

HOLY MATRIMONY
Preliminary Information Sheet and Application Form



Date of Application _____

Date of Proposed Wedding _____ Time _____

Applicant #1 -- Full Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip

Telephone/Email _____

Previous Address _____

City State Zip

Occupation _____ Single Widower Number of Previous Marriages _____

Baptized _____ In what Denomination _____

Date

Confirmed _____ In What Denomination _____

Date

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Father's Full Name _____

Mother's Full Name _____

Parent's Residence _____

HOLY MATRIMONY

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Zip _____ City _____ State _____

Applicant #2's Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone/Email _____

Previous Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Occupation _____ Single Widower Number of Previous Marriages _____

Baptized _____ In what Denomination _____
Date _____

Confirmed _____ In What Denomination _____
Date _____

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Other Marriages Either Applicant—include date of marriage, date of ending and cause of ending):

Father's Full Name _____

Mother's Full Name _____

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ST. LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
Prescott, Arizona

Parent's Residence

City	State	Zip
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Best Man/Woman _____

Maid/Man of Honor _____

Attendants (Applicant #1) _____

Attendants (Applicant #2) _____

Date for Rehearsal _____

Time _____

Organist _____

Soloist _____

Reception _____

Flowers _____

Holy Eucharist _____

Number of Guests _____

License Number _____

Where Issued _____

Permanent Address after Marriage _____

Officiant _____

Fees Paid _____

OTHER MARRIAGES (INDICATE WHICH PARTY):

Name _____ Date of Marriage _____
Place _____
Date of Civil Divorce/Decease _____
Place _____

Children _____ Birth Date _____
_____ Birth Date _____
_____ Birth Date _____

Name _____ Date of Marriage _____
Place _____
Date of Civil Divorce/Decease _____
Place _____

Children _____ Birth Date _____
_____ Birth Date _____
_____ Birth Date _____

Name _____ Date of Marriage _____
Place _____
Date of Civil Divorce/Decease _____
Place _____

Children _____ Birth Date _____
_____ Birth Date _____
_____ Birth Date _____



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Costs Associated with Weddings at St. Luke's (updated 5/31/2023)

Thank you for choosing to hold your wedding at St. Luke's.

The following are guidelines for costs associated with service preparation.

Use of the Church - Pledging Member*	0.00	Non-member \$350.00
Use of the Parish Hall - Pledging Member*	0.00	Non-Member \$300.00
Cleaning of the Church - Pledging Member*	0.00	Non-Member \$70.00
Altar Guild Expenses (setting up church, preparing the Eucharist)	All \$50.00	
Organist - All	\$250.00*	
Vocalist - All	\$150.00*	

Any special music which must be purchased is the financial responsibility of the family.

**Members: those who have pledged for the current fiscal year or children or parents of such. Members who have not pledged during the current year will be charged non-member rates.*

Please make all checks payable to St. Luke's Church

As a sacrament, all wedding services are offered by Episcopal Priests without charge. In thanksgiving for the service of the Celebrant or preacher, many non-members make a contribution to the celebrant's or preacher's discretionary fund. This is discouraged for pledging members and remains strictly optional.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church / Prescott

Wedding Policy

We welcome your inquiry about marriage at St. Luke's Church and hope you will find these guidelines helpful. Feel free to call the Rector or Church Administrator with any questions at (928) 778-4499. Leave a message if he or she is not in and, unless call is received after hours, a staff member will soon return your call.

A Christian marriage is not a wedding to which God is invited. It is a relationship two people formed and lived out in God's presence and in the discernment of God's will. The wedding ceremony is the liturgical expression of that relationship. It is first and foremost a worship service of joy and thanksgiving. It is a public exchange of vows and the proclamation of God's blessing. To quote *The Book of Common Prayer*: "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."

It is clearly the intent of both the Prayer Book and the canons of the Church that marriages solemnized in the Church continue to be nurtured within the community of the Church. Marriage is not something that happens one particular moment. It is a lifelong process.

Those who come to the Church seeking God's blessing on their relationship should do so with a clear intention of maintaining an active participation in the life of the Church. While there may be extenuating circumstances, it should be considered normative that a marriage takes place where the couple intends to worship.

The Church's Law Concerning Holy Matrimony

In the Episcopal Church it is required that at least one of the parties be a baptized Christian, that the ceremony is attested to by at least two witnesses, and that the marriage conforms to the laws of the State and the canons of the Church.

At St. Luke's, it is customary that at least one of the parties is a member in good standing of this parish, or the son, daughter, or parent of a member in good standing. If this is not the case, the couple should plan to attend church at St. Luke's from the time they ask for the use of the church until the date of the wedding ceremony. This time of visitation should be for not less than sixty days. The clergy person reserves the right to refuse to perform the wedding with or without justification.

Church canon law requires the clergy person performing the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony to conduct or provide for a series of pre-marital counseling sessions for the couple to be married. The content, number of sessions and time scheduling of such counseling will be established by the Rector with due regard for the time needs of the couple. While the St. Luke's Rector will require no financial charge for premarital counseling, such may not be the case when counseling is done by an out-of-town counselor or in those cases in which the couple is referred to a local non-clergy counselor.

No announcement of the wedding should be made, nor invitations mailed, until final approval of the marriage has been given by the Rector at the conclusion of the premarital counseling.

Marriage After Divorce

Canon Law also prohibits clergy from solemnizing the marriage of anyone who has been divorced, except with the consent of the bishop. The guidelines of St. Luke's Church and of the Diocese of Arizona establish the norm of one year from the date of the final decree of divorce for remarriage in the Church. The bishop, recognizes "the great and real need for time for a divorced person to work through the 'death' of the former marriage; the grief, forgiveness and learning from past experience, both secular and religious.

In this diocese, the bishop has requested at least thirty (30) days in which to respond to the priest's request to solemnize the marriage. The couple must, therefore, have had some counseling and have given the priest photocopies of their final divorce decree(s) no later than forty-five (45) days before the wedding date in order to allow time for this to happen. A longer period of preparation is strongly recommended.

The Marriage License

It is required that the parties wishing to marry comply with all laws of the state of Arizona. Such compliance is indicated to the Rector by the presentation of a marriage license. It is the couple's responsibility to procure the required license. It is recommended that the marriage license be brought to the Rector seven (7) days prior to the wedding. The Rector cannot officiate without the license in his or her possession. The Rector will sign and mail the license after the wedding.

Date & Time of the Wedding

Because a wedding at St. Luke's Church involves the participation of a great many church staff and volunteers, adequate advance notice is essential. The couple will want to talk to the Rector and make arrangements as far in advance as possible in order to reduce scheduling difficulties. Planning several months in advance is the normal minimum.

Weddings are customarily held on Saturdays, with the starting time of the ceremony between 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. St. Luke's conducts a regularly-scheduled Mass beginning at 5:30 PM each Saturday. The Rector, staff, and volunteers will make every effort to accommodate the scheduling requests of those members who have made a current pledge. It is altogether proper and appropriate to schedule wedding services for the primary worship service on Sunday morning. This is an attractive alternative time for those weddings expected to attract fewer non-parishioners. Please keep in mind that the large nave seats a maximum capacity of 300 persons with the small chapel seating not more than 85. Dates and times for weddings are always scheduled on a first-come first-serve basis.

We do not schedule weddings during Lent and Holy Week except in extreme, extraordinary circumstances.

The Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is charged with the responsibility of assisting the Rector with all arrangements for the wedding. Representatives of the Altar Guild will be present at both the rehearsal and the wedding to give assistance and support to the wedding party and to insure the smooth flow of the service itself. Because of the assistance of the Altar Guild, there is no need for an outside bridal consultant. Please do not use such consultants for matters pertaining to wedding services to be held at St. Luke's Church. An Altar Guild Wedding Form is attached and should be completed by the couple well in advance of the wedding date.

The Rehearsal

The purpose of the wedding rehearsal is to give the wedding party the opportunity to become familiar with the facility and service ahead of time so they can be at ease during the actual ceremony. The Couple will participate fully in the rehearsal. The officiating priest, assisted by the Altar Guild, will be responsible for conducting the rehearsal.

Wedding rehearsals are normally held on the day before the wedding. Except in extremely unusual circumstances, rehearsals will not be scheduled to begin after 6:00 p.m. The rehearsal will take about an hour. The entire service, including ushering in of relatives and the entrance procession, will be rehearsed. Therefore, it is important for all members of the wedding party to attend and for everyone to be on time.

There is a deposit of \$100.00 for the rehearsal, to be delivered to the Rector seven (7) days prior to the wedding. If the rehearsal begins more than fifteen (15) minutes past the scheduled time, the deposit will be forfeited. Rehearsals will not begin until all the bridal party, readers, soloists, musicians and other active participants are present. The Rehearsal deposit should be written on a separate check and will be returned uncashed to the payee following those rehearsals that begin promptly or within the fifteen (15) minute limit.

The Marriage Service

As you plan your wedding, please remember that marriage is a sacrament of the Church and takes place in the context of worship. As in every service of the Church, the priest is charged by Canon Law with the final responsibility for determining the appropriateness of all arrangements and details. The Rector, at the couple's request, will gladly invite an Episcopal priest from another parish, or diocese, to assist in the ceremony or invite a clergy person from another denomination to assist in the ceremony. The Rector should be notified of your desire to include other clergy well in advance of the final planning phases.

The Episcopal Church is a liturgical church, and, as such, worship services are defined in great detail by The Book of Common Prayer. The use of processional bells, candles and such are governed by the prescribed service rubrics. Under no circumstances will a unity candle be incorporated in the ceremony at the Altar. An alternative may involve using the unity candle as part of reception ceremony (cutting of the cake, etc.).

Since the marriage service is a worship service involving a whole congregation, a celebration of the Holy Eucharist (Lord's Supper, Communion) is usually included. In fact, The Book of Common Prayer service of Holy Matrimony is written within the context of the Holy Eucharist. However, the final decision to have the Eucharist will be made by the couple. When the Holy Eucharist is celebrated as part of the marriage ceremony, all baptized Christians will be invited to share in this sacrament of unity.

Licensed Lay Eucharist Ministers from St. Luke's Church or other parishes are welcome to assist. Please request particular individuals through the Rector. It is desirable that the Lectors (readers) be friends and/or family of the couple, regardless of their church home. They may practice the reading at the rehearsal. Likewise, family and/or friends accustomed to acolyting are welcome to serve as such during the marriage service. If St. Luke's acolytes serve the couple during the ceremony, it is customary to make a small donation directly to them. They are teens or pre-teens and \$25.00 is a typical and very satisfactory gift.

The Wedding Music

The Couple must contact the St. Luke's Church Minister of Music, for a music consultation at least six (6) to eight (8) weeks before the wedding. He will assist you in the selection of music for the organ, congregational or choral singing, and can supply you with a list of additional instrumentalists, if you so desire. It is expected that the Organist will play at all weddings that incorporate music. There is a fee for the Organist's services.

The organist and any solo musicians must be paid separately from the parish fees.

You are welcome to have musicians other than the Organist participate in the service. However, they, and their music selections, are subject to the Minister of Music's approval. Under no circumstances will pre-recorded music be used in the church building during a marriage service. This includes background music for vocalists.

In keeping with the understanding of the wedding as a worship service of the Church, music selection is limited to sacred music. Music which does not have as its chief end the glorification and praise of God, including the melody for Wagner's Lohengrin known as the "Bridal Chorus," is not to be used and may best be left for the reception. Music is provided only at those points in the service designated by the rubrics in the Prayer Book. The Lord's Prayer is a common prayer of the Church and is to be said or sung by the congregation.

Decoration of the Church

The general principle to keep in mind is that a wedding is a worship service in which we seek to worship God with beauty and simplicity. Extravagant decorations are not necessary to create an atmosphere of joy and celebration.

Of course, either Applicant may carry a bouquet, and attendants and ushers may wear traditional flowers. However, the only other flowers permitted for decoration at the wedding are two vases of altar flowers (such as those arranged by the Flower Guild every weekend for Sunday Services). You may provide your own flowers if you wish, but this needs to be coordinated with the Altar Guild and within St. Luke's guidelines. If a florist is used, there is no payment to the church. However, if the Altar Guild is responsible, a minimum fee (altar vases only) of \$75.00 is charged. You are welcome to supplement that fee as your budget permits, in order to obtain an arrangement you will be happy with.

It is expected that the wedding flowers will remain in the Church for worship services the following Sunday. The Sunday bulletin will identify the flowers as given in thanksgiving for the marriage. After services, they will then be delivered to the sick and shut-in.

The couple should contact the Church office for the name and number of the Altar Guild member who will be assisting as soon as a date is established with the Rector. The Altar Guild member will then go over the size and placement options, as well as any additional instructions, if a florist is to be used.

The liturgical color for weddings is white, the color of joy and celebration. The Altar Guild will prepare the altar accordingly. The Couple's color theme and the color of the altar flowers is not restricted. Pew markers may be supplied by a florist or the church will provide ribbons if desired. Aisle runners can be hazardous and are not permitted. No other decorations will be permitted upon or within the Church building.

Photography

While we are sensitive to the desire of The Couple to preserve this important moment in their lives, we are also concerned that the dignity and the reverence of the service are maintained, and that family and friends' experience of worship is not compromised. The cooperation of Applicant #1, Applicant #2, and the entire wedding party is sought and appreciated. The photographer must remain to the rear of the front row pews during the actual service. Flash photographs may not be taken during the marriage service, with the following exception: flash pictures may be taken as the couple leaves the church during the retiring procession.

A single stationary video camera may be set up at a designated position at the back of the church, provided that no additional lighting or microphones are required and that set up is completed thirty (30) minutes prior to the service.

Photographs may, of course, be taken either before or after the wedding. The Altar Guild will be happy to provide assistance. Such photography sessions should not exceed forty-five minutes in duration, and pre-services sessions must vacate the church thirty (30) minutes before the wedding is to begin.

Parish Hall Receptions

It is to be recognized that a wedding reception planned for any church building (by its very nature) presents inherent limitations and numerous unique restrictions. No alcoholic beverages are allowed upon church property and no tobacco products are allowed within any church building. Persons may smoke only in pre-designated areas and always out of sight of children. Dances and/or loud music are prohibited unless expressly approved by the Parish Vestry. Many of the activities that are traditionally appropriate for commercial facilities or even private property are quite inappropriate for a church building and grounds. Even with such obvious restrictions in mind the bridal party may still opt to rent the Parish Hall for a reception. When available the Parish Hall may be reserved for the wedding reception and should be requested at the same time as use of the church is arranged. There is a deposit of \$100.00 for post-reception custodial services, to be delivered to the Rector seven (7) days prior to the wedding. If the wedding party opts to provide clean-up, such deposit will be returned uncashed to the payee following inspection and approval by representatives of the Rector. This deposit should also be written on a separate check and delivered to the Rector seven (7) days prior to the wedding. Church facilities are not available for receptions on Saturdays if the anticipated ending time is later than 5:00 P.M. Again, we have a regularly scheduled Saturday evening Mass beginning at 5:30 PM each week in our chapel and it must not be disturbed.

The Rector maintains a list of pre-approved Prescott area caterers from which The Couple must select their caterer. These caterers are aware of the requirements of the Parish and will comply with such restrictions. They have also provided the Parish with proof of general and product liability insurance. However, St. Luke's Parish is not a party to any contract, business affairs and/or subsequent agreements between the selected caterer and the bridal party.

Trash is to be removed and placed in the dumpster located at the south end of the building. Under no circumstances, is trash to be left outside the dumpster.

Dressing at the Church

Women in the wedding party may use the bridal facility located in the choir room as a dressing room for the wedding. This room presents direct access to the Ladies Restroom. Men of the wedding party may use a classroom for dressing, if such is required. Please arrange for someone in your wedding party to remove all of your personal belongings from the dressing areas immediately following the wedding and be sure that these areas are picked up and left as you found them. The parish cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items. St. Luke's Church is a smoke free facility with no smoking allowed within any of the buildings. Likewise, the Columbarium and the grounds within a fifty-foot radius (excluding parking areas) shall be considered an extension of the church building worship area.

Miscellaneous Concerns

A guest book may be provided by the wedding party and displayed and signed in the Church lobby. Rice and/or confetti are not to be thrown at or on the wedding couple on church property. Birdseed and/or bubbles may be used only outside the building.

Matrimonial Scripture Choices

Following the Declaration of Consent comes the Ministry of the Word. One or more of the following passages from Holy Scripture is read. If there is to be a Communion, a passage from the Gospel always concludes the Readings.

(Choose One from Each Section)

Old Testament

Genesis 1:26-28 (Male and female he created them)

Genesis 2:4-9, 15-24 (A man cleaves to his wife and they become one flesh)

Song of Solomon 2:10-13; 8:6-7 (Many waters cannot quench love)

Tobit 8:5b-8 (New English Bible) (That she and I may grow old together)

Between the Readings, a Psalm, hymn, or anthem may be sung or said. Appropriate Psalms are 67, 127, and 128.

New Testament

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (Love is patient and kind)

Ephesians 3:14-19 (The Father from whom every family is named)

Ephesians 5:1-2, 21-33 (Walk in love, as Christ loved us)

Colossians 3:12-17 (Love which binds everything together in harmony)

1 John 4:7-16 (Let us love one another for love is of God)

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-10 (The Beatitudes)

Matthew 5:13-16 (You are the light...Let your light so shine)

Matthew 7:21,24-29 (Like a wise man who built his house upon the rock)

Mark 10:6-9,13-16 (They are no longer two but one)

John 15:9-12 (Love one another as I have loved you)

Planning Your Wedding Resource List

Updated 10/5/2022

(St. Luke's does not endorse these businesses personally unless indicated by an *)

Flowers

- Allan's Flowers* -- 1095 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301 (928) 445-5131
- Prescott Flower Shop – 721 Miller Valley Rd., Prescott, AZ 86301 (928) 445-0810; www.prescottflowershop.com
- Bowen's Botanicals – 522 E. Sheldon St, Prescott, AZ (928)267-6067
- Florian Flowers– 117 E. Gurley St. Ste. 110 Prescott, AZ 86301 (928) 778-2775

Formal Wear

- Elegant Brides – 6616 E. 2nd Street Prescott Valley 86314 (928-772-7440)
- Men's Wearhouse – 5621 E. State Route 69, Suite 110, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314, (928) 445-0631
- Daniel's Menswear Tuxedo & Tailor – 8591 Florentine Rd. Prescott Valley (928-772-7167)

Bakery

- The Prescott Breadery - 713 W. Rosser St, Prescott, AZ 86301 (928) 927-6715
- Gramma's Bakery - 207 W. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301 (928) 776-8485
- Sugared n' Iced – 222 S. Cortez St., Prescott, (928) 379-1016 (by appointment only); www.sugaredniced.com

Photographers/Videographers

- Jordyn Vixie Photography - Photography@jordynvixie.com (928) 442-6030
- Marchetti Photography - 107 N. Cortez St., Prescott, AZ 86301 (928) 445-5506
- Blushing Cactus Photography - tracy@BlushingCactus.com (928) 487-1024
- Frankely Photography - <https://www.frankelyphotography.com>
- Denise Marsh Photos - <https://denisemariephotos.com> (541) 231-9966
- Prescott Video Services - (928) 710-2652 www.prescottvideoservices.com
- Sky City Productions - 1819 Willow Creek, Prescott, AZ (928) 830-2313
- AZ Event Video LLC - (928) 856-1899 www.as-vdo.com
- Way Out West - <https://www.wayoutwestphotography.com> (928) 487-1024

Also The Knot (theknot.com) is a very helpful wedding planning website, especially for an interactive shared registry.

This is by no means a complete list of all the possible wedding-related vendors in the Prescott area. You can find other vendors under these categories in the Yellow Pages.

Kitchen Use Guidelines

1. Only use of the small kitchen is granted to groups outside of St. Luke's Parishioners.
2. No items from either kitchen or pantry may be removed from church property.
3. **Outside groups**--please bring your own linens (wash rags, tablecloths and towels) that you can take with you when you are finished. Towels and rags located in the kitchens are for Parish use only.
4. **St. Luke's groups**—all linens used must be taken home, washed and returned promptly. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY TOWELS STRETCHED OUT ON SINK AND COUNTERTOPS TO DRY.
5. All dishes, glassware and utensils used must be washed, dried and placed back in their proper location.
6. Sinks and countertops must be wiped down completely using bleach/water solution in spray bottle located under sink.
7. Please do not store left over food or beverages in pitchers in the refrigerator for "someone else." It should be taken home or thrown away.
8. All trash must be gathered and taken outside to the trash can located in the parking lot south of the Parish Hall. Replacement trash bags are located in the big kitchen on the stainless shelf to the left of the refrigerator or under the sink in the small kitchen.
9. No items stored in the pantry may be used without the approval of the Parish Administrator or the Fellowship Commission Chair.
10. Any tablecloths put on tables MUST be taken home to be washed, ironed and returned promptly (within 1 to 2 days). Even if no one sat and ate at the table, it is a Health Department requirement that tablecloths be laundered. Disposable tablecloths can only be used once. Vinyl tablecloths must be wiped down with bleach/water solution in spray bottle located under the sink in the small kitchen.

**The Celebration and Blessing of The Marriage of
Sarah Lee Hoover and Robert Earl Meyer
with**

The Holy Eucharist

August 19, 2001

The Rev. Dr. Paul L. Crowell, Rector & Celebrant

The Rev. Kimball C. Arnold, Deacon

Organist – Mrs. Dee Lehman

Prelude:

Processional into the church

Hymn # 288

Praise to God, immortal praise

Then the Celebrant, facing the people and persons to be married, with the woman to the right and 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 Sarah Lee Hoover and Robert Earl Meyer 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

Sarah, 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?

Sarah answers: I will.

The Celebrant says to the man

Bob, 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?

Bob 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 Ministry of the Word

The Celebrant then says to the people

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 Lesson: Tobit 8:5b-8 (*New English Bible*) (*That she and I may grow old together*)

Lector: Tobias said to Sarah, "Sister, get up, and let us pray and implore our Lord that he grant us mercy and safety." 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 forever. Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you forever. 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."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Vocal Solo: *Because of You*

Ms. May Kuknyo, soprano

The Second Lesson: Colossians 3:12-17

Lector: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn:

Hymn # 352

God, to those who here profess their vows of life long love

The Gospel:

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 15:9-12 (*Love one another as I have loved you*)

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

Deacon: Jesus said to his disciples, "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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily:

The Marriage

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

In the Name of God, I, Bob, take you, Sarah, 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, Sarah, take you, Bob, 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 Celebrant takes the rings to bless them.

Celebrant: 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

Sarah, (Bob) 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 (or in the Name of God).

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

Celebrant: Now that Sarah and Robert 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 *All stand as the couple kneels.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Reader reads the following prayers, to which the People respond, saying Amen.

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..**

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,

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 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:

All standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn:

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Hymn # 7

Presentation Hymn: (Refrain)

All good gifts around us

Hymn #291

Mr. & Mrs. Meyer present the bread and wine.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

The Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy Lord* Hymn S 128

The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

The Breaking of Bread

Fraction Anthem: *Christ our Passover* Hymn S 154

Ministration of Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion

Communion Hymns

Father, we thank thee

Hymn # 302

Strengthen for service, Lord

Hymn # 312

The Concluding Collect: *All stand*

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, Sarah and Bob, 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 Blessing:

The Dismissal:

Processional out of the church

Hymn # 397

Now thank we all our God

Postlude: *Prince of Denmark March*

Jeremiah Clarke