



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 SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY**  
29 MARCH 2026

**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.**

Deacon When Jesus and his disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee." (*Matthew 21:1-11*)

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 God 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.**

### THE PROCESSION

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

*During the procession, all hold palm branches in their hands. Please follow the Choir into the church; when all have entered, the following hymn is sung:*

### 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 SALUTATION

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

### THE COLLECT

Almighty 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** *(Please be seated)*

A Lesson 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 after the asterisk.*

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 Lesson 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

*continued*

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, as you are able*)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew (27:11-54).

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!"

Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered

the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

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, especially those standing before us today. As they begin another year, we pray that you continue to guide, protect, and shower them with your grace. May this new year be filled with love, joy, and peace, as they walk closer to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

## AT THE OFFERTORY

Philip Wilby, b. 1949

*When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the cross of Christ my God; All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood. See from his head, his hands, his feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down; Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were an offering far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all. (Isaac Watts, 1674-1748)*

## 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 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**

*Silent procession out.*

## 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.

### This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Cpl
Wednesday, 5p	Taizé Service, Chapel
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft
Thursday, 6p	The Maundy Thursday Liturgy
Thursday, 7p	The Watch
Friday, 12p	The Good Friday Liturgy
Friday, 4p	Praise Singers
Saturday, 6p	The Easter Vigil
Sunday, 9a	The Holy Eucharist

### 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 5 PM.

### Loving Our Neighbors

Thank you all who donated and helped fill 100 Easter Baskets for children at Crossroads Mission in Nogales, Az.

Collections for appropriate clothing and shoes for Sister Jose's Women's Shelter and food donations to Community Food Bank of

Southern Arizona continue. Your support is appreciated. Please continue to pray for our neighbors who need to access these organizations

### From Your Search Committee

I am very pleased to let you know that St. Francis in the Valley has moved forward in the process of searching for a new Rector. We have moved from the "Building a Portfolio" to the "Receiving Names" category on the Diocesan Transition Ministry's web page. Going forward the Diocese will begin an eight-week campaign of putting our search out there. There will be special email blasts, an announcement in the Bishop's E-PISTLE, and social media posts. Your search committee is currently in the process of crafting an ad for the Episcopal News Service's Jobs Board. So the word is getting out starting March 23, 2026.

The transition from the old Office of Transition Ministry Database to the new Vocation Hub Database system has been a bit bumpy and is not currently active for us and most other congregations searching. But it is being worked out and, in the meantime, the Diocese can accept candidates that find us through networking and other promotions.

Peace, *Tom Cadwalader* for the Search Committee

### Prayer Chain

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

### Centering Prayer

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

## «Additional Announcements»

### 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, the Salinas-Cook Household, Joyce Davison, Pat Ryan, Linda Ravenelle. Pray for those who have died, remembering especially Bob Ogus.

### Needed: Parishioners With Personnel/Human Relations Experience

The Vestry is looking for three or four parishioners to serve on the Personnel Standing Committee, established in the St. Francis bylaws. The committee meets as necessary to oversee personnel matters, and ensure compliance with St. Francis and diocesan personnel policies. If you are interested, please talk with Fr. Dan. *Lou Terry, Clerk of Vestry*

### Forward Day by Day

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

St. Francis in the Valley  
Episcopal Church

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

[www.stfrancisgvaz.org](http://www.stfrancisgvaz.org)  
[www.facebook.com/stfrancisgvaz](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisgvaz)

## Music Notes

Sometimes hearing a very familiar hymn text sung to a tune other than the one we're used to, or in a musical context unfamiliar to us, can shed new light on the meaning of the words (it doesn't always work, it should be noted). Isaac Watts (1674-1748), author of the well-known text of today's Offertory Anthem, is responsible for some of our most beloved hymns, having written such classics as 'Joy to the world,' 'O God, our help in ages past,' and today's text, 'When I survey the wondrous cross.' The tune associated with the latter hymn (Wondrous cross) is an eighteenth century melody taken from a volume called *The Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature* and serves also as the tune for the Communion Hymn 'My God, thy table now is spread,' as well as any other text set in the Long Meter format.

The setting of 'Wondrous cross,' sung this morning during the Offertory, is far-removed from the familiar, rather sugary, tune we know. The harmonic context has more in common with jazz than with late eighteenth and early nineteenth century sentiment. To say that is not to disparage the tune *Rockingham*—and there's plenty of sugar to go around in contemporary jazz—only to note that, stylistically, the two settings are worlds apart. Is it all just 'atmospherics'? Maybe. But if your attention is heightened by British composer Philip Wilby's setting of something very familiar or, even, overly-familiar, all to the good. *Gerald*