



SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Green Valley, Arizona

The Rev. Canon Colville Smythe, Interim Rector

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

29 December 2019

Rite Two, at 8 and 10 AM

ORGAN PRELUDE Wilbur Held, 1914-2015

Six Carol Settings for Organ

OPENING HYMN 100

Got to the world! the Lord is come

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.**

at 8 o'clock

TRISAGION

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

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

at 10 o'clock

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO Hymnal S280

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 the Prophet joyfully responds on behalf of all God's people to the Lord's promise for a redeemed Jerusalem. A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (61:10—62:3).

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of sal-
vation,

he has covered me with the robe of righteous-
ness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to

spring up,

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and
praise

to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,

and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,

until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,

and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name

that the mouth of the LORD will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of
the LORD,

and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM (147:13-21)

(Please respond following the asterisk.)

- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your
gates; * he has blessed your children within
you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING

In our Second Reading Paul explains what the role of the law has been and how, in our new relationship of faith, we have become children and heirs of the Father. A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians (3:23-25; 4:4-7).

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent

the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 115

What child is this, who, laid to rest

The Gospel: John 1:1-18

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and

truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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: We will greatly rejoice in the Lord, our whole being shall exult in God, for Christ is born and we are clothed with the garments of salvation!

People: **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

Lector: God has shown us steadfast love and mercy and the free gift of redemption, sending to the world Jesus born of Mary:

People: **Through the Word, all things came into being.**

Lector: God sent the Son, born of a woman that we might be accounted among God's children, sisters and brothers one with another, rejoicing in our salvation and in the new community of the Church:

People: **What has come into being was life, and the light of all people.**

Lector: Make us, like Joseph, to hear your voice in the night watch so that we also might journey for Christ in our day, making the pilgrimage to which we have been summoned:

People: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

Lector: Be a comfort to those in difficulty this holy season: to the solitary and isolated, to those in grief or mourning, to the fearful, and to those who are sick or infirm, remembering especially those for whom our prayers are now offered (*the people may offer their petitions*). Pour upon them the new light of the incarnate Word:

People: **To all who received Christ was given power to become children of God.**

Lector: Continue to fill our children with a sense of Christmas joy and mystery, marking them as people of the incarnation, and fitting them for glory:

People: **The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**

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: Stir us to rejoice in deed and word, that this light kindled in our hearts may shine forth in all our ways, making this parish a beacon of hope, a font of goodness, and a wellspring of wisdom, to the honor of your Name:

People: **We have seen God's glory, full of grace and truth.**

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

AT THE OFFERTORY Michael Burkhardt, b. 1943
Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

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: Steadfast God...

...as we join their 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: God of mercy...

...in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Celebrant: God of all consolation...

...Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Prayer Book 364

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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 EUCHARISTIC 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 109

The first Nowell the angel did say

THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE Norman Dello Joio,
1913-2008

Giga (Good Christian Men Rejoice!)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

29 DECEMBER 2019

TODAY

DECEMBER 29 – CHRISTMAS I

8:00a Holy Eucharist
9:00a Coffee Hour
10:00a Holy Eucharist
11:00a Coffee Hour

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:00a Morning Prayer – Chapel

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

3:00p Solo Journeymen
(see announcement below)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

9:00a Holy Eucharist – Chapel

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

10:00a Women's Group – St. Francis Room
10:15a Centering Prayer – Chapel, Conf Rm
12:00p Seekers Discussion – (Note time change)
2:00p Parish Choir – Loft

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

8:00a Bulletins – Library
1:00p DOK Training – St. Francis Room

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

No Parish events scheduled

NEXT SUNDAY

JANUARY 5 – THE EPIPHANY

8:00a Holy Eucharist
9:00a Coffee Hour
10:00a Holy Eucharist
11:00a Coffee Hour

THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

•**MORNING PRAYER** – Join us Mondays at 9 AM for morning Prayer. As always the service is held in the Chapel. It's a wonderful way to begin your day in prayer with others.

•**SOLO JOURNEYMEN** – Clear the decks for Tuesday, December 31, from 3 to 6 PM, for an early New Year's Eve gathering at the home of Kristi Thompson, 120 W. Paseo Canasta, 520-207-0465. Bring a snack to share; wine will be provided.

•**LAST CALL FOR CONFIRMATION!** – Next 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.

• **OFFERING ENVELOPES** – If you have asked for weekly offering Envelopes, they are here and available in the Parish Office. Stop in and pick yours up.

• **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** – 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 ijnrats@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.

•**LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** – We are always in need of new LEMs. Come and participate as a Lay Eucharistic Minister in this time-honored tradition, or if you or a loved one would like to request a visit, please contact Deacon Becky Williamson at 480-204-0022 or, via email, at 1beckyw@cox.net. If you would like to train to become a part of this important ministry Becky would be happy to train you and add you to our active visitor list.

•**ALTAR FLOWERS** – Would you like to sponsor altar flowers on a certain Sunday? Flowers can be given in loving memory of someone or in thanksgiving for persons or for a special date and occasion you wish to celebrate. Call the Parish Office (625-1370) or Carol Berg (373-5770) with your request. Donations are \$35.

•**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION** – We are fortunate to have professional individual Spiritual Direction available to us at St. Francis. For an appointment please call Charlotte Neyland at 720-289-2750.

•**LARGE PRINT MUSIC SHEETS** – For the sake of our visually-impaired worshippers we always provide hymn selections in a large print format. If your visual acuity is such that you are able to use the Hymnal, please allow us to reserve the large-print hymn sheets for those in the congregation who really need them.

•**NEED TRANSPORTATION TO A PARISH EVENT?** – 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. Barnabas on the Desert, Scottsdale

•**ST. FRANCIS MINISTRIES** – The Interim Rector

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

•**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, Harry Russell, Kathi Grier, Juan Navarete-Harrelson

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.

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: Vince Remillard
Prayers of the People: Darlene Gregory
Acolyte: Norma Pool
Ushers: Ken Adams,
Nancy Helgath
Greeters: Craig & Tommi Reid
Organist: Sophia Witte
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: Leslie Bindschadler
Prayers of the People: Bobbi Tucker
Crucifer: David Dunn
Acolyte: Glenn Matto
Ushers: Fred & Kathleen Keller
Greeters: Virginia & Don Scott,
Sue Moody
Organist: Sophia Witte
Sound Technician: Craig Jones

SAINT FRANCIS IN THE VALLEY
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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.