



# 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 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

1 SEPTEMBER 2024

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**ORGAN PRELUDE**

Thomas Matthews, 1915-99

*Orientis Partibus*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN 423**

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.
2. Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

## THE OPENING SENTENCE

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People *Glory to God for ever and ever.*

Together 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. 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.

## THE SALUTATION

Celebrant God be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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 Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy (4:1-2, 6-9).

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so

near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

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

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? * who may abide upon your holy hill?                                     | but he honors those who fear the LORD.   |
| 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, * who speaks the truth from his heart.                    | 5 He has sworn to do no wrong * and does not take back his word.                               |
| 3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; * he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor. | 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, * nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. |
| 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *   | 7 Whoever does these things * shall never be overthrown.                                       |

**The Second Lesson**

A Reading from the Letter of James (1:17-27).

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL HYMN 656

1. Blest are the pure in heart,  
for they shall see our God;  
the secret of the Lord is theirs,  
their soul is Christ's abode.
2. The Lord, who left the heavens  
our life and peace to bring,  
to dwell in lowliness with us,  
our pattern and our King;
3. he to the lowly soul  
will still himself impart  
and for his dwelling and his throne  
will choose the pure in heart.
4. Lord, we thy presence seek;  
may ours this blessing be;  
give us a pure and lowly heart,  
a temple fit for thee.

## THE GOSPEL *(Please stand as you are able)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark (7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23).

*People Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines."

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## THE SERMON The Rev. Tom Neyland

**THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*)

You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose over-arches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.

You are with us now.  
You are God.  
You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you.

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

*(after each petition, there will be a pause to allow people to add their own prayers)*

*Leader* I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael our presiding Bishop; Sean our presiding Bishop-Elect, Jennifer our Bishop; for this gathering and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; for the leaders and those in authority in every nation of the world; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for wisdom, justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

I ask your prayers for those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended. Pray for our enemies and those whom we have harmed.

I ask your prayers for this good earth, that we respect God's creation and work to preserve and protect its bountiful resources. Pray for our earnest care of creation.

I invite you to add your own petitions.

I invite your own thanksgivings.

*Leader* We gratefully acknowledge the Native Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather:

*People* We pay our respects to the Pascua Yaqui and Tohono O'odham (thaw-naw awe-thumb), as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home here today.

*Celebrant* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, in Trinity of Persons and singleness of Divinity, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins to God.

*Together* God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.

### **ABSOLUTION**

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

### **THE PEACE**

*Celebrant* The peace of God be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts. (Psalm 96:8)*

## OFFERTORY HYMN 343

1. Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless  
thy chosen pilgrim flock  
with manna in the wilderness,  
with water from the rock.

2. We would not live by bread alone,  
but by thy word of grace,  
in strength of which we travel on  
to our abiding-place.

3. Be known to us in breaking bread,  
and do not then depart;  
Savior, abide with us, and spread  
thy table in our heart.

4. Lord, sup with us in love divine  
thy Body and thy Blood,  
that living bread, that heavenly wine,  
be our immortal food.

## 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. **AMEN.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (from *Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 2*)

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 We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,  
source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being:

sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;

and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels

in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,

lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

*Together* 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.

Celebrant Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.  
To deliver us from the power of sin and death  
and to reveal the riches of your grace,  
you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,  
that she might conceive and bear a son,  
Jesus the holy child of God.  
Living among us, Jesus loved us.  
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,  
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.  
He yearned to draw all the world to himself  
yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.  
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross  
the sacrifice of his life,  
and to be glorified by you.  
On the night before he died for us,  
Jesus was at table with his friends.  
He took bread, gave thanks to you,  
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:  
“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”  
As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
Again, he gave thanks to you,  
gave it to them, and said:  
“Drink this, all of you:  
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,  
which is poured out for you and for all  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me.”  
Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,  
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,  
who was and is and is to come,  
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,  
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.  
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts  
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.  
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth  
and make us your new creation,  
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.



In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints,  
from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
to you be honor, glory, and praise,  
for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant	As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,	
	Our Father in heaven,	as we forgive those who sin against us.
	hallowed be your Name,	Save us from the time of trial,
	your kingdom come,	and deliver us from evil.
	your will be done	For the kingdom, the power,
	on earth as in heaven.	and the glory are yours,
	Give us today our daily bread.	now and for ever. Amen.
	Forgive us our sins	

#### **AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.*

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.  
People *We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.*  
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 God of abundance, you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another;

*continued*

you have made us one with all your people  
in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

### CLOSING HYMN 344

1. Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, thy love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace:  
O refresh us, O refresh us  
traveling through this wilderness.

2. Thanks we give and adoration  
for thy Gospel's joyful sound:  
may the fruits of thy salvation

in our hearts and lives abound:  
ever faithful, ever faithful  
to thy truth may we be found;

3. so that when thy love shall call us,  
Savior, from the world away,  
fear of death shall not appall us,  
glad thy summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever  
reign with thee in endless day.

## THE DISMISSAL

### ORGAN POSTLUDE

Michael Burkhardt, b. 1957

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

## 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 ([frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org](mailto:frwarren@stfranciscgvaz.org)). Please take a moment 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.

## Today

Our Celebrant this morning is The Rev. Judith Turberg, and our preacher is The Rev. Tom Neyland.

## Parish Offices Closed

Our Parish Offices will be closed Monday,

September 2, in recognition of the Labor Day national holiday.

## Social Activities Upcoming Events

The Social Activities Team (SAT) is planning some really special activities for September and October.

► Are your taste buds ready for some homemade ice cream and your eyes and heart ready for a virtual pilgrimage to the land of the Holy One? Then join us on Saturday, September 7, from 3-5 PM in the Parish Hall. Susan Davis has offered to provide two flavors of her homemade ice cream: orange-lemon and chocolate, and The Rev. Judy Turberg will provide a virtual tour with photos, commentary, and memorabilia from the six pilgrimages she has made to the Holy Land.

► On Friday, September 27, at 5 PM, our last 2024 Movie Potluck, Gerald will be pre-

senting our Musical Movie. So bring your potluck and share Gerald's love of music—and a great movie: One of the greatest of all, he says.

► On Friday, October 11, at 4 PM, we'll be having our Welcome Back BBQ to kick off the Fall. There will be hamburgers and hot-dogs and all the fixings. Plan to come sit in our Courtyard and spend the afternoon with friends old and new. Tickets will be available for \$15 during the September Sunday sign-ups.

If you'd like to help out with any of our activities, contact Tisha Stril at [tishastril@gmail.com](mailto:tishastril@gmail.com) or Julie Reppenhagen at [jrepp@snet.net](mailto:jrepp@snet.net). SAT looks forward to seeing you all.

### This Week at St. Francis

Monday, All Day	Parish Office Closed
Tuesday, 9a	Men's Group, Conf Rm
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Thursday, 11a	Stewardship Cmte, Stephen Ministry Room
Saturday, 3p	Travelog & Ice Cream Social, Parish Hall

### Voices and Bells

Rehearsals for the Fall choir season begin Thursday, September 26, at 2 PM in the Choir Loft. We are always eager to welcome new members and new members are always needed in all sections of the Choir. If you would like to become a member, email the Choirmaster ([gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org](mailto:gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org)); he will be delighted to hear from you.

The St. Francis Handbell Ensemble will begin rehearsals Monday, September 23. We need a few more people to ring with us. If you would like to learn to play handbells, please join our ensemble.

Basic music reading skills are helpful, such

as knowing how to "count" the various types of notes and being able to discern whether a note is a line or space note on the musical staff. If you are interested, please contact Handbell Director Sophia Witte at 520-509-5037 or [smw\\_witte@yahoo.com](mailto:smw_witte@yahoo.com).

### Book Sale—Your Help Needed

You can help by donating books from your home library to be sold to our congregation and the public at \$1 per pound. Yes, we are inviting the public to our church to purchase books this year. The revenue from the sales will support our many ministries and expenses.

We need your donated books now so we can plan for set-up and staffing. Volunteers are needed as follows: Thursday, October 3, 2:30 PM - 4 PM for set-up; Friday, October 4, 8 AM to 1 PM, Saturday, October 5, NOON to 4 PM, and Sunday, October 6, 11 AM to 4 PM for sales and closing. If you can help, contact: Joyce Kaminski at [joykamin@hotmail.com](mailto:joykamin@hotmail.com)

### Green Team Meeting

SEPTEMBER 11, 10:30 AM, MEETING ROOM 2

All are welcome! Newcomers, snowbirds, curious participants, and members. The Green Team is learning practical and tangible ways to model how to love and serve this earth. This last year the focus was paper reduction, recycling and caring for the 12 new trees on campus. Your help and input is important. Questions? Contact Susan Burch [sburch33@gmail.com](mailto:sburch33@gmail.com) or let's meet. I'll buy you a cup of coffee

### Festival of Trees

Planning for the 2024 Festival of Trees December 6, 7, and 8, hosted by St. Francis is well under way. And what an exciting event it

is going to be. Dozens of Christmas trees decorated by community organizations and businesses will be on display—out front, in the courtyard, the Parish Hall, along the back walkway, and inside the church itself—for everyone in the community to enjoy.

Why is this such an important event for St. Francis? Simply put, it is a way of living into our mission of being Christ's heart and hands in the world. Our mission not only urges us to go out into the world, but it also urges us to bring the world to us. And what better way than a family-focused event celebrating the magic and miracle of Christmas and inviting the community to join us. It also offers so many opportunities for parishioners to work together, much as the Tour of Homes did. Tommy and Craig Reid are coordinating the Festival so if you want to help, or want more information about how you can be help, give Tommy a call at (520) 288-9393 or email her at [ctreid83@gmail.com](mailto:ctreid83@gmail.com).

### Heart & Hands Ministries

► **THE ANIMAL LEAGUE OF GREEN VALLEY:** The Heart and Hands ministry's special project for September is the Animal League of Green Valley. It is a way to honor cats and dogs in memory of St. Francis' reverence for all life. The Animal League is a private, donation-funded, volunteer, non-profit organization. Their mission is to provide compassionate care, shelter, training, adoption opportunities, and emotional support for needy and homeless dogs and cats in the Green Valley area. Because the League is donation-funded, our donations will be greatly appreciated. They also need volunteers to help care for the animals. The league welcomes visitors in their Attic consignment store. Envelopes will be in pews during Sep-

tember. Directions for donations are at the end of the Heart and Hands articles. Please contact Sue Girardeau with any questions: 520-648-7962 or [suegirardeau@gmail.com](mailto:suegirardeau@gmail.com)

► **FOOD BANKS:** Non-perishable items such as canned goods (no glass jars, please), pastas, rice, beans and cereal are requested. You can deposit your donations in the boxes outside the Parish Hall, one at the front door and another at the south door near the Chapel. Your offerings will be blessed on the first Sunday of each month.

### Forward Day by Day

Daily devotion booklets for August, September, and October 2024 are now available in the Parish Hall and Parish Office.

### 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: Henry 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, Bob Hutson, Haley Hutson, Stephen North, Will, Carolyn, Jerry Lounsberry, Mike Kuebler, Sue, Bonnie Haifley, MaryBeth Bates, Bobbi Tucker.

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