



SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Green Valley, Arizona

The Rev. Canon Colville Smythe, Interim Rector

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

22 December 2019

Rite Two, at 8 and 10 AM

ORGAN PRELUDE Jeanne Demessieux, 1921-68
Rorate caeli

OPENING HYMN 56, STZ 1-4
O come, O come, Emmanuel

THE LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Leader: The Savior of the World draws near.

People: **Come, let us adore him.**

Leader: The Lord is our faith and life.

People: **May his love shine in our hearts.**

The fourth candle of Advent is lighted

Together: **O God, you gave Mary faith to say 'Yes' to you in the face of her doubt, and you gave Joseph faith to trust you when the world did not. Strengthen our faith in this holy season, we pray, that we may find you intimately 'God with us' and ultimately God who saves us. Amen**

OPENING SENTENCES Prayer Book 355

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. **Amen.**

TRISAGION Hymnal S100

Celebrant: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One.

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

In our First Reading we hear that the prophet Isaiah insists that King Ahaz of Judah will receive a sign from God, whether he wants it or not, the sign of a young woman bearing a son to be called Emmanuel. A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (7:10-16).

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM (80:1-7, 16-18)

(Please respond following the asterisk.)

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, * how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE SECOND READING

In our Second Reading Paul greets the new disciples in Rome and summarizes the gospel message.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (1:1-7).

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with

power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 54

Savior of the nations, come!

The Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Rev. Canon Colville Smythe

Please stand as you are able

THE NICENE CREED Prayer Book 358

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

Lector: As our season of Advent preparation draws to a close, continue your work in our hearts, our homes, and our parish community, that we may be made ready for the new light dawning in the holy child Jesus:

People: **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.**

Lector: You have made the blessed Virgin Mary to be an ensign among the peoples, and Jo-

seph to be a true staff, that you might bring forth for us a Sign, even our Emmanuel:

People: **Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Lector: Labor in the hearts of our children and mark them with your grace, that in the wonder and mystery of this season they may be bound to you and made wholly yours all the days of their lives:

People: **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.**

Lector: We ask your Spirit to be a comfort and healing power to those who are sick, (*the people may offer their petitions*), and for all in sorrow, anxiety, or any kind of trouble:

People: **The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.**

Lector: Remember children in need and poverty, and rise up for them, interceding especially for the poor within our reach. Through your daily visitation stir our conscience and show us how to make a difference for the least of these our brothers and sisters:

People: **Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Lector: As we make ready for the Prince of Peace, fit us to be peacemakers in our time, striving in all ways for a more tranquil world:

People: **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.**

Lector: Be with all the clergy in our diocese as they prepare for the holy days to come, that your sacraments may be celebrated with joy, and your word preached with vigor:

People: **Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Lector: We acknowledge the native peoples of the land on which we stand:

People: **We pay our respects to the Pascua Yaqui and Pima tribes for their care of this land.**

Lector: Show tenderness to the lonely and downcast, and grant them comfort. Tend the sick, bind up the frail, receive the dying, and make us mindful of your everlasting embrace:

People: **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(The People may stand or kneel.)*

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, 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.

People: **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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY

Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting light, O Jesu, Savior of us all, regard thy servants when they call. Thou, grieving at the bitter cry of all creation doomed to die, didst come to save a ruined race with healing gifts of heavenly grace. Thou camest, bridegroom of the bride, as drew the world to eveningtide, proceeding from a virgin shrine, the Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

At thy great name, majestic now, all knees must bend, all hearts must bow, and things in heaven and earth shall own, that thou art Lord and King alone. To thee, O holy One, we pray, our judge in that tremendous day, preserves us, while we dwell below, from every onslaught of the foe. All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent sets thy people free, whom with the father we adore, and Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

Mode IV melody,

arr. John Scott, 1956–2015

7th c. Office Hymn, *tr.* John Mason Neale

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

All things come of thee, O Lord,
and of thine own have we given thee.

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: Bountiful God...

...as we join the unending hymn.

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 or kneel.)*

Celebrant: Living God...

...in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: Fearless God...

...Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Prayer Book 364

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

On Receiving Communion: *Our Communion Table is open to all baptized Christians. You may stand or kneel at the rail to receive the Sacrament. (If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please let one of the clergy know.) If you do not wish to receive Communion you are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. Members of the Daughters of the King will be at the Chapel rail at both services to administer prayers for healing and thanksgiving. Please go to the Chapel rail after your Communion.*

PRAYER FOR THE SENDING FORTH OF

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS (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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us Pray.

People: **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 56, STZ 5-8

O come, thou Key of David, come

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE

J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

Sleepers, awake!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

22 DECEMBER 2019

TODAY

DECEMBER 22 – ADVENT IV

8:00a Holy Eucharist

9:00a Coffee Hour

10:00a Holy Eucharist

11:00a Coffee Hour

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:30a Morning Prayer – Chapel

9:00a Fr. Colville's Advent Class
– Conference Room

**Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve**

4:30p A MUSICAL OFFERING

5:00p HOLY EUCHARIST

8:30p A MUSICAL OFFERING

9:00p HOLY EUCHARIST

**Wednesday, December 25
Christmas Day**

9:00a HOLY EUCHARIST – CHAPEL

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

10:15a Centering Prayer – Chapel, Conf Rm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:00a Bulletins – Library

1:00p DOK Training – St. Francis Room

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

No Parish events scheduled

NEXT SUNDAY

DECEMBER 29 – CHRISTMAS I

8:00a Holy Eucharist

9:00a Coffee Hour

10:00a Holy Eucharist

11:00a Coffee Hour

THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

•**MORNING PRAYER – PLEASE NOTE:** For the month of December (only) Morning Prayer will be prayed on Mondays at 8:30 AM – rather than 9 AM – in order to accommodate those who would like to attend Fr. Colville’s 9 o’clock class on the Book of Ruth. As always the service will be held in the Chapel. It’s a wonderful way to begin your day in prayer with others.

•**‘RUTH’ CLASS CONTINUES** – The Advent class on Ruth continues for one more session: Monday, December 23. In these sessions we are looking at the carrying power of the loyalty modeled by Naomi and Ruth. We are moving to understand what it means for later biblical writers, and for later history into our own time. RUTH meets Monday morning at 9 AM in the Conference Room.

•**NEWS FROM THE BOUTIQUE** – If you are stressed with having to drive to Tucson to find that special Christmas gift, stop in at the St. Francis Boutique where the shopping is easy. We’re open after each Sunday service and on Wednesdays from 10-2 PM. All Christmas items are now 20% off and it’s a win/win deal because, not only are you finding that perfect, unique gift, you are helping the needy in the Green Valley community (all profits go to the Rector’s Discretionary Fund). Razieh Barbari, a member of our refugee family, has made beautiful Christmas aprons with matching potholders, not only in adult sizes but for that special grandchild who likes to cook. Reasonable prices and knowing that you are helping the needy in Green Valley—a perfect place for you to shop! Come see!

•**SOLO JOURNEYERS** – Clear the decks for Tuesday, December 31, from 3 to 6 PM, for an early New Years Eve gathering at the home of Kristi Thompson (120 W. Paseo Canastra 520-207-0465). Brink a snack to share; wine will be provided.

•**LAST CALL FOR CONFIRMATION!** – On Sunday, January 5, new members of St. Francis Church

will participate in a Confirmation service at the Church of the Apostles in Oro Valley. The five people who have already told me they wish to join the Episcopal Church are: Gary & Anita Jacobs, Don & Jan Meisner, and Mike Kuebler. They are coming to us as adults already formed in other denominations: one Lutheran and four Roman Catholic. So Bishop Reddall will receive these new members as already prepared for life and ministry here, rather than re-confirming them. We do not expect the bishop to visit St. Francis for reception or confirmation until some time in 2021, so if you or someone you know wishes to be received or confirmed, please let me know right away so they may be included in this service. *Father Colville*

•**SEEKING TELLERS** – We have a wonderful set of volunteers who help us with the Sunday collection every Monday morning! Wouldn’t you like to be one of them? We have some new openings on our teller teams and are seeking a few volunteers who can assist one or two hours every other month. You would be picking up cash from the Sacristy and counting and preparing cash receipts. Interested? Have some questions? Finance Officer Deborah will be happy to visit with you.

•**EXPLORE YOUR ARIZONA TAX CREDIT OPTIONS** – We are so fortunate in the state of Arizona to be able to direct our own tax dollars to schools, groups and charities that we care about deeply. You all know that you are able to use your Arizona Tax credit option as a gift to Imago Dei, our partner school. You may not know that you can also direct your tax dollars to our Sahuarita and Continental schools. You are not limited to one choice for your tax dollar. You have many additional gift options. For instance, you are able to use your tax liability as a gift to help support other charities currently under the wing of St. Francis and dear to the hearts of many Franciscans like Youth on Their Own, The Food Bank, Sal-

vation Army, Valley Assistance, Friends In Deed, Hands of a Friend to name a few. All these charities are supported by you through your work with the Tour of Homes and through your support of Outreach projects. Why not consider designating your Arizona tax liability as gifts to one or more of these charities. When you donate you can claim a dollar for dollar reduction in your Arizona state income taxes. For more information call or email Barb Hook (520-648-7949 or behook@aol.com).

•**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** – It's coming up Sunday, January 19, 2020, at 11 AM.

If you are responsible for producing a report to be included in the Annual Report Booklet, please create your copy as a Word file document and send it to the Parish Administrator via email (gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org); alternatively your report may be typed into the body of an email. Please do not format your copy.

•**HANDBELLS ANYONE?** – We will be starting a handbell ensemble at St. Francis. Rehearsals will be once a week beginning in January and will take place in the Choir Loft, day and time to be determined. A background in music is helpful, but not necessary. Any questions, call Sophia Witte at 520-509-5037, or e-mail her at smw_witte@yahoo.com.

•**SEEKERS DISCUSSION GROUP** – The Group will not meet for the rest of December. See the December Parish Newsletter for details of the next project. **PLEASE NOTE: ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2020, SEEKERS WILL MEET AT NOON. THIS TIME CHANGE APPLIES ONLY TO JANUARY 2.**

•**LATEST CRUZANDO FRONTERAS NEEDS** – Toilet paper, soaps, shampoo, jeans (size 28-36), bed sheets, towels, sweatshirts, diapers (sizes 2 & 3), warm jackets, sneakers, undergarments (all sizes), socks, backpacks, coloring books (child & adult), crayons/pens/coloring pencils/notebooks for ESL class, peanut butter/jelly, snacks/snack bars, rice/

beans (pinto), cereals, oatmeal, and blankets.

As always, funds are also a priority need. If you can provide monetary assistance, donate through the Cruzando Fronteras webpage at fronteras.azdiocese.org, or drop a check made out to St. Francis with "Cruzando Fronteras" in the memo line in the offering plate or at the Parish Office.

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

•**HOME COMMUNION** – If you or someone you know would like to have a home visit or the Sacrament brought to you at home, please let Deacon Becky Williamson know by calling her at 480-204-0022 (or via email at 1beckyw@cox.net). We are happy to bring the Sacrament to those who are ill or to anyone unable to attend services.

•**DO YOU WANT TO ATTEND A PARISH EVENT AND NEED TRANSPORTATION?** – Our Men's Group will provide the ride. Just call the Parish Office, 625-1370, to confirm the date and time.

PRAYER REQUESTS

•**THE DIOCESE OF ARIZONA** – St. Anthony on the Desert, Scottsdale

•**ST. FRANCIS MINISTRIES** – Social Activities Team

•**PRAY FOR THOSE SUFFERING IN MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT:** Jackie Springer, Jim Toombs, Peter Murphy, Jan Travis, Kathi Grier, Julie Ratley, Nathan Reddall, Libby Moore, Bonnie Selcho, Joyce Kaminski

•**FOR ALL THOSE SERVING IN HARM'S WAY:** Mike Davis, Matthew Day, Issac Noone, Chase Helgeson, Jackson Vaughn

•**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:** Keith Workman

Our mission is to live as Christ's heart and hands in the world.

PARTICIPANTS AT 8 O'CLOCK

Preacher: The Rev. Canon Colville Smythe
Celebrant: The Rev. Canon Colville Smythe
Deacon: The Rev. Becky Williamson
Lector: Wayne North
Prayers of the People: Harry Lyons
Acolyte: Wayne North
Ushers: Ken Adams,
Nancy Helgath
Greeters: Marie LeRoy,
Bob Swendrzynski
Organist: Michael Case
Sound Technician: Marie LeRoy

PARTICIPANTS AT 10 O'CLOCK

Preacher: The Rev. Canon Colville Smythe
Celebrant: The Rev. Canon Colville Smythe
Deacon: The Rev. Becky Williamson
Lector: Wayne North
Prayers of the People: Larry Howell
Crucifer: Judy Craig
Acolyte: Bud Tripp
Ushers: Mark & Sandy Eckstein
Greeters: Chris Arundell, Larry Bear,
Louise Hursh
Organist: Michael Case
Sound Technician: Craig Jones

We extend a warm welcome to our guests and visitors and we are delighted to have you worship with us. Our Communion Table is open to all baptized Christians. Please join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall after the service, and please complete the Visitor's Card found in the pew racks and place it in an Offering Basket or hand it to an Usher or Greeter after the service.

**SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

600 South La Cañada Drive,
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www.facebook.com/stfrancisgvaz

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Anne Reddall, *Bishop*
The Rev. Canon Colville Smythe, *Interim Rector*

The Rev. Becky Williamson, *Deacon*

Gerald Near, *Parish Administrator*

Deborah Harby

Financial Officer

Beth-el Klein, *Administrative Assistant*

J. Michael Case, *Organist*

John Colip, *Head Sexton*

Sue Whitney, Henry Ramirez,

Clyde Tardy

Sextons

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday

8 AM – 2 PM

THE VESTRY

Wayne North, Senior Warden; Julie Reppenhagen, Junior Warden;
Mary Beth Bates, David Dunn, Sandy Eckstein, Larry Howell, Orji Isiogu,
Jenica Hisko, Sandy Russell, Helen Mullaly, Cheryl Tardy-Albin;
ex officio: Bobbi Tucker, Clerk; Erik Ringjob, Treasurer.