*

Sophia Witte, director of the St. Francis Handbell Ensemble, is at the organ this morning.

*The Flowering of the Cross*

On Easter morning, we will continue the tradition of *Flowering the Cross*. The flowering of the cross represents the transition from Good Friday to Easter: from meditation on Jesus' death to joyful celebration of his Resurrection.

Please bring flowers or greens from your garden, or a store, to place on the cross in the Narthex before the Easter Day Service. We need a lot of flowers for the cross, so plan to bring several.

*Seder Meal*

Fr. Warren will be preparing and presenting a Seder Meal on Wednesday, April 16, at 4:30 PM, in the Parish Hall. Today, after the

morning service, is your last chance to register to attend the presentation, so look for the sign up table in the Parish Hall. There is no charge for the meal, but donations to cover costs will be gratefully received.

*Holy Week at St. Francis*

- Monday, 9a - 12p Quiet Prayer, Chapel
- Tuesday, 9a - 12p Quiet Prayer, Chapel
- Tuesday, 9a Men's Group, Conf Room
- Wednesday, 9a Holy Eucharist, Chapel
- Wednesday, 4:30p Seder Meal, Parish Hall
- Thursday, 6p Parish Choir, Loft
- Thursday, 7p Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Church
- Thursday, 8p The Watch, Chapel
- Friday, 12p Good Friday Liturgy, Church
- Saturday, 7p The Easter Vigil, Church
- Sunday, 9a The Sunday of the Resurrection, Festive Liturgy

*The Watch*

After the Maundy Thursday Eucharist, the Sacrament is taken in solemn procession to the ALTAR OF REPOSE, a free-standing altar in the Chapel, and a vigil is kept.

At the Altar of Repose, parishioners keep vigil in silent prayer and adoration, recalling our Lord's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane and his rebuke to his disciples: "What? Could you not watch one hour with me?" Those keeping vigil at the Altar of Repose further recall and respond to Jesus' admonition to his disciples to stay awake to pray with him until the Roman soldiers come to arrest and imprison him. The Vigil will

conclude prior to the Good Friday Service.

Deacon Becky will have a signup sheet for the Vigil starting today, Sunday, April 13; or you may contact her via email at [1beckyw@cox.net](mailto:1beckyw@cox.net) or, by 'phone, at 480-204-0022. Reading material, prayers, poetry will be provided or just sit with Jesus for one hour.

### Social Activities

It's Spring and we have some fun activities planned! On Saturday, May 17, at 3 PM, we will be having a *Ladies Tea*, and all the ladies are invited. We will be serving delicious tea sandwiches, scones, macarons and other delightful, sweet treats. And of course, we'll be serving tea, hot and cold. This will be a wonderful time to bring a friend or two to join you for the fun. And bring your favorite tea-cup.

On Friday, June 27, we'll begin our *Summer Movie Potluck Series* which will continue July 25, and August 29, and September 26. Watch *News from the Pews* for the movie titles. Good food and great movies—a fun way to spend a summer evening with friends.

For all Social Activities events, sign-ups will be in the Parish Hall after the services or in the Parish Office during the week. We look forward to having you join us and plan to bring a friend.

### National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 1, will be observed this year as the National Day of Prayer. St. Francis will be the location for gathering to pray that afternoon at 2 PM.

### Fr. Warren's Lenten Class

The final session of Fr. Warren's class *Living Well Through Lent* will be held Tuesday, April 29, at 10 AM, in the Parish Hall. The class will not meet this Tuesday, April 15.

### Boutique Easter Shopping

The triumphant Easter celebration is almost here! The volunteers in St. Francis Boutique invite you to come look in the Boutique for those special items you would like to have for the celebration and for any gifts you are thinking of giving to those special people in your life. Grab your coffee and come see! We're open every Sunday following the 9 o'clock service. *Jylene Wright*

### May/June Newsletter

Copy for the next issue (May/June) of the St. Francis Parish newsletter (The Franciscan Staff) is now due; please send your copy—via email—to [gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org](mailto:gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org) as soon as possible.

### Heart & Hands

► St. Francis in the Valley parishioners are the HEART AND HANDS of Christ in the World. The Heart and Hands committee is an assembly of people who meet monthly to share their passion and mission. For instance, Jan Hall organizes Easter Baskets for the kids associated with the Nogales Crossroads mission; Rena Robbins continues with all the activities to support the Prison Ministry; Susan Burch heads the Green Team.

► YOUTH PROJECTS: The Heart and Hands committee has chosen to concentrate efforts on projects which directly impact young people with support for Pasqua Yaqui, Camp Genesis, Angel Tree, Salvation Army Teens, Crossroads Easter Baskets, St Andrews Clinic, Food Bank, and Imago Dei Middle School.

► NEW PROJECT: In keeping with supporting youth, \$500 was donated to LITERACY CONNECTS. Rena Robbins explained that Literacy Connects is a program that introduced *Stories that Soar*, a Camp Genesis project that

encourages creativity in story, poem, play and song a popular outlet for the young campers.

▶ **IMAGO DEI MIDDLE SCHOOL:** \$50 was given to the planting project. Students from the school were on our campus to plant flowers, water trees, move rocks and spread wood chips.

▶ **MONEY** is always welcome for any of our ministries; simply write your check payable to St. Francis with the ministry name in the memo line and we'll take care of the rest. Drop your check in the Offering Basket on Sunday morning, or drop it off at the Parish Office during the week.

▶ **LEADER NEEDED:** The HEART AND HANDS committee is in need of a leader for this group of amazing mission-driven people in 2026. The qualifications include: ability to conduct a meeting; keep people on task so that meetings are relevant and short; be sure everyone has a chance to have input for their mission/project; keep minutes. Come and sit in on a meeting the third Monday of the month at 10 AM.

### Altar Flowers

If you would like to give a gift of flowers to be placed on the High Altar in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for many blessings, please get in touch with Deborah at the Parish Office (520-625-1370 or, via email, [deborah@stfrancisgvaz.org](mailto:deborah@stfrancisgvaz.org)) and let her know of your interest. Flower donation is \$35.

### Prayer Chain

For Prayer Chain requests contact Jim Ratley at 253-365-5093 or, via email, at [jnjrats@gmail.com](mailto:jnjrats@gmail.com).

### Prayer Requests

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

Remembering those who have died: Roger Williams

## St. Francis in the Valley

### Episcopal Church

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[www.stfrancisgvaz.org](http://www.stfrancisgvaz.org)

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The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Reddall, *Bishop*  
The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch,  
*Rector*

The Rev. Becky Williamson, *Deacon*

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Glenn Matto, *Verger*

J. Michael Case, *Organist*

Gerald Near, *Director of Music*

Deborah Harby, *Parish Administrator  
and Financial Officer*

Megan McAllister, *Junior Financial Officer*

Gary LaBarre, *Senior Warden*

Jim Ratley, *Junior Warden*

Matthew Harby, *Lead Sexton*

Nathaniel Martinez, *Sexton*