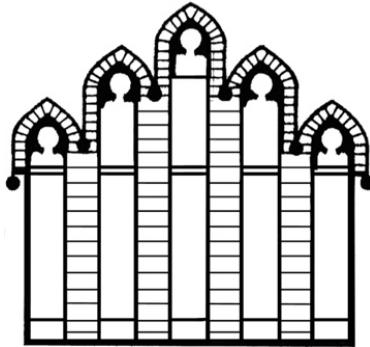


THE CELEBRATION AND BLESSING OF A MARRIAGE
DAWN MARIE JOHNSON
AND
ROBERT CHARLES McNINCH



AUGUST 11, 2012
4:30PM

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
73 S. FULLERTON AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, NJ
WWW.SLECHURCH.ORG

"Joyfully seeking and serving Christ"

Parents of the Bride - Mr. Gregory Johnson, Sr. and Mrs. Cathy Anne Johnson

Parents of the Groom - Mr. Robert A. McNinch and Mrs. Joan McNinch

The Wedding Party

Matron of Honor

Julie Ulloa - bride's friend

Renee Quero - bride's friend

Bridesmaids

Janet Negron - bride's friend

Jennifer Richmond - groom's sister

Julie Johnson - bride's sister-in-law

Flower Girls

Alexa McManus - bride's friend's daughter

Isabelle Johnson - bride's niece and goddaughter

Best Man

Bob Spangler – groom's friend

Groomsmen

Richard McNinch - groom's brother

Gregory Johnson - bride's brother

Ring Bearer

Jacob Negron - bride's godson

Thank you to our family and friends for joining us to celebrate such a special day. We would like to thank our parents for bringing us to where we are today and all of our family and friends who have traveled from far distances to share this day with us. We are very thankful that all of you are here to share this experience with us.

To those loved ones who could not be here today:

Raymond Johnson, Rose Johnson, William Gent, Catherine Gent, Robert McNinch,
Bernice McNinch, Claude Fawkes and Doris Fawkes.

We wish you could be standing here with us today, but we know you are here in spirit.

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL *Please stand as the bride comes down the aisle*

Rondeau (*Composer: Jean Joseph Mouret*)

Wedding March from "Lohengrin" (*Composer: Richard Wagner*)

OPENING SENTENCES (*Book of Common Prayer p. 423*)

Dearly beloved: We have come together in the presence of God to witness and bless the joining together of Robert Charles McNinch and Dawn Marie Johnson 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 commands 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 Rob and Dawn 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 (*Book of Common Prayer p. 424*)

The Celebrant says to the woman

Dawn, 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

Rob, 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.**

PRESENTATION

Celebrant Who presents this woman to be married to this man?

HYMN 353 (*Hymnal 1982 Tune: Wareham*)

Your love, O God, has called us here

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) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: Wareham, melody William Knapp (1698-1768); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, after James Turle (1802-1882)

Celebrant 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.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON *(Read by Denise Sinatra)*

A reading from the Book of Tobit 8:5b-8

So she got up, and they began to pray and implore that they might be kept safe. Tobias began by saying, ‘Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors, and blessed is your name in all generations for ever. Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you for ever. You made Adam, and for him you made his wife Eve as a helper and support. From the two of them the human race has sprung. You said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; let us make a helper for him like himself.” I now am taking this kinswoman of mine, not because of lust, but with sincerity. Grant that she and I may find mercy and that we may grow old together.’ And they both said, ‘Amen, Amen.’

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

We will say the appointed Psalm together.

PSALM 67 *(St. Helena's Psalter)*

Be merciful to us, O God, and bless us, *
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth its increase; *
may you, our own God, give us your blessing.

May you give us your blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of you.

THE SECOND LESSON *(Read by Michael Faules)*

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (13:1-13)

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 376 (*Hymnal 1982 Tune: Hymn to Joy*)

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major and common time. The top staff uses a soprano C-clef, the second staff an alto F-clef, the third staff a bass G-clef, and the bottom staff a bass F-clef. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and dynamic markings like forte (f) and piano (p). The lyrics are integrated into the music, appearing below each staff.

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, bloom-ing mea-dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933) Copyright © reprinted with the permission of Charles Scribner's Sons. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (10:6-9, 13-16)

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

But from the beginning of creation, “God made them male and female.” “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.’

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

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

HOMILY *The Rev. John A. Mennell*

THE MARRIAGE

Rob and Dawn will say to each other the vows they have written

You have been my best friend and the love of my life. You make me happier than I could ever imagine and more loved than I ever thought possible. You have made me a better person as our love for one another is reflected in the way I live my life. I am truly blessed to be a part of your life, which as of today becomes our life together.

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

In the Name of God, I, Rob take you, Dawn, 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, Dawn, take you, Rob, 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 couple then lights a Unity candle, from candles previous lit by their mothers

BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS

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

Dawn, 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.

Rob, 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 Rob and Dawn 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.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us pray together in the words our Savior taught us.

All

**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 PRAYERS *(Read by Jessica Maddy)*

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

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.**

INTRODUCTION

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All **Thanks be to God.**
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

RECESSONAL (*Composer: George Frederick Handel*)
Allegro maestoso from “Water Music”

POSTLUDE (*Composer: André Campra*)
Rigaudon