



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 TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

29 OCTOBER 2023

ORGAN PRELUDE

Girolamo Frescobaldi, 1583-1643

Ricercare

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 376

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
blooming meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

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.

THE SALUTATION

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*
Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity;
and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command;
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 Leviticus (19:1-2, 15-18).

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be
holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer
to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a
slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor:
I am the LORD.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor,
or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against
any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People *Thanks be to God*

THE PSALM (1)

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, * nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, * and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; * everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; * they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, * nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, * but the way of the wicked is doomed.

THE EPISTLE

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (2:1-8).

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 593

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.

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.

3. Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek
to be consoled, but to console,

nor look to understanding hearts,
but look for hearts to understand.

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.

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 (22:34-46).

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

"The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet"?"

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Rev. Tom Neyland

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 Fa-

ther. 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)*

AT THE OFFERTORY

The Canticle of the Sun

setting by Gerald Near

Most High, omnipotent, good Lord, to thee be ceaseless praise outpoured, and blessing without measure. From thee alone all creatures came; no one is worthy thee to name. My

Lord be praised by brother sun who through the skies his course doth run, and shines in brilliant splendor: with brightness he doth fill the day, and signifies thy boundless sway. My Lord be praised by sister moon and all the stars, that with her soon will point the glittering heavens. Let wind and air and cloud and calm and weathers all, repeat the psalm. By mother earth my Lord be praised; governed by thee she hath upraised what for our life is needful. Sustained by thee, through every hour, she brings forth fruit, and herb, and flower. For death our sister, praised be, from whom no one alive can flee. Woe to the unprepared! But blest be they who do thy will and follow thy commandments still. 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.

Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226

Tr. Howard Chandler Robbins, 1876-1952, alt.

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 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 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...
hallowed be thy Name,
...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 594

1. God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient Church's story;
bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise:
grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore.

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Richard Purvis, 1913-94

St. Francis Suite: 'Ascription'

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@stfranciscgvaz.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.

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 be discussing *the Spirituality of Peace and Justice*.) 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.

This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Tuesday, 10:30a	Bible Study, Parish Hall
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 11:15a	Sermon follow-up discussion, Parish Hall
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft

Border Ministry

We are in need of clean sturdy food containers that can be used for HOT food (please, no flimsy lightweight pastry containers). Also, prescription bottles are no longer being collected, as they are not allowed at KBI (KINO BORDER INITIATIVE). We thank all who have

volunteered to lend a hand with Border Ministry. *Rena Robbins*

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. Singers are needed in all sections of the group. 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.

The Boutique Open, and offering Anglican Rosaries

After receiving several requests from parishioners for Anglican Rosaries, the Boutique is now offering them, as well as an instruction book, *The Anglican Rosary* by Jenny Lynn Estes. The rosaries are beautiful and reasonably priced; bring your coffee and come see following the 9 o'clock service!

Jylene Wright

Prison Ministry

Christmas cards for the women at Perryville will be available for signing beginning on November 5, and continuing throughout November during coffee hour. Please stop by the PRISON MINISTRY table this Sunday to sign up and get your ticket for the showing of the documentary *Confined to a Canvas* on Wednesday, November 15, at 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall. This documentary features artist Julio Miramontes, a former inmate at Arizona State Prison Complex, Yuma. St. Francis church is specifically mentioned in the documentary and it was partially filmed during our *Straight From Heart Art Show*. Julio painted the large black and white painting we had at the art show. Thank you for your support of Prison Ministry. Please remem-

ber to save the date, November 15, 10:30 AM, Parish Hall. *Rena Robbins*

Solo Journeyers

The Solo Group will again be getting together for a potluck lunch at 11:45 AM, on Sunday, November 5, at the home of Joyce Davison, 685 S. La Posada Circle, #703. Please bring a dish to share. Sign up in the Parish Hall today and Sundays, October 22 and 29. Contact Kristi Thompson (520-207-0465) for more information.

Green Team

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Please join us for the next Green Team meeting Tuesday, November 7, 10:30 AM. Your input is welcome and we're hoping to see some "snowbirds" joining us.

TIP: Trees control climate by moderating the effect of the sun, rain and wind. Leaves absorb and filter the sun's radiant energy, keeping things cooler. Tucson Electric Power has a program where customers can receive up to two trees for \$5 each. *Susan Burchsburch33@gmail.com*

Your gently-read books needed

The St. Francis LIBRARY COMMITTEE will be hosting a massive book sale—not just of religious books, but ALL KINDS OF BOOKS—in February 2024. So why publicize this now? Because we need all the books in your home that you've already read (or given up on) and need/want to get rid of and would like to donate for our sale! The money generated from the sale will be used to support our digital catalog and buy new books for the library. Please bring your gently-read books to the St. Francis library between October and December 2023, leaving them in the corner to the left of the Library door.

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, 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 on the south side of the Food Bank building, on La Cañada.

Monthly Financial Update

September:	Actual	Budget
Operating Income	\$30,273	\$32,162
Operating Expenses	\$45,008	\$54,943
Year to Date:		
Operating Income	\$360,260	\$320,406
Operating Expenses	\$483,352	\$484,935

Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, November 6, 2023, 10:30 am in Meeting Room 2.

Forward Day by Day

Daily devotional booklets for November, December, and January (2024), 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

A Gift of Flowers

If you would like to give a gift of flowers to be placed on the High Altar in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for many blessings, please call Carol Berg at 520-373-5770 and let her know of your interest. If she is not at home, just leave a message with your name and phone number and she will return your call. Flower donation is \$35.

Prayer Requests

Remembering those in need of our prayers: Paul Witte, Henry Witte, Dick Kosnick, Bob Vint, Sr., Kelly Davis, Ben Shiriak, Eileen Fanning, Sandra Findley, Shirley Underwood, Amanda, Frank Brown, Debi Murry, Delilah Wegrzyn, Tom Moorhead, Edgar, Miguel, Elaine & Paul Deysenroth, Anne Charter, Linda Greenwald.

Remembering those who have died: Lance Parker Eaves, Michael Gregory

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

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