

**A CELEBRATION OF THE
WEDDING OF**

**CAROLINE BRINK
AND
WILLIAM DALLMAN**



27TH JUNE 2021

2PM

SAINT JAMES CHURCH

Welcome to this wonderful celebration of love and commitment which Bill and Caroline enter into today. Thank you for gathering to celebrate with them and support them with your prayers and presence. All that you need to follow the service is in this service sheet.

Music: Canon in D *Johann Pachelbel*

Welcome and Opening Responses *Reverend Mike Deed*

Lighting the Candle of Hope

One: In the joining of hands

All: We feel the compassion of Christ

One: In the joining of lives

All: We glimpse the service of Christ

One: In the joining of hearts

All: We find the love of Christ

One: And so in this gathering today

All: We find Christ among us

One: We gather today, in the presence of our passionate and joyful God to celebrate with Caroline and Bill, the love, companionship, hope and unity, which they have found in one another. We gather to hear vows pledged in holy love and to see symbols of that unending love, exchanged and embraced.

We are here not merely as bystanders but to pledge ourselves to support Caroline and Bill as they undertake to continue their life-long journey together and to share in

their joy. We will pray for them, we will encourage them and we will rejoice as they are bound to each other. Firstly, I am required to ask, if anyone present knows a reason why Caroline and Bill may not lawfully marry, they must declare it now.

Caroline and Bill, if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now.

Caroline and Bill have come to enter this holy state. They have complied with Civil and Canon Law and have been duly prepared to enter into marriage. They will each give their consent to the other; they will exchange solemn vows, and in token of this, they will each give and receive a ring.

We pray with them that by God's help they may fulfill his purpose for the whole of their earthly life together.

THE COLLECT

One Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you are pleased to dwell among us and to fill our lives with your presence: May Caroline and Bill who seek your blessing upon their union be filled with your love and may their life together be to us a sign of your promised reign of justice and peace; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

One: Our heavenly Mother, you call us into relationship with you and with each other. In the beginning, you saw that we needed comfort, help and partnership. As Caroline and Bill come today to name their relationship, bless them and us that we may all walk together in your garden of potential and new life.

All: **Amen.**

Hymn:

We hear sung:

'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty'

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

A Reading from Ecclesiastes 4.9-12

Read by Michael Carlton (Best Man)

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

All: **Thanks be to God**

A Reading from 1 John 4.7-16

Read by Claudia Stewart (Matron of Honour)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

All: Thanks be to God

Hymn:

We hear sung:

'Make me a Channel of your Peace'

Sermon

The Reverend Mike Deed

THE WEDDING

The celebrant says to the each of the couple in turn;

*N will you give yourself to N to be his/her husband /wife:
to love him/her, comfort him/her, honour and protect him/her;
and forsaking all others, to be faithful to him/her
so long as you both shall live?*

N: I will.

Do you, members of the families of *N* and *N*, give
your blessing to this marriage?

All: We do.

The celebrant addresses the following to all present.

You are the witnesses to these vows now being
made. Will you do all in your power to support and
uphold this marriage?

All: We will.

The bride and bridegroom face each other and join hands.

I *N* take you *N* to be my wife / 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
for the rest of our lives, according to God's holy law.
This is my solemn vow.

N. I give myself to you. I love you, trust you and delight in
you. I will share your burdens and your joys. I will go with
you wherever God calls us. This is my solemn promise.

THE EXCHANGING OF RINGS

One Dear friends in Christ, let us ask God to bless these rings, that they may be a symbol of the vow and covenant Bill and Caroline have made this day.

One: Almighty God,
Whose love is eternal and whose blessings are unending,
Make these *rings* to be to Bill and Caroline a holy symbol of their unity and love, so that even when apart,
They will remember the covenant they have made this day and rejoice in each other's love. In the name of the Creator and the Eternal Word and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

In turn:

I N. promise you N.
That I will love you as my own soul.
I will go where you go.
I will laugh when you laugh and weep when you mourn.
I will be your helper and partner
As long as we journey together.
In token of this I offer you this ring
So that we may never forget the covenant we entered into today.

One: Caroline and Bill have joined themselves to each other by solemn vows, signified by the joining of hands and the giving and receiving of a ring. I declare that they are married, 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.

All Amen.

Hymn:

We hear sung:

'Love Divine All Loves Excelling'

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Standing, sitting or kneeling as you are comfortable, we come before God in prayer.

One Gracious God we pray for Bill and Caroline and give thanks that you have brought them together in love.

All Spirit of God, bless this Union.

One Help them to be wise and loving parents and grandparents and to grow together in faithfulness and honesty, in mutual support and patience.

All Spirit of God, bless this Union.

One Make their life together a sign of your love in this broken world; may forgiveness heal injury and joy triumph over sorrow.

All Spirit of God, bless this Union.

One Be with them in their work and renew them in their leisure.

All Spirit of God, bless this Union.

One May they welcome into their home both friends and strangers and so reflect Christ's love for all people.

All Spirit of God, bless this Union.

One In all their future together may they enjoy each other's lives and grow through the love they share. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE

One Let us pray.

We give thanks and praise to you, O gracious God, for your unfailing love and wonderful deeds among us: for the splendor of creation, the beauty of this world, the mystery of our lives and the surprises of human love. We give you thanks and praise for *Bill and Caroline.*, because you create in them the desire for intimacy and companionship, strengthening them against prejudice and fear, and embracing them in a family of friends and loved ones. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you this day and always. Amen.

THE SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

Hymn:

We hear sung:

'Wedding Song' (There is Love)

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

One God of the covenant, hear our prayer,
and accept all we offer you this day.
You have made Bill and Caroline one
in the sacrament of marriage.
May the mystery of Christ's unselfish love,
which we celebrate in this Eucharist,
increase their love for you and for each other;
through Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

One The God of love is here.

All Between us and within us.

One Come with thanksgiving.

**All We offer our hearts and lives,
Our hopes and dreams, our joys and sorrows,
all we are and all we may be.**

One Praise and thanksgiving, blessing and glory,
be to you God of life, for you created us in love and
placed us in a garden of freedom and delight.

All We praise you God of life and love.

One Even when we turn from you, you do not leave us or
abandon us, but call us time and again into relationship
with you and with one another and call us into the
freedom and commitment known most fully in love.

All We praise you God of life and love.

One To show us this love, you sent your Son, Jesus,
to touch this earth and to transform our hearts,
loving us even to the point of death on the cross
he rose again, for your love has no end.

All Praise to you God of life and love.

One On the same night that he was handed over to death,
gathered with those he loved in an upper room, to share
the intimacy of washing their feet and the meal of
freedom. There among them, he took bread and gave
you thanks. He gave it to his friends saying "Take, eat,
this is my body which is broken for you, do this to
remember me".

All Praise to you God of life and love.

One After the meal he took a cup of wine and gave it to them and said 'Take and drink, this is my blood of the new relationship with God, which is shed for you and for many so that sins may be forgiven. Do this to remember me'.

All Praise to you God of life and love.

One So as we share this bread and wine, send your Spirit, to fill us, renew us and inspire us, igniting in our hearts that most excellent gift of love for you and for all people.

All Praise to you God of life and love. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

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

**All Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
Are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Priest: Dear friends,
I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be,
to receive Christ,
in communion with the saints,
and the gathering of God's people,
unseen and yet present with us now.
Many are made one.

Priest: We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,

**All: we welcome your presence in us,
and together proclaim our love for you;
with our hearts, minds,
our souls and our strength,
with the saints we worship you,
with the angels we adore you,
with your whole Church we proclaim your reign.
Come to us, though many,
and make us one in you. Amen.**

Communion

*We receive communion spiritually in the silence of our own hearts and minds.
One or more of the following prayers may be said....*

**One: I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ,
present in bread and wine, and present in your people,
who are gathered in spirit.
In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart,
and in our community.
May you, enthroned on the altar,
be now enthroned in my heart,
may you, present in bread and wine,
feed and renew my soul,
may you, who gives yourself to us again,
fill us with grace, and heavenly blessing.
Even as I am fed, may my hunger for you and for your reign of
justice and peace increase,**

that I may, with your Spirit, work for that day when your kingdom shall come on earth as it is heaven. Amen.

Or

One: Come Lord Jesus and make in my heart your dwelling place and home.

I seek to love you with all my heart, mind, soul and strength, and so, through your presence in bread and wine

I receive you afresh and praise you for you are my God.

As you fill me, so may my love for you and for all your people, rise and overflow, that with joy and thanksgiving, I may serve you in the world you love. Amen.

Or

One: Jesus, I believe that you are present with us in the sacrament of bread and wine.

I love you and I desire your presence afresh in my life.

Since I cannot now receive the bread and wine of the altar, come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you and unite myself to you;

Never let me be separated from you.¹

Or

One: Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment, giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present to all your people in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.

Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

And this all, in love for you. Amen.

¹ Based on a prayer by St. Alphonsus Maria de' Liguori

Prayer after Communion

One Let us pray.

Gracious God, may Bill and Caroline, who have been bound together in these holy mysteries, become one in heart and soul. May they live in fidelity and peace and obtain those eternal joys prepared for all who love you; through your Son, Jesus Christ the Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn:

We hear sung:

'One more step along the world I go'

The Dismissal

One Dear friends, Caroline and Bill have been drawn by God into a covenant of mind and body, heart and will. We have celebrated this covenant and pray that the life they share will reflect the love of God for the whole world. Let us join in prayer asking God's blessing upon us as we go forth with Caroline and Bill to proclaim with our lives the reconciling and renewing love of God made known in Jesus Christ.

One Abundant God, Lover of all creation, pour out your blessing on us and the covenant we have celebrated.

All Bless us, O God.

One In our solitude and our companionship.

All Bless us, O God.

One In our acts of tenderness and intimacy.

All Bless us, O God.

One In our delight at knowing and being known.

All Bless us, O God.

One In our acts of self-sacrifice to build up one another.

All: Bless us, O God.

One In our being comfort to each other.

All Bless us, O God.

One In our passion for justice.

All Bless us, O God.

One In our generosity and tenacity.

All Bless us, O God.

One In all our expressions of faith.

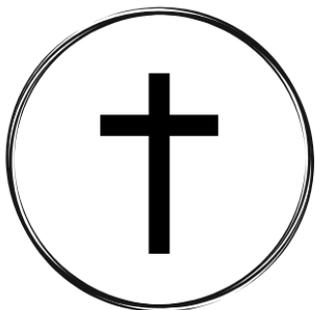
All Bless us, O God.

One Go to live in love, in joy and in hope and in the perfect knowledge of God this day and always. **Amen.**

Hymn:

We hear sung:

'Lord of the Dance'



St. James

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Rector:

Rev. Mike Deed

Parish Deacon: Rev. Deacon Ann Vander Berg

Music Director & Organist:

Richard Hansen

Parish Administrator:

Nyle Armstrong