



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 THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
22 AUGUST 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPENING HYMN 390

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
 join the great throng,
 psaltery, organ, and song,
 sounding in glad adoration.
2. Praise to the Lord; over all things he gloriously reigneth:
borne as on eagle-wings, safely his saints he sustaineth.
 Hast thou not seen
 how all thou needest hath been
 granted in what he ordaineth?
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy way and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy shall ever attend thee;
 ponder anew
 what the Almighty can do,
 who with his love doth befriend thee.
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
 Let the amen
 sound from his people again;
 gladly for ever adore him.

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.*

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.*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your
Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your
Name; 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 Joshua (24:1-2a, 14-18).

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the

heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel:

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (34:15-22) *Please respond at the half-verse*

15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the
righteous, *
and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the Lord is against those
who do evil, * to root out the remem-
brance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry, and the Lord hears
them * and delivers them from all
their troubles.

18 The Lord is near to the brokenheart-
ed * and will save those whose spirits
are crushed.

19 Many are the troubles of the righ-
teous, * but the Lord will deliver him
out of them all.

20 He will keep safe all his bones; *
not one of them shall be broken.

21 Evil shall slay the wicked, *
and those who hate the righteous
will be punished.

22 The Lord ransoms the life of his
servants, * and none will be punished
who trust in him.

The Epistle

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (6:10-20)

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you

ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Reader *The Word of the Lord.*

People *Thanks be to God.*

GRADUAL HYMN 632

1. O Christ, the Word Incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky;
we praise thee for the radiance
that from the scripture's page,
a lantern to our footsteps,
shines on from age to age.

2. The Church from our dear Master
received the word divine,
and still that light is lifted
o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
that o'er life's surging sea,
mid mists and rocks and quicksands,
still guides, O Christ, to thee.

3. O make thy Church, dear Savior,
a lamp of purest gold,
to bear before the nations
thy true light as of old;
O teach thy wandering pilgrims
by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended,
they see thee face to face.

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John (6:56-69).

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascend-

ing to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The 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 (FORM IV)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for seasonable weather,
and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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.

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.

OFFERTORY HYMN 325

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. | 2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. |
| 3. Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. | |

AT THE PRESENTATION

Priest All things come of thee, O Lord,
People And of thine own have we given thee.

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 on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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 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,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People *Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]*

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, I'll sing on.

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Susan Davis and Kristi Davis Menix in loving memory of their parents Robert Bayard & Elizabeth Martha "Betty" Davis.

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 (always keeping in mind the present need for social distancing). 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@stfranciscgvaz.org or nelson@stfranciscgvaz.org. They will be very pleased to hear from you.

New Mask Protocols

At the St. Francis Vestry meeting Tuesday, August 10, it was decided that—as a temporary measure due to the increase in COVID activity and, along with Bishop Reddall's recommendations—starting today, Sunday, August 22, **masks will be required for everyone, vaccinated or not, at Sunday worship services inside the church.** The safety of our worshipers is paramount to us. Please Note: This is a temporary measure. Masks will be optional for small church groups using our meeting rooms.

Julie Reppenhagen, *Senior Warden*

Coffee Hour Outside Once Again

Starting today, Sunday, August 22, due to the increase in COVID activity, the Vestry has decided to move Coffee Hour after worship back outside for the time being. This way, we

can enjoy our visiting time outside in a safer environment.

Julie Reppenhagen, *Senior Warden*

Women of St. Francis

Don't forget that all St. Francis Women are invited to a party welcoming Annette Leibovitch (our Rector's wife) to the United States, Arizona, Green Valley, and St. Francis. Plan to join us Wednesday, August 25, at 1 PM, in the St. Francis Parish Hall for AFTERNOON TEA. Bring your favorite cookies, cupcakes or fruit sticks to share. Water, iced tea, lemonade, and coffee will be provided. We will be limited to 100 guests so please RSVP quickly to Judy Craig at mynameisjudy@yahoo.com.

Men's Group

The St. Francis Men's Group, previously meeting via ZOOM, will now meet in the Parish Hall at 9 AM on the first and third Tuesday of each month. A kick-off breakfast will be held Tuesday, September 7. Please let Scott Whiteside know if you plan to attend (scott.whiteside@gmail.com or 404-863-6815).

Kino Border Initiative

Your help is needed, and it's easy. KBI is currently preparing and serving meals for between 800 and 900 persons every day at their Comedor location. They are in need of plastic containers (clean, please, and complete with lids) for 'takeout' purposes since recipients are not served on site. Yogurt and cottage cheese containers—or any kind of durable takeout container—will do. Bring your contributions to church on Sunday and place them in the marked boxes in the Parish Hall. (In the past, several generous members of St. Francis prepared, delivered, and helped serve a morning meal once a month at KBI, a

ministry that has had to be suspended due to the Covid pandemic.) You can also make a monetary contribution: make your check payable to St. Francis with 'KBI' in the Memo line. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Border Ministry

The Border ministry at Cruzando Fronteras is doing wonderful work during the current migration crisis. Families are in need of the following toiletries (in small sizes only due to limited packing space): toothpaste, mouthwash, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, and lotion. Please help migrants out and bring these items to the Parish Hall and deposit them in the labelled containers on a table so designated. Thanks for your continued support!

Forward Day by Day

FORWARD DAY BY DAY devotional booklets for August, September and October are available in the Parish Office during the week (don't forget our Summer office hours: Monday through Thursday, 8 AM until NOON) and on Sundays you will find them in the Parish Hall—look for the WELCOME CENTER—and in the Parish Office.

Prayer Lists

It's important that we keep our prayer lists current, and you can help. If you would like to add the name of a loved one, friend or family member, to the list of names to be read in the Sunday morning liturgy—including the list of those who have died—please let one of the Clergy know and they will convey the information to Gerald for inclusion in the PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE. (And be sure to let the Clergy know of any pastoral need you have or know of; don't let the Church be always 'the last to know.')

Remember too

to let us know when we can **remove** names from the list. You may also let Gerald know directly (gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org) of names of persons you would like to include, but we encourage you to go through the Clergy.

For **PRAYER CHAIN** requests contact Jim Ratley at 253-365-5093 or, via email, at jn-jrats@gmail.com.

Outreach News

The Food Bank does not take a Summer vacation and neither does your Outreach Committee. Your donations of food are always needed and appreciated (but please continue to avoid anything packaged in glass containers). Bring them with you to church on Sunday, deposit them in the appropriate receptacles, and we will transport them to the Food Bank on your behalf.

Monday Morning Prayer

Looking for a great way to start your week? Consider joining the Monday Morning Prayer group at 9 AM on, you guessed it, Mondays. The Prayer Book service—led by some of your fellow parishioners—offers prayers for all needs, earthly and heavenly, in a quiet and reverent atmosphere. If you have questions, please direct them to Wayne North at (715) 205-8374.

St. Francis in the Valley

Episcopal Church

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