



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 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

30 JULY 2023

ORGAN PRELUDE

Johann Pachelbel, 1653-1706

Partition on 'Christ, thou art my life'

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 427

1. When morning gilds the skies,
my heart, awaking, cries,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
When evening shadows fall,
this rings my curfew call,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
2. When mirth for music longs,
this is my song of songs:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
God's holy house of prayer
hath none that can compare
with: Jesus Christ be praised!
3. No lovelier antiphon
in all high heaven is known
than, Jesus Christ be praised!
There to the eternal Word
the eternal psalm is heard:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
4. Ye nations of mankind,
in this your concord find:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let all the earth around
ring joyous with the sound:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
5. Sing, suns and stars of space,
sing, ye that see his face,
sing, Jesus Christ be praised!
God's whole creation o'er,
both now and evermore
shall Jesus Christ be praised!

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.

People *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

○ God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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 First Book of Kings (3:5-12).

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so nu-

merous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (119:129-136) *Please respond after the asterisk.*

129 Your decrees are wonderful; * therefore I obey them with all my heart.

130 When your word goes forth it gives light; * it gives understanding to the simple.

131 I open my mouth and pant; * I long for your commandments.

132 Turn to me in mercy, * as you always do to those who love your Name.

133 Steady my footsteps in your word; * let no iniquity have dominion over me.

134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, * and I will keep your commandments.

135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant * and teach me your statutes.

136 My eyes shed streams of tears, * because people do not keep your law.

The Epistle

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (8:26-39).

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him

also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader *The Word of the Lord.*

People *Thanks be to God.*

GRADUAL HYMN 530

1. Spread, O spread, thou mighty word,
spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound
all may heed the joyful sound;

2. word of how the Father's will
made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave,
earth from sin and death to save;

3. word of how the Savior's love
earth's sore burden doth remove;
how forever, in its need,
through his death the world is freed;

4. word of how the Spirit came
bringing peace in Jesus' name;
how his never-failing love
guides us on to heaven above.

5. Word of life, most pure and strong,
word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night
all the world awakes to light.

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew (13:31-33, 44-52).

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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 488

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be;
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

3. High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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.

For you are the source of light and life,
you made us in your image, and called us to new life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 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.

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;

continued

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 439

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to lay aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul. | 2. To God and to the Lamb,
I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb
who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme I will sing. |
| 3. And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free
I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on. | |

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault, 1676-1749

Caprice sur les Grands Jeux

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.

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are given by Julie Reppenhagen to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband Charlie.

Organist this morning

Sophia Witte is at the organ this morning.

Solo Journeymen

Solo Journeymen—mark your calendars! The Solo Group will again be getting together for brunch on Sunday, August 6, at 11 AM, at The Grill at Quail Creek. (There will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall today.) Remember: everyone is responsible for payment of their meal. Come and join us for a fun time of conversation and camaraderie.

Kristi Thompson (520-207-0465)

Green Team Tip; Water Harvesting

It's monsoon season and an opportunity to collect rooftop runoff water. Rainwater can be harvested into rain barrels, cistern systems, or containers found in your kitchen and garage, or by directing water onto plants. Maybe, like me, your grandparents collected rainwater in barrels, covered them and used the water for weeks and months to come. Water harvesting is a practical and ancient practice of caring for God's creation. Happy Monsoon and Happy Harvesting!

Susan Burch

This Week at St. Francis

Monday, 2p	SAT, Conference Room
Wednesday, 9a	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
Wednesday, 10:15a	Bible Study, Parish Hall

Hearts & Hands Ministries

BOOKS FOR CLASSROOMS: B for C needs your Buttons! The Tohono O'odham schools are collecting buttons to help the children learn math. Please bring any buttons you have that are 1/4" inch and larger to the library table and Librarian Joyce will take them to the Books for Classrooms Headquarters. This

is a STEM project (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) recently added to the book program in progress.

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. For August the Green Valley Food Bank is requesting canned meats, Spam, hash, chili beans, rice, pasta and pasta sauce (no glass containers, please). 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.

▶ 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.

Border Ministry

There is something new at the Prison Ministry table! We have bookmarks available for sale. The bookmarks are watercolor art created by an inmate at Perryville Women's Prison. The cost of the bookmarks is a donation. The money raised will be for Camp Genesis at Chapel Rock. Next June the campers will be divided into two age groups. The older campers will have a special trip that will need extra funding. Please support the

campers with your generous donations and more importantly your ongoing prayers for a great group of kids. THANK YOU!

Rena Robbins

It pays to advertise

We are accepting donations toward the purchase of two new Episcopal Church Street Signs. For more than a half century, THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU street sign has been used as a highly visible community invitation to our churches. Local signage is a valuable strategy for churches to maintain visibility and a distinct brand identity for continued growth and development.

A table/poster providing examples and an opportunity to 'Vote on the Color Scheme' (Red or Blue) will be available in the Parish Hall today and next Sunday (August 13) explaining this project in more detail. Junior Warden, Jim Ratley (253-365-5093), will also be happy to provide more information; just ask!. The signs are priced at \$400 each (\$800 total). We already have one Generous Donor who has offered \$400. No amount is too small or too big. If you would like to make a donation, please make your check out to ST. FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY with 'Signs' noted in the MEMO line. Thanks for your consideration. *Jim Ratley*

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.

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, Kathy Ravine, Dick Kosnick, Clyde Tardy, Bob Vint, Sr., Kelly Davis, Ben Shiriak, Eileen Fanning, Shirley Underwood, Amanda, Frank Brown, Debi Murry, Delilah Wegrzyn, Bill Peissig, Tom Moorhead, Edgar, Miguel, Elaine & Paul Deysenroth, Lance Parker Eaves, Craig Reid, Lopes Family.

Remembering those who have died: pray for the departed.

St. Francis in the Valley
Episcopal Church

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