



THE CELEBRATION AND BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE OF
Eva Noemi Suarez & Robert Jason Bredvad

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021
ST. JAMES' CHURCH • NEW YORK CITY

IN TODAY'S SERVICE

PREACHER	The Rev. Brenda G. Husson
CLERGY	The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor, the Rev. James H.B. Morton III, the Rev. Zachary R. Thompson
WEDDING PARTY	Salonee Bhaman, Mohamed Sadek, Isabel Suarez, Ella Wagner
READERS	Rafael D. Suarez, Kimberly Vinton, Chris Veillon
MUSICIANS	St. James' Compostela & Canterbury Choirs Dr. E. Davis Wortman II, Loraine Enlow, Stephen Tharp

With special thanks to Grace Beacham, Richard Brown, Rosa Gentile, Bob and Mimi Stinson, and Dr. Davis Wortman II, and all those who helped make this day so meaningful; and with love and gratitude for our families—both given and chosen.

Cover: Manet, Édouard, 1832-1883. Flowers in a Crystal Vase, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48074> [retrieved September 22, 2021]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Edouard_Manet_011.jpg.
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GATHERING

PRELUDE

Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness
Hymn Improvisation

J.S. Bach
Stephen Tharp

AT THE PROCESSION

Overture (Music for the Royal Fireworks) HWV 351

Georg F. Handel

THE EXHORTATION

Celebrant Dearly beloved: We have come together in the presence of God to witness and bless the joining together of this man and this woman in Holy Matrimony. The bond and covenant of marriage was established by God in creation, and our Lord Jesus Christ adorned this manner of life by his presence and first miracle at a wedding in Cana of Galilee. It signifies to us the mystery of the union between Christ and his Church, and Holy Scripture commends it to be honored among all people.

The union of two people in heart, body, and mind is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will, for the procreation of children and their nurture in the knowledge and love of the Lord. Therefore marriage is not to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, deliberately, and in accordance with the purposes for which it was instituted by God.

Into this holy union Eva Noemi Suarez and Robert Jason Bredvad now come to be joined. If any of you can show just cause why they may not lawfully be married, speak now; or else for ever hold your peace.

The Celebrant says to the persons to be married

I require and charge you both, here in the presence of God, that if either of you know any reason why you may not be united in marriage lawfully, and in accordance with God's Word, you do now confess it.

THE DECLARATION OF CONSENT

Celebrant Eva, will you have this man to be your husband; to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

I will.

Celebrant Robert, will you have this woman to be your wife; to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

I will.

Celebrant Will all of you witnessing these promises do all in your power to uphold these two persons in their marriage?

People **We will.**

OPENING HYMN *standing, sung by all*

Hymn 400 All creatures of our God and King (verses 1, 2, 7)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

THE WORD OF GOD

THE COLLECT FOR MARRIAGE

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O gracious and everliving God, you have created us male and female in your image: Look mercifully upon this man and this woman who come to you seeking your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep the promises and vows they make; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

The people sit.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 4 Sing to the LORD, you servants of his;
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.
- 5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye,
his favor for a lifetime.
- 6 Weeping may spend the night,
but joy comes in the morning.
- 7 While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
- 12 You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.
- 13 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

THE SECOND READING *read by Kimberly Vinton*

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *standing, sung by all*

Choir Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.

People



Plainsong, Tone VI

Choir My heart is firmly fixed, O God; my heart is fixed.

I will sing and make melody. (Psalm 108:1)

People ***Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.***

To honor the teachings of Jesus, the people stand and turn to face the Gospel.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 12:22-34

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the

oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.’

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

The Rev. Brenda G. Husson

HYMN BEFORE THE VOWS *standing, sung by all*

Hymn 516 Come down, O Love divine

DOWN AMPNEY

The people sit.

THE MARRIAGE

THE VOWS *seated*

Robert takes Eva's hand in his and says

In the Name of God, I, Robert, take you, Eva, to be my wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until we are parted by death. This is my solemn vow.

Eva takes Roberts's hand in hers and says

In the Name of God, I, Eva, take you, Robert, to be my husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until we are parted by death. This is my solemn vow.

THE EXCHANGE OF RINGS

Celebrant Bless, O Lord, these rings to be signs of the vows by which this man and this woman have bound themselves to each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The couple exchanges rings, saying

I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, and with all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The Celebrant joins their hands and says

Now that Eva and Robert have given themselves to each other by solemn vows, with the joining of hands and the giving and receiving of rings, I pronounce that they are husband and wife, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

People **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS *standing, led by Chris Veillon*

Leader Let us pray.
Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, author of salvation, and giver of all grace:
Look with favor upon the world you have made, and for which your Son gave his life, and
especially upon this man and this woman whom you make one flesh in Holy Matrimony.

People **Amen.**

Give them wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their common life, that each may
be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a
companion in joy.

People **Amen.**

Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit,
that they may grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their life.

People **Amen.**

Give them grace, when they hurt each other, to recognize and acknowledge their fault,
and to seek each other's forgiveness and yours.

People **Amen.**

Make their life together a sign of Christ's love to this sinful and broken world, that unity
may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy conquer despair.

People **Amen.**

Bestow on them, if it is your will, the gift and heritage of children, and the grace to bring
them up to know you, to love you, and to serve you.

People **Amen.**

Give them such fulfillment of their mutual affection that they may reach out in love and
concern for others.

People **Amen.**

Grant that all married persons who have witnessed these vows may find their lives
strengthened and their loyalties confirmed.

People **Amen.**

Grant that the bonds of our common humanity, by which all your children are united
one to another, and the living to the dead, may be so transformed by your grace, that
your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven; where, O Father, with your Son, and
the Holy Spirit, you live and reign in perfect unity, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE

The people remain standing as the couple kneels.

Celebrant Most gracious God, we give you thanks for your tender love in sending Jesus Christ to come among us, to be born of a human mother, and to make the way of the cross to be the way of life. We thank you, also, for consecrating the union of man and woman in his Name. By the power of your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon this man and this woman. Defend them from every enemy. Lead them into all peace. Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle about their shoulders, and a crown upon their foreheads. Bless them in their work and in their companionship; in their sleeping and in their waking; in their joys and in their sorrows; in their life and in their death. Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that table where your saints feast for ever in your heavenly home; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that you may faithfully live together in this life, and in the age to come have life everlasting.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The newly married couple and the congregation greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

AT THE OFFERTORY

Rise Up, My Love, My Fair One

Healey Willan

Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away;
For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;
The flowers appear upon the earth;
The time of singing of birds is come;
Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.

— Song of Solomon 2:10-12

PRESENTATION HYMN *standing, sung by all*



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise



him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye



heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The first staff is a single melodic line in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics underneath. The second staff is a harmonic accompaniment in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics underneath. The music is simple and hymn-like.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

The Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

All

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember our beloved family; Robert James, Gloria Nancy, Elvira, Ruth, Sol, Frederick, Donna, and Don.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant
People*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD *sung by all*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia. Christ our Pass-o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for
us; there - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942). © 1985 by Aureole Editions, Dallas, Texas Used by permission

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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.

We are all welcome at the Lord's Table. The bread is received in the open palm. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

AT THE COMMUNION

Ego flos campi

Jacob Clemens non Papa

Ego flos campi et lilium convallium.

Sicut lilium inter spinas sic amica mea inter filias.

fons hortorum et puteus aquarum viventium quae fluunt impetu de Libano.

I am the flower of the field, and the lily of the valleys.

As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters.

A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon.

— Song of Songs: 2:1-2, 4:15

A Gaelic Blessing

John Rutter

Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,

Deep peace of the gentle night to you,
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you.
Deep peace of Christ to you.

— *trad. Gaelic*

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION *standing, sung by all*

Hymn 657 Love divine, all loves excelling

HYFRYDOL

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **O God, the giver of all that is true and lovely and gracious: We give you thanks for binding us together in these holy mysteries of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that by your Holy Spirit, Eva and Robert, now joined in Holy Matrimony, may become one in heart and soul, live in fidelity and peace, and obtain those eternal joys prepared for all who love you; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Celebrant The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Asst. Priest Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the spirit!

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Toccata (Symphony No. 5)

Charles-Marie Widor

The congregation is invited to greet the bride and groom in front of the church.