

# CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



THE CELEBRATION AND BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE OF

**Alexandra Emily Dixon-Ernst**

and

**James Quentin Nesbitt**

**Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 4:30 P.M.**

## The Wedding Party

Emma Schauf, *Maid of Honor*  
Mark Nesbitt, *Best Man*  
Margaret Shull, *Bridesmaid*  
Claire Mazur, *Bridesmaid*  
Linnea Olson-White, *Bridesmaid*  
Jennifer Townsley, *Bridesmaid*  
Richard Weisbrod, *Groomsman*  
Dan Klimas, *Groomsman*  
Brian Painter, *Groomsman*  
Jesse Knowles, *Groomsman*

The Rev. Leslie G. Reimer, *Celebrant & Homilist*  
Mr. Nicholas Quardokus, *Organist*  
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Organist & Choir-director*

### *The Melodials*

Claire Mazur, Linnea Olson-White, Emma Schauf, *soprano*  
John Barrow, Jennifer Townsley, *alto*  
Michael Clossey, Geoffrey Dixon-Ernst, Dillon Smallwood, *tenor*  
Christian Mazur, Dan White, *bass*

## MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Toccata in F, BuxWV 157

Dieterich Buxtehude

Song 34 (*Op. 105, No. 1*)

Charles Villiers Stanford

*Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go*

Psalm Prelude, Set 1, No. 2

Herbert Howells

*But the meek-spirited shall possess the earth:  
and shall be refreshed in the multitude of peace.*

—Psalm 37:11

Andante Cantabile (*Symphonie No. 4*)

Charles-Marie Widor

Prelude on *St. Columba* (*Op. 101, No. 6*)

Stanford

*The King of love my shepherd is*

## ENTRANCE OF THE WEDDING PARTY

March from *The Birds*

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry

*All stand.*

*Suite in C*

Henry Purcell

*Then the Celebrant, facing the people and the persons to be married, 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 Alexandra Emily Dixon-Ernst and James Quentin Nesbitt 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*

Alix, 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*

James, 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.

*All sing together:*



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heav'n, to earth come down,  
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;  
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er more thy temp - les leave.  
let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;  
Thee we would be al - way bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,  
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
pray, and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88)  
Music: William Rowlands (1860-1937)

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*The Celebrant then says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Priest* 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 sit for the Readings.*

Lesson

Psalm 100

*Read by Scott Nesbitt, father of the Groom*

O be joyful in the LORD, all ye lands;  
serve the LORD with gladness and come before his presence with a song.  
Be ye sure that the LORD he is God;  
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.  
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise;  
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.  
For the LORD is gracious; his mercy is everlasting;  
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

The Word of the Lord.

*All* Thanks be to God.

Anthem

*Eternal Source of Light Divine*

George Frederick Handel

*Eternal Source of light divine,  
with double warmth thy beams display  
and with distinguished glory shine  
to add a luster to this day.*

—Ambrose Philips

*Jennifer Townsley, soprano; Robert Luther, trumpet; Geoffrey Dixon-Ernst, organ*

The Gospel

John 15:9-12

*All stand for the Gospel, the reader first saying*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Leslie G. Reimer

## THE MARRIAGE

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

In the Name of God, I, James, take you, Alix, 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, Alix, take you, James, 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 Priest asks God's blessing on the rings as follows*

Bless, O Lord, these rings to be a sign 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*

N., 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 Alix and James have given themselves to each other by solemn vows, with the joining of hands and the giving and receiving of a ring, 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. *Amen.*

## THE PRAYERS

*Led by Lindsey Ewing, friend of the Bride and Groom, all standing.*

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

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.*

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

*Priest* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

*The newly married couple greet one another and their families, and the congregation share a sign of peace.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn 397

*Now thank we all our God*

*Nun danket alle Gott*

*All sing together, standing.*

*Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

*O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us!  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.*

*All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,  
eternal, Triune God, whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, evermore.*

—Martin Rinckart; tr. Catherine Winkworth, alt.

*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 God thanks and praise.

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

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*Glory to you for ever and ever.*

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*By your will they were created and have their being.*

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*By his blood, be reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.*

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*The Celebrant and People sing together*

THE HYMNAL 1982, S128

The musical score is written on five staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)



*The Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
*We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.*

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.*

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

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

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*All sing together:*

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

## Invitation to Communion

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.  
It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more.  
So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;  
You who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time;  
You who have tried to follow and you who have failed; Come, not because the Church invites you;  
It is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.*

—from *The Iona Community Worship Book*

*The congregation receives Communion at the High Altar rail; gluten-free wafers are available.  
Those not wishing to receive Communion may come forward for a blessing,  
signaling their intention by crossing their arms across their chests.*

*All sing together, kneeling or seated.*

1 Your love, O 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.

Words: Russell Schulz-Widmar (b. 1944)

Music: Wareham, melody William Knapp (1698-1768); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875,  
after James Turle (1802-1882)

LM

## Music during Communion

*Dimittet homo patrem*

Alan Lewis

*Dimittet homo patrem et matrem  
 et adhaerabit uxori suae,  
 et erunt duo in carne una.*

*Itaque iam non sunt duo, sed una caro,  
 quod ergo Deus coniunxit,  
 homo non separet.*

A man shall leave father and mother  
 and shall cleave to his wife:  
 and they twain shall be one flesh.  
 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh.  
 What therefore God hath joined together,  
 let not man put asunder. *Matthew 19:5-6*

*Irish Blessing*

Bob Chilcott

*May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back,  
 may the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rain fall soft upon your fields,  
 and until we meet again, may God hold you ever in the palm of his hand.*

—Traditional text

Postcommunion Prayer

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*All pray together*

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, Alix and James,  
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 Celebrant blesses the people; all respond Amen.*

The Dismissal *All respond* Thanks be to God.

Procession of the Wedding Party *Trumpet Allemande*

Anthony Holborne

Postlude *Carillon-Sortie*

Henri Mulet