

The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage:
James Barker Evans & Brian Keith Glisson

September 14, 2019

2:00 p.m.

MUSIC BEFORE THE LITURGY

<i>La Réjouissance</i> from Music for the Royal Fireworks	George Frideric Handel
If thou but trust in God to guide thee	Johann Sebastian Bach
Prelude in E ^b	Harold Darke
Prelude <i>from</i> Te Deum	Marc-Antoine Charpentier
Rondeau	Jean-Joseph Mouret
Concerto in D (after Vivaldi) -Largo e spiccato	Johann Sebastian Bach
<i>Suite du Premier Ton</i> -Duo -Trio -Dialogue sur les Grands Jeux	Louis-Nicolas Clérambault
Aria	George Frideric Handel

THE PROCESSION

Prince of Denmark's March	Jeremiah Clarke
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THE ENTRANCE RITE

At the time appointed, the persons to be married, with their witnesses, assemble in the church or some other appropriate place. Then the Officiant, 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 Barker and Brian in Holy Matrimony. The joining of two people in a life of mutual fidelity signifies to us the mystery of the union between Christ and his Church, and so it is worthy of being 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 gift 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 Barker Evans and Brian Glisson 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 Officiant says to the persons to be married

I require and charge you both, here in the presence of God, that if either of you knows 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 Officiant says to one member of the couple, then to the other

N., 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?

Answer I will.

The Officiant 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 MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Officiant then says to the people

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And also with you.

O gracious and everliving God, you have created humankind in your image: Look mercifully upon Barker and Brian 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 FIRST LESSON

Reader A Reading from the Book of Romans (12:9-18)

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in

hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Reader The Word of the Lord *People* Thanks be to God.

PSALM 133

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!

It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,

Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (15:9-12)
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.'

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

THE HOMILY

THE MARRIAGE

Each member of the couple, in turn, takes the right hand of the other and says

In the Name of God, I, N., take you, N., 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 Officiant asks God's blessing on rings as follows

Bless, O Lord, these rings to be signs of the vows by which Brian and Barker 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 Officiant joins the right hands of the couple and says

Now that Barker and Brian 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 wed to one another, 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

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 Barker and Brian 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—remembering especially, *James Evans, Jr & Rose Evans, Michael and Donald Johnson, Charles Evans, Susan Johns, Eric Gray, Kenny Glisson, E. L. & Christine P'Pool, Don & Betty McGowan, Dewey & Ruth Tinsley, Jonelle Vincent*—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 forever. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE

The People remain standing. The couple kneel, and the Priest says the following prayer

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 two people in his Name. By the power of your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon Brian and Barker. 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 forever 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 couple still kneeling, the Officiant 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 Officiant says 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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Celebrant and 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 that comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection. We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our Salvation.

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,

People and Celebrant

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

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

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

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

Johannes Brahms

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant and 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 Celebrant, dismisses the congregation with these words

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

THE RECESSIONAL
Allegro Maestoso (Hornpipe) *from* Water Music Suite George Frideric Handel

PARTICIPANTS

Officiant

The Reverend Lissa Smith

Celebrant at the Holy Eucharist

The Very Reverend Timothy E. Kimbrough

Musician

Canon Dr. Michael Velting

Brian's attendants

Shandra Wright, Jason Walls, Markeyta Hughes

Barker's attendants

Brooks Holloway, Rudy Smith, Greg Templeton, Puneet Pankhania

Readers

Greg Schroeder, Jeremy Hughes

Servers

Kris Moore, Jane Boram,

Ushers

John Bridges, Ann Hopton, Ginny McCoy, Ben Turnage

Hosted by the Wedding Guild of Christ Church, Nashville, TN