



THE CELEBRATION AND
BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE OF

ELIZABETH HILL
ANDERSON

and

ANDREW MAXWELL
PITTS

SATURDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH OF DECEMBER
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

*Please observe silence before the service for quiet prayer and meditation.
Hymns can be found in the blue Hymnal.*

Prelude Music

Seating of the Mothers *“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”* - J. S. Bach

Procession *“Prelude from Te Deum”* - Marc Charpentier

Priest

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 Elizabeth and Andrew 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.

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 two persons give their consent to be married and make mutual promises.
The priest then addresses the congregation.*

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

People **We will.**

The Presentation

Hymn 390 (*Standing*) *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

The Ministry of the Word

Priest 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.

The First Reading Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (*Seated*) *Dr. Charles Reid*

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 657 (*Standing*) *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

The Second Reading Romans 12:9-18 (*Seated*) *Zachary Goldstein*

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 honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue 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 arrogant, 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.**

The Homily (*Seated*)

The Reverend Joseph “Gray” Hodsdon

The Marriage

The Exchange of Vows and Rings

Then the Priest joins the right hands of the husband and wife and says

Now that Elizabeth and Andrew 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*)

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

People and Priest

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.

Priest 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.**

Priest 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.**

Priest 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.**

Priest 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.**

Priest 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.**

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

People **Amen.**

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

People **Amen.**

Priest 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

Priest

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

Priest 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

The Celebrant may say to the people

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Voluntary

"Rigaudon" - André Campra

Celebrant

THE REVEREND JOSEPH "GRAY" HODSDON

Parents of the Bride

MR. PAUL ANDERSON & MRS. PAM JORDAN ANDERSON

Grandmothers of the Bride

MS. LINDA HILL JORDAN †

MRS. RUTH McDONALD

Grandfathers of the Bride

MR. ROBERT JORDAN †

MR. HOWARD PAUL †

Parents of the Groom

MR. ARTHUR PITTS & MRS. JULIE KRAUSE PITTS

Grandmothers of the Groom

MRS. POLLY KRAUSE

MRS. JUNE CARROLL

Grandfathers of the Groom

MR. JOHN KRAUSE †

MR. FRED PITTS †

Maid of Honor

MS. SARAH MICHAEL ANDERSON

Best Man

MR. CALEB PITTS

Bridesmaids

MS. KATHERINE ANDERSON

MRS. CATIE RICHARDSON HODSDON

DR. SHANNON LYONS

Groomsmen

MR. IAN PITTS

MR. JORDAN ANDERSON

MR. MICHAEL "MJ" JANSKY

Lectors

DR. CHARLES REID

MR. ZACHARY GOLDSTEIN

Tower Bell Ringer

RUSTY PFOST

Organist

JOE KRAUS

Wedding Coordinator

ANGELA WYLIE



St John's Episcopal Church

J. Williams Florida

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU.