



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 FEAST OF FRANCIS OF ASSISI (TRANSFERRED)

1 OCTOBER 2023

ORGAN PRELUDE

George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

Pastorale

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 400, stz 1-4 (*words attributed to Francis of Assisi*)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voices, let us sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Bright burning sun with golden beams,
pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | 3. Swift flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for your Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Fire, so intense and fiercely bright,
you give to us both warmth and light,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |
| 2. Great rushing winds and breezes soft,
you clouds that ride the heavens aloft,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice,
stars nightly shining, find a voice,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | 4. Dear mother earth, you day by day
unfold your blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluia!
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,
let them his glory also show:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |

THE OPENING SENTENCE

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

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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO (*Glory to God in the highest*)

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

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the
vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for
love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus
Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever
and ever. **Amen.**

THE EPISTLE (*Please be seated.*)

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians (6:14-18).

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the
world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor
uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything!

As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon
the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the
marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with
your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

THE PSALM (121) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; * from
where is my help to come? | 5 The LORD himself watches over you;
* the LORD is your shade at your right
hand, |
| 2 My help comes from the LORD, * the
maker of heaven and earth. | 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by
day, * nor the moon by night. |
| 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not
fall asleep. | 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all
evil; * it is he who shall keep you safe. |
| 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over
Israel * shall neither slumber nor
sleep; | 8 The LORD shall watch over your going
out and your coming in, * from this
time forth for evermore. |

GRADUAL HYMN 593 *(words attributed to Francis of Assisi)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Lord, make us servants of your peace:
where there is hate, may we sow love;
where there is hurt, may we forgive;
where there is strife, may we make one. | nor look to understanding hearts,
but look for hearts to understand. |
| 2. Where all is doubt, may we sow faith;
where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
where all is night, may we sow light;
where all is tears, may we sow joy. | 4. May we not look for love's return,
but seek to love unselfishly,
for in our giving we receive,
and in forgiving are forgiven. |
| 3. Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek
to be consoled, but to console, | 5. Dying, we live, and are reborn
through death's dark night to endless day:
Lord, make us servants of your peace,
to wake at last in heaven's light. |

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew (11:25-30).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Very Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch

THE NICENE CREED

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Form VI) *The people may stand, sit, or kneel*

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Jennifer our Bishop; and
for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in
your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

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

We acknowledge the native peoples of the land on which we stand:
*We pay our respects to the Pasqua Yaqui and Pima tribes
for their care of this land.*

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

Leader and People

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

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

THE PEACE

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

People And also with you.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

THE OFFERTORY

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

OFFERTORY HYMN 279 (sung to the tune 'Franconia')

1. For thy dear saints, O Lord,
who strove in thee to live,
who followed thee, obeyed, adored,
our grateful hymn receive.
2. They all in life and death,
with thee their Lord in view,
learned from thy Holy Spirit's breath
to suffer and to do.
3. Thine earthly members fit
to join thy saints above,
in one communion ever knit,
one fellowship of love.
4. Jesus, thy Name we bless,
and humbly pray that we
may follow them in holiness,
who lived and died for thee.

AT THE PRESENTATION

Priest Almighty God, accept all we offer you this day,
and give us generous hearts to serve you in
all who claim our help.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
People *Amen.*

AT THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B)

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 every-
where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of
heaven and earth.

Because you are greatly glorified in the assembly of your
saints. All your creatures praise you, and your faithful
servants bless you, confessing before the rulers of this world
the great Name of your only Son.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and
Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever
sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people may stand, sit, or kneel.

(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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Francis and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Together Our Father, who art in heaven...
...for ever and ever. Amen.

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The elements are offered at the Communion Rail and may be received either kneeling or standing. Wine is received by intinction only. If you would like to receive a blessing only, please cross your arms over your chest. Please remember to follow Usher's directions.

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

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

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 400, STZ 5-7

5. All you with mercy in your heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing now: Alleluia!

All you that pain and sorrow bear,
praise God, and cast on him your care:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6. And even you, most gentle death,
waiting to hush our final breath,
O praise him, Alleluia!
You lead back home the child of God,
for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7. Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Charles Callahan, b. 1951

Celebration

Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226

Francis, the son of a prosperous merchant of Assisi, was born in 1182. His early youth was spent in harmless revelry and fruitless attempts to win military glory.

Various encounters with beggars and lepers pricked the young man's conscience, and he decided to embrace a life devoted to Lady Poverty. Despite his father's intense opposition, Francis totally renounced all material values, and devoted himself to serve the poor. In 1210 Pope Innocent the Third confirmed the simple Rule for the Order of Friars Minor, a name Francis chose to emphasize his desire to be numbered among the "least" of God's servants.

The order grew rapidly all over Europe. But by 1221 Francis had lost control of it, since

his ideal of strict and absolute poverty, both for the individual friars and for the order as a whole, was found to be too difficult to maintain. His last years were spent in much suffering of body and spirit, but his unconquerable joy never failed.

Not long before his death, during a retreat on Mount La Verna, Francis received, on September 14, Holy Cross Day, the marks of the Lord's wounds, the stigmata, in his own hands and feet and side. Pope Gregory the Ninth, a former patron of the Franciscans, canonized Francis in 1228, and began the erection of the great basilica in Assisi where Francis is buried.

Of all the saints, Francis is the most popular and admired, but probably the least imitat-

ed; few have attained to his total identification with the poverty and suffering of Christ. Francis left few writings; but, of these, his spirit of joyous faith comes through most truly in the "Canticle of the Sun," which he composed at Clare's convent of St. Damian's. The Hymnal version begins:

Most High, omnipotent, good Lord,
To thee be ceaseless praise outpoured,
And blessing without measure.
Let creatures all give thanks to thee
And serve in great humility.

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Church Pension Fund.

We Welcome You

A WARM WELCOME to all and, if you are a visitor, we encourage you to make yourself known to your fellow worshippers and to our St. Francis clergy. If you would like to know more about the Parish, please speak with Fr. Warren or get in touch with him via email at frwarren@stfrancisgvaz.org. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card and hand it to an usher or one of the clergy, or place it in the offering basket. We would love to hear from you.

This Week at St. Francis

Tuesday, 9a	Men's Group, Conf Rm
Tuesday, 10:30a	Bible Study, Parish Hall
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 11:15a	Biography of Francis of Assisi, The Rev. Judy Turberg, presenter, Parish Hall
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft

Today

Today we celebrate and honor the life of Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of our Parish. The prayers and proper readings this

morning are those for the Feast of St. Francis, observed on October 4. According to The Book of Common Prayer "The feast of the Dedication of a Church, and the feast of its patron...may be observed on, or be transferred to, a Sunday, except in the seasons of Advent, Lent, and Easter." (BCP 16)

You are cordially invited to return at 1 PM for the Annual Blessing of Animals (all animals are welcome; those too large to be brought into the church for a blessing will be accommodated in the Courtyard.) and, if you have ashes of a beloved pet you would like to inter in the Pet Ossuary, bring them at 2 PM for a beautiful interment ceremony at the Ossuary. All festivities in honor of St. Francis are open to the public: your friends and neighbors are welcome to join us.

St. Francis Month

All of October will be devoted to a celebration and study of the life and values of St. Francis. Each Sunday sermon will take on one spiritual dimension of these values: for example the *spirituality of Gratitude, creation care, compassion, peace and justice*. During the week, on Wednesdays, at 11:15 AM, we have scheduled time in the Parish Hall for a follow-up discussion. (This week we will hear a presentation by The Rev. Judith Turberg on the life of Clare of Assisi.) Discussions will be followed by fellowship, and we invite you to bring a brown-bag lunch. Don't miss these opportunities to learn more about the life of our Patron Saint, Francis of Assisi.

Parish Choir rehearsals

Parish Choir rehearsals are again being held on Thursdays at 2 PM in the Choir Loft. Choirmaster Gerald is eager to welcome all members, old and new. If you would like to

become part of this great ministry (as old as the Parish), let Gerald know via email (*gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org*) or 520-625-1370.

Boutique Open

The TALENTS UNLIMITED BOUTIQUE is open again, following the 9 o'clock service. There are many new Fall items to help you decorate for the upcoming holidays: unique jewelry from Santa Fe; handcrafted crosses, and new St. Francis of Assisi statuary. And, we continue to offer beautiful Hummel figurines at affordable prices. Shopping is so easy—grab your coffee and come see! Volunteer managers of the Boutique are Wendy Hill, Jylene Wright, Annette Leibovitch, and Laura Thomas. *Jylene*

Prison Ministry

KINO at the border is starting to serve food in to-go containers again. We suspended collection of containers but now we need to resume the collection. Please bring containers to the church. We need yogurt or cottage cheese tubs and generally sturdy containers that can be carried containing hot food. Please, no pastry containers. Thank you on behalf of Border Ministry for your support!

Rena Robbins

Welcome Back BBQ!

Grab your cowboy hats and pull on those boots—it's time for the annual Welcome Back BBQ. Mosey-on down to the church Friday, October 13 (yes, Friday the 13th) around 4 PM and join in the fun. SHOULD A COWBOY BEEN A COWBOY is the theme this year, so dress and act accordingly (but only if you want to). The Welcome Back BBQ is always a great evening, so don't miss it. Tickets are on sale at the Social Activities table in the Parish Hall at the astonishingly low price of \$15!

From the Parish Treasurer

Thank you to those who attended the "Time with the Treasurer" meeting on September 19. Unfortunately, many parishioners were unable to attend; your concerns, questions, and suggestions regarding the fiscal health of St. Francis are of value to me, as your Treasurer, and to our Parish. Hopefully those attending found value in the data that was shared and possibly are in a more well-informed position to respond to our need to eliminate our operational deficit. I am personally grateful for your suggestions and our discussions, as new ideas are always of value.

On a closing note: a very personal comment shared during this meeting was so very "heartwarming" and "affirming" of what spreading the word of Jesus is all about... that I think I'm safe in saying...was very motivating to us all. *Gloria Cadwalader*

Hearts & Hands Ministries

► VALLEY ASSISTANCE: VA helps folks in need by providing bar soap, laundry and dish washing detergent, ammonia (or glass cleaner), toilet paper, tampons, sanitary pads (regular or medium, or overnight-style with wings). You can help by purchasing some of these items, bringing them to church and depositing them in the labeled, purple container in the Sexton's closet (Southwest corner of the Parish Hall).

► LOCAL FOOD BANKS: We continue to collect non-perishable items for our local Food Banks. Monetary donations are welcome too, simply write your check payable to St. Francis with *Green Valley Food Bank* 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.

▶ VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to deliver these gifts to the Food Bank on Continental any time during the week. If you are willing to take one month starting this month, September, please pick your month and email *behook@aol.com*.

▶ DON'T FORGET: the Sahuarita Food Bank collects cardboard (cereal box style too). The receptacle is located next to Good Shepherd Church on La Cañada.

Music Notes & Asides

The words of our OPENING HYMN this morning (*All creatures of our God and King*) are a translation of a poem, *Canticle of the Sun*, known to be written by (or dictated by) Francis of Assisi. Another, and perhaps somewhat more literal, translation of *Canticle of the Sun*, is the hymn 'Most High, omnipotent, good Lord' (number 406 in the Hymnal 1982). The *Canticle* has seen many musical settings, including one by my first composition teacher, Leo Sowerby. Sowerby's setting won the Pulitzer Prize for music in 1946.

Our GRADUAL HYMN is a metrical version by James Quinn of a famous prayer attributed to St. Francis and known as (you guessed it) 'The Prayer of St. Francis.' The Book of Common Prayer is quite specific in identifying the prayer as 'attributed to' Francis (see BCP, page 833).

The tune (DICKINSON COLLEGE) to which Quinn's translation is set, is by American composer Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. Bristol served as President of Westminster Choir College from 1962 to 1969 and as a member of the Joint Commission on Church Music of the Episcopal Church. He was the grandson of the founder of the Bristol-Meyers pharmaceutical company and served as the firm's director of public relations. *Gerald*

Forward Day by Day

Daily devotional booklets for August, September, and October 2023, are now available in the Parish Office and Parish Hall.

Prayer Chain

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

Prayer Requests

Remembering those in need of our prayers: Paul Witte, Henry Witte, Dick Kosnick, Clyde Tardy, Bob Vint, Sr., Kelly Davis, Ben Shiriak, Eileen Fanning, Sandra Findley, Shirley Underwood, Amanda, Frank Brown, Debi Murray, Delilah Wegrzyn, Tom Moorhead, Edgar, Miguel, Elaine & Paul Deysenroth, Lance Parker Eaves, Bobbi Tucker, Johnny, Mike, Susan Bedus, Sue Girardeau Anne Charter.

Remembering those who have died: Pray for those who have died

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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