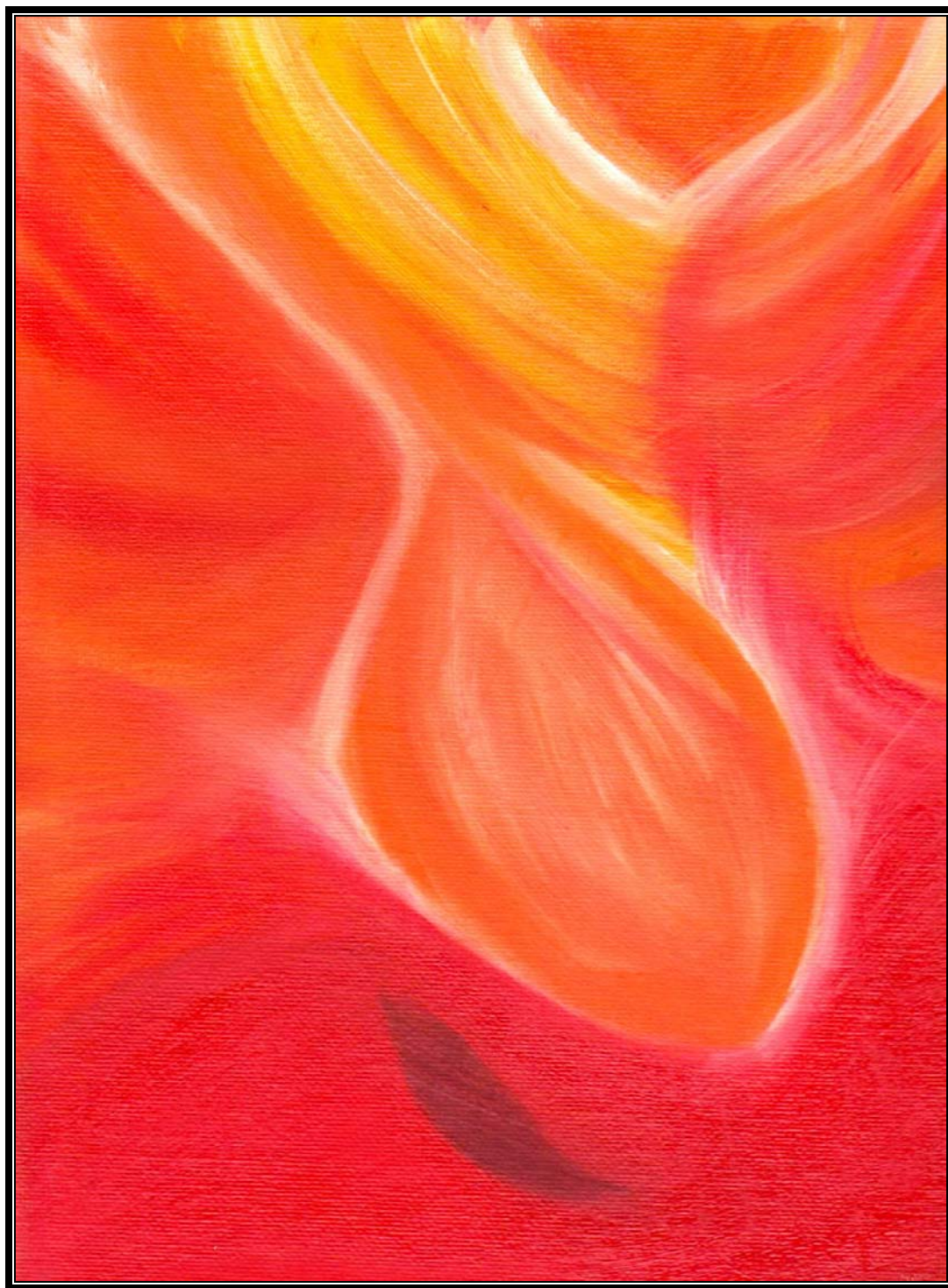


The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage

Molly Patrick McCann and John Kevin Linker



12 September 2009  
4 o'clock in the afternoon

Church of the Good Shepherd  
Lexington, Kentucky

# Order of Service

## Voluntary

Praeludium et Fuga pro Organo pleno, BWV 552      J.S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

Air      Gerre Hancock  
(b. 1934)

Fanfare      Richard Proulx  
(b. 1937)

Adagio (Symphony No. 3)      Louis Vierne  
(1870-1937)

## Seating of the Mothers

Prelude on *Rhosymedre*      Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

*All stand at the entrance of the Cross and join in singing the Hymn in Procession (next page).*

## Procession of Choir, Clergy, Groom, and Groom's Men

How joyful 'tis to sing      *Molly*

# How joyful 'tis to sing

Text: Sir S. H. Nicholson (1875-1947)

Music: John Linker (b. 1975)

Tune: *Molly*

Descant

5. Then in the praise of God let all of us unite, And,

1. How joy-ful 'tis to sing To God en-throned on high, To  
 2. Yet art is not enough, Nor voice that charms the ear, Un-  
 3. Should we with wand-ering thoughts our minds al-low to stray, Nor  
 4. We seek to per-fect praise On earth, in hope that we Some  
 5. Then in the praise of God let all of us unite, And,

Desc.

mind-ful of our trust, Gird on our robes of white.

raise the an-cient strain Of tune-ful psalm-o-dy As  
 less the heart be tuned And wor-ship be sin-cere: Help  
 heed God's ho-ly word, And, kneel-ing, fail to pray, Help  
 glimps-es here may gain of heav-en-ly har-mo-ny, where  
 mind-ful of our trust, Gird on our robes of white, As

Desc.

That all must seek, who seek for thee.

chor-i-sters, who thus de-light To chant his praise by day and night!  
 us to fix our mindson thee, And lead us to sim-ple-ci-ty.  
 us to serve with god-ly fear, Lest we for-get thy pres-ence near.  
 dis-cord ne'er shall mar the tone Of those that sing a-round the throne.  
 sym-bols of the pur-i-ty That all must seek, who seek for thee.

Procession of Bridesmaids and Bride

Symphony No. 3: Maestoso (*Organ Symphony*)

Camille Saint-Saëns

(1835-1921)

arr. Bruce Neswick

*Then the Celebrant, facing the people and the persons to be married, with the woman to the right and the man to the left, addresses the congregation and says*

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 husband and wife 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 Molly Patrick McCann and John Kevin Linker 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.

*Then 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

*The Celebrant says to the woman*

Molly, 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?

*The Woman answers*

I will.

*The Celebrant says to the man*

John, 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?

*The Man answers*

I will.

*The Celebrant then addresses the congregation, saying*

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

*People* We will.

*The Celebrant asks*

Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

## The Ministry of the Word

*The Celebrant then says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

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. *Amen.*

*All are seated*

First Lesson: Song of Solomon 2:10-13, 8:6-7

Reader: A Lesson from the Song of Solomon

My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. If one offered for love all the wealth of one's house, it would be utterly scorned.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 84 (*Choir*)

*Quam dilecta!*

Chant: Carter Leer

Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:14-19

Reader: A Lesson from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

1 King of glo - ry, King of peace, I will love thee;  
 2 Where - fore with my ut - most art, I will sing thee;  
 3 Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;

*Tenor or soprano ad libitum*

3 Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;

and that love may nev - er cease, I will move thee.  
 and the cream of all my heart, I will bring thee.  
 in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.

in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.

Thou hast grant - ed my re - quest, thou hast heard me;  
 Though my sins a - gainst me cried, thou didst clear me;  
 Small it is in this poor sort to en - roll thee;

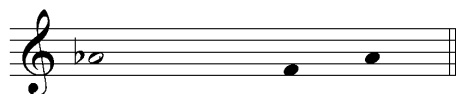
Small it is in this poor sort to en - roll thee;

thou didst note my work - ing breast, thou hast spared me.  
 and a - lone, when they re - plied, thou didst hear me.  
 e'en e - ter - ni - ty's too short to ex - tol thee.

e'en e - ter - ni - ty's too short to ex - tol thee.

## The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [5:13-16]

*People*



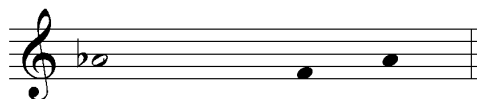
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*



Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

## The Marriage

*The Man, facing the woman and taking her right hand in his, says*

In the Name of God, I, John, take you, Molly, 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.

*Then they loose their hands, and the Woman, still facing the man, takes his right hand in hers, and says*

In the Name of God, I, Molly, take you, John, 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.



*They loose their hands.*

*The Priest asks God's blessing on the rings as follows*

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. *Amen.*

*The giver places the ring on the ring-finger of the other's hand and says*

Molly / John, 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.

*Then the Celebrant joins the right hands of husband and wife and says*

Now that Molly and John 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.

*The People respond with a loud voice Amen.*

*An appointed person reads the following prayers, to which the People respond, saying, Amen.*

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. *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. *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. *Amen.*

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

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

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

## The Blessing of the Marriage

*The people remain standing. The husband and wife kneel, and the Priest says one of the following prayers*

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. *Amen.*

*The husband and wife still kneeling, the Priest adds this blessing*

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. *Amen.*

## The Peace

*The Celebrant may say to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

*The newly married couple then greet each other, after which greetings may be exchanged throughout the congregation.*

## Holy Communion

Offertory Verse (*Choir*)

Mode II

*O Lord God, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things:  
and now I have seen with joy thy people which are present here.*

*O Lord God of Israel, keep for ever this imagination:  
of the heart of thy people.*

Anthem

My beloved spake

Patrick Hadley  
(1899-1973)

*My beloved spake, and said unto me,  
Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.  
For lo, the winter is past, and rain is over and gone;  
The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of the singing of birds is come,  
and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;  
The fig tree putteth forth her green figs,  
and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell.  
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.  
[Song of Solomon 2:10-13]*

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says*

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.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because in the love of wife and husband, you have given us an image of the heavenly Jerusalem, adorned as a bride for her bridegroom, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who loves her and gave himself for her, that he might make the whole Creation new.

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:

Sanctus & Benedictus qui venit (*Choir*)      *Messe Solennelle*      Jean Langlais  
(1907-1991)

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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.*


And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*


*A period of silence is kept.*

*Cantor*




Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*All*




Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Cantor*



Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us

*All*



keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*  
 The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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

Communion Verse (*Choir*)

Mode I

*The Lord saith unto them:  
 Fill the water-pots with water,  
 and bear unto the governor of the feast.  
 When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine,  
 he saith unto the bridegroom:  
 Thou hast kept the good wine until now.  
 This beginning of miracles:  
 did Jesus before his disciples.*

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*or with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]  
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

*All baptized Christians of any denomination are invited to receive Communion.*

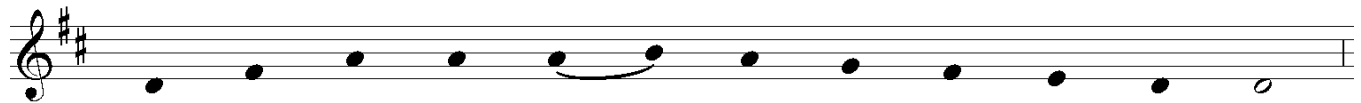
Hymn 314

Humbly I adore thee

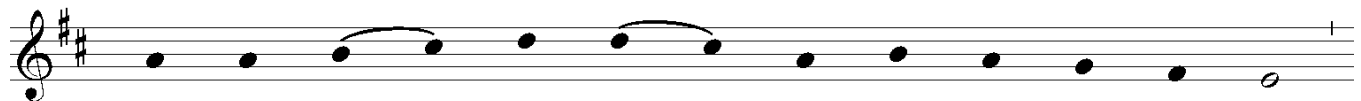
*Adoro devote*



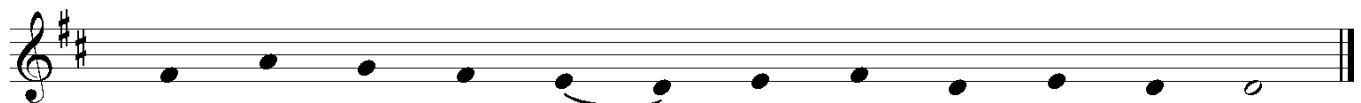
1 Hum - bly I a - dore thee, Ver - i - ty un - seen,  
2 Taste and touch and vi - sion to dis - cern thee fail;  
3 O me - mo - rial won - drous of the Lord's own death;  
4 Je - sus, whom now hid - den, I by faith be - hold,



who thy glo - ry hid - est 'neath these sha - dows mean;  
faith, that comes by hear - ing, pierc - es through the veil.  
liv - ing Bread that giv - est all thy crea - tures breath,  
what my soul doth long for, that thy word fore - told:



lo, to thee sur - ren - dered, my whole heart is bowed,  
I be - lieve what - e'er the Son of God hath told;  
grant my spi - rit ev - er by thy life may live,  
face to face thy splen - dor, I at last shall see,



tranced as it be - holds thee, shrined with - in the cloud.  
what the Truth hath spo - ken, that for truth I hold.  
to my taste thy sweet - ness nev - er - fail - ing give.  
in the glo - rious vi - sion, bless - ed Lord, of thee.

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees (on our  
 2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees (on our

1. knees); Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees (on our  
 2. knees); Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees (on our

1. knees).  
 2. knees). When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

1. 2.  
 sun, Oh Lord, have mer - cy on me (on me). me).

Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees (yes, on our knees); Let us





praise God to - geth - er on our knees (yes, on our knees). When I  
 fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun, Oh  
 Lord, have mer - cy on me (on me).

Anthem

True love in every moment praises God

John Linker  
 (b. 1975)

*True love in every moment praises God.  
 Longing love brings a sorrow sweet to the pure.  
 Seeking love belongs to itself alone.  
 Understanding love gives itself equally to all.  
 Enlightened love is mingled with the sadness of the world.  
 But selfless love bears an effortless fruit,  
 Working so quietly even the body cannot say how it comes and goes.*  
 [Text from *Meditations of Mechthild of Madeberg*, 1210 – ca. 12.85/91]

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

○ 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, Molly and John, 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.*

Closing Hymn 353

Your love, ○ God, has called us here


*Wareham*

1 Your love, ○ God, has called us here, for all love  
2 O gra - cious God, you con - se - crate all that is  
3 O God of love, in - spire our life, re - veal your

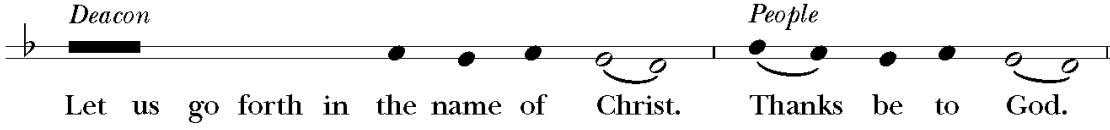
finds its source in you, the per - fect love that  
love - ly, good, and true. Bless those who in your  
will in all we do; join ev - ery hus - band,

casts out fear, the love that Christ makes ev - er new.  
pres - ence wait and ev - ery day their love re - new.  
ev - ery wife in mu - tual love and love for you.

# Blessing and Dismissal

*Deacon*  *People*

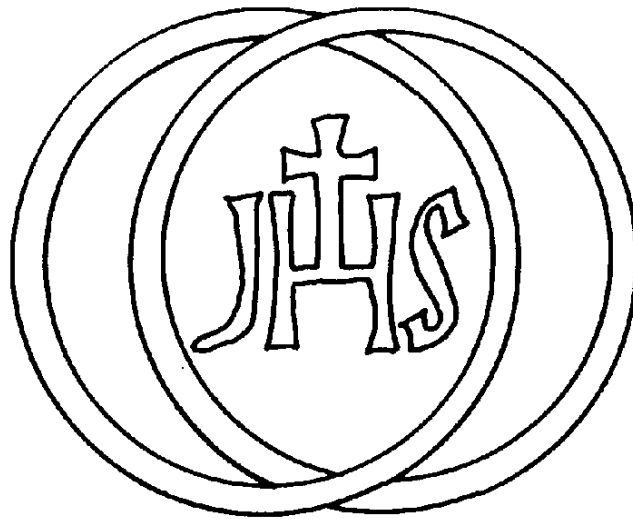
Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Thanks be to God.



Sortie

Improvisation

Bruce Neswick



<i>Celebrant</i>	The Reverend Robert L. Sessum
<i>Gospeller</i>	The Reverend Elise B. Johnstone
<i>Deacon</i>	The Reverend Lauren Hendrick
<i>Assisting Clergy</i>	The Reverend Dr. Robert B. Horine, Jr.
<i>Verger</i>	Mr. Martin Woodford
<i>Crucifer</i>	Ms. Julia Hendrick
<i>Thurifer</i>	Mr. Carter M. Leer
<i>Torch Bearers</i>	Ms. Jessica Elfring and Mr. Ryan Thomson
<i>Lectors</i>	Mr. Timothy A. West, Mrs. Jolene Linker
<i>Intercessor</i>	Ms. Jessica Elfring
<i>Musicians</i>	Mr. Bruce Neswick, Cathedral of St John the Divine, New York Mrs. Stephanie Sonne, Church of the Good Shepherd Mr. S. Zachary Ullery, The American Cathedral, Paris, France The Choir of the Church of the Good Shepherd and Friends
 	Mr. John D. McCann
<i>Parents of the Bride</i>	The Reverend Dr. & Mrs. Robert B. Horine, Jr.
 	Mrs. Carolyn Jones
<i>Godparent of the Bride</i>	Ms. Sylvia Baber, Maid of Honour
<i>Bride's Attendants</i>	Mrs. Elizabeth Baber Mrs. Ann Claire Baber Mrs. Whitney Kurtz-Olgilvie
 	Mr. & Mrs. Billy D. Linker
<i>Parents of the Groom</i>	Mr. & Mrs. Gerald R. Linker
<i>Godparents of the Groom</i>	Mr. William A. Linker, Best Man
<i>Groom's Men</i>	Mr. Richard Scott Martin Mr. Matthew S. Moore Mr. S. Zachary Ullery

*Program cover art by Molly McCann*

*Thank you to all who are able to spend this special day with us, and we gratefully acknowledge your influence in our lives. We are pleased to join with you at the altar to share in the Eucharist, which unites the present with the past. At the same altar we are able to commune with all of our loved ones who have gone before us. If it were not for the past we would not have groundwork for the future, and we thank you, all our family and friends, for being part of this experience today.*

*Mr. & Mrs. John Kevin Linker  
928 Aurora Avenue  
Lexington, Kentucky 40502*