



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 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
31 OCTOBER 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

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 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

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer
you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to
obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy (6:1-9).

Moses said: Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children’s children, may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (119:1-8) *Please respond at the half-verse*

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|--|---|
| 1 Happy are they whose way is blameless, * who walk in the law of the Lord! | 6 Then I should not be put to shame, * when I regard all your commandments. |
| 2 Happy are they who observe his decrees * and seek him with all their hearts! | 7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, * when I have learned your righteous judgments. |
| 3 Who never do any wrong, * but always walk in his ways. | 8 I will keep your statutes; * do not utterly forsake me. |
| 4 You laid down your commandments, * that we should fully keep them. | |
| 5 Oh, that my ways were made so direct * that I might keep your statutes! | |

The Epistle

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (9:11-14).

When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who

through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 551

1. Rise up, ye saints of God!
Have done with lesser things,
give heart and soul and mind and strength
to serve the King of kings.

2. Rise up, ye saints of God!
His kingdom tarries long:
Lord, bring the day of truth and love
and end the night of wrong.

3. Lift high the cross of Christ!
Tread where his feet have trod;
and quickened by the Spirit's power,
rise up, ye saints of God!

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark (12:28-34).

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

One of the scribes came near and heard the Saducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself' —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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 I) *The People may stand, sit, or kneel*

Deacon or other leader

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Jennifer Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of Francis and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

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.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

STEWARDSHIP MEDITATION *Joyce Davison*

AT THE OFFERTORY

Johann Seb. Bach, 1685-1750

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, Holy wisdom, Love most bright, Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light. Word of God our flesh that fashioned with the fire of life impassioned. Striving still to Truth unknown, soaring, dying round thy throne.

words trans. from the German by Robert Bridges, 1844-1930

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 . . .
. . . 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. Take them in remembrance
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.
Together Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 326

1. From glory to glory advancing, we praise thee, O Lord;
thy Name with the Father and Spirit be ever adored.
From strength unto strength we go forward on Zion's highway,
to appear before God in the city of infinite day.
2. Thanksgiving, and glory and worship, and blessing and love,
one heart and one song have the saints upon earth and above.
O Lord, evermore to thy servants thy presence be nigh;
ever fit us by service on earth for thy service on high.

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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. 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@stfrancisgvaz.org or nelson@stfrancisgvaz.org. They will be very pleased to hear from you.

This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 9a	Morning Prayer, Chapel
Tuesday, 9a	Men's Group, Parish Hall
Tuesday, 10a	Handbells, Loft
Tuesday, 12p	Stephen Ministry, Vulliamy Room
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 10a	Rooted In Love, Parish Hall
Thursday, 2p	Parish Choir, Loft

Beginning Next Sunday

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

The access to COVID 19 boosters is adding an extra layer of safety allowing us to relax some of the protocols currently in place during Sunday worship.

- Beginning Sunday, November 7,
- all pews will be open for seating,
 - the main (East) door into the Narthex will be open to welcome worshippers,
 - worshippers wishing to receive Communion will be invited to receive the elements at one of two standing Communion stations at the front of the church,

·Communion wafers will no longer be in plastic baggies, and

·Communion wine will be available by intinction only for those wishing to receive wine.

To avoid crowding the aisle during the distribution of the Sacrament, only one row at a time will move forward *please remember to follow Usher's directions*; masks will still be required in large groups such as worship services for the time being.

These changes are a step forward to the full removal of COVID 19 protocols. However, we will continue to keep an eye on COVID variants and are prepared to bring back restrictions if the need arises in order to protect those who have underlying health conditions.

Rooted in Love: The Episcopal Way

You are invited to join us for a six-week course to explore how to grow your spirituality and faith! Although our classes will be taught by Episcopal clergy all who are interested in learning about the Christian faith through an episcopal lens are welcome to attend. And you are welcome to select or drop classes as you schedule allows.

Please register online at bit.ly/StFrancis-Rooted (note that this link is 'case sensitive'—that is, it's important to observe upper and lower case letters when typing).

Classes will be held in the St. Francis Parish Hall at 10 AM on Wednesdays beginning October 27, and running through Wednesday, December 1. For more information contact Fr. Nelson—nelson@stfrancisgvaz.org or 520-625-1370.

Saturday Afternoon Eucharist

On November 20, at 4 PM, we will have our first monthly Saturday Communion service.

We are planning a relaxed, contemporary Eucharist held in the Parish Hall and lasting about 45 minutes, with music and liturgy projected on a screen.

It is our hope that the monthly service will eventually expand to twice a month, and perhaps in the future be a weekly service. We see this service as an outreach to families around Green Valley and Sahuarita who may find a Saturday service easier to attend than on Sunday morning, and to parishioners who have been asking for a service that is different than a Sunday morning.

I am looking for people who play a variety of musical instruments. So far we have one guitarist and a pianist.

A table will also be set up in the Parish Hall for coloring or crafts for any children who may attend. In December, I hope to add a simple meal after the service, such as soup and salad.

Please share this news with friends and family in the area. This is a new and exciting addition and outreach for our church!

Fr. Warren

New Advent Study

Led by Fr. Warren

Join Fr. Warren for an Advent study to include daily reflections and practices throughout the four weeks of Advent, similar to the Lenten series.

The theme of the study is PRACTICING PATIENCE WITH ALL YOUR HEART, SOUL, STRENGTH, AND MIND.

Week One, November 30: Practicing Awareness of Our Impatience

Week Two, December 7: Practicing Patience with Ourselves

Week Three, December 14: Practicing Patience with Others

Week Four, December 21: Practicing Patience with God.

Plan to join Fr. Warren at 10 AM in the Parish Hall for every session; he will be delighted to see you.

Home Communion

St. Francis is once again offering home Communion to parishioners unable to attend church services. If you would like a Lay Eucharistic Volunteer to bring you the Sacrament, please contact Deacon Becky (480-204-0022) or via email (1beckyw@cox.net).

You're Invited

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 25, at 1 PM

This year we will not be asking you to buy turkeys or bring potluck dishes for the annual Thanksgiving dinner; we will take care of it all for you! But we are asking for \$\$\$ donations to cover costs, and we do need you to reserve your place at the table. Just sign-up during coffee hour on Sunday mornings or stop in at the Parish Office during the week and let us know you're coming. You may also call in your reservation: 520-625-1370. (Be sure to indicate how many of you there will be; we don't want to run out of food.)

The menu will be traditional, with turkey (of course), ham, mashed white and sweet potatoes (gravy too), carrots, string beans, cranberry sauce, rolls and butter. And don't forget pie: a choice this year of apple or pumpkin.

We will be limited to 100 seats, bearing in mind our 50 per cent capacity protocols. And don't forget that we are open to the community – no one should eat alone on Thanksgiving Day, so bring a guest.

Handbell Ensemble

Our Handbell Ensemble is now rehearsing in the Choir Loft on Tuesdays at 10 AM and new members are welcome. Just contact Sophia Witte by text at 520-509-5037 or email at smw_witte@yahoo.com.

Cruzando Fronteras

Cruzando needs chap stick, small jars of Vicks, and white socks for children and adults. Look for the collection spot in the Parish Hall.

Prayer Quilts

Prayer Quilts are made by the Daughters of the King as part of their prayer mission. They are stored in the Vulliamy Room closet with donated fabric and batting. We also have loving members of the congregation who like to quilt and share their talents, hearts and hands for us to give to those in need of prayer. If you would like to request a prayer quilt for someone you know who could use prayers for any reason, or you would like to make a quilt, add strings or attach a label, just ask any Daughter for information or contact Sharon Thornby at 520-399-9042. Thank you and God Bless. *Sharon*

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed for November

The Parish provides everything for Sunday Coffee Hour, but needs your help to arrange cookies on plates, setting out cups and juice and coffee carafes. Serving cookies and pouring juice and coffee is a great way to get to know your fellow parishioners.

I want to thank all of you who have graciously helped in the past and I hope you will continue to do so in the future. We have a very friendly church and Coffee Hour is just

one of the ways we connect with each other.

Thank you for thinking about helping out.
Gail Haight, 520-490-2739

Library/Resource Center

The St. Francis Library/Resource Center is now open. Visit the book cart in the Courtyard today, browse, make a selection and check it out.

Roof Replacement Update

As discussed at the recent Town Hall, the cost to replace our roofs is over \$74,000. (*At this writing the total stands at \$9,875.*) We invite all parishioners who would like to donate towards this important need, to write a check with the memo "Roof Repair Fund." All donations are greatly appreciated!

Don't Forget Outreach

The Food Bank does not take time off and neither does your Outreach Committee. Your donations of food are always needed and appreciated, *especially protein foods, such as tuna, peanut butter, canned meats, etc.* (No glass containers, please). 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.

Volunteers Needed

Two Telecare volunteers are needed. If you can help, contact Deacon Becky at 480-204-0022 or via email at 1beckyw@cox.net.

Prayer Chain

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