

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

At the Offertory

Solo "O Divine Redeemer"

Charles Gounod

the Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Celebrant 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.

The Celebrant continues It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

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.

At the Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

At the Communion

Solo "Panis Angelicus" Cesar Franck

Prayer after Communion

O 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, Ian and Jack, may live together in fidelity and peace, and obtain those eternal joys prepared for all who love you; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

At the Retiring Procession

Carillon-sortie Henri Mulet



Ms. Martha [redacted] and Mrs. Jenelle [redacted]
Attendants

Mrs. Margaret [redacted] and Mr. Ralph [redacted]
Readers

Ms. MJ [redacted] and Ms. Kate [redacted]
Ushers

Barbara [redacted] Soprano
Vincent [redacted] Organist

The Rev. William [redacted] Celebrant

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ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

THE HOLY EUCHARIST
WITH THE CELEBRATION AND BLESSING OF A
COMMITMENT TO A LIFE TOGETHER

Ian [redacted]
and
Jack [redacted]

Saturday, June 14, 2003 at 3 PM

AT THE GATHERING

Organ Organ Sonata No. 2 Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
Exultate Jubilate Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Barbara [redacted] Soprano
Selections from 24 Inventions for Organ, Op. 50 Marcel Dupré

At the Procession All stand.

Wedding March Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
from A Midsummer Night's Dream

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant continues

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 376 "Joyful, joyful we adore thee" Hymn to Joy

Dear friends in Christ, we are gathered together to witness the blessing of the commitment of Ian Archer and Jack Watters as partners in life. The love of God is made manifest in the love shared by two people; and God is glorified by their commitment to each other. The sacred covenant made between two persons is for their mutual joy, for the help and comfort they will give one another in prosperity and adversity, and for the building and strengthening of the community. For this reason the community celebrates and blesses such covenants. It is prudent, therefore, that no such commitment be undertaken without careful consideration and close examination.

### THE DECLARATION OF CONSENT

*The Celebrant then asks Ian of your own free will, will you commit yourself to Jack? 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.

*Celebrant* Jack, of your own free will, will you commit yourself to Ian? 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 Celebrant then addresses the congregation, saying* Will you who witness the making of this commitment do all in your power to uphold these two persons in their life together?

*People* We will.

### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O gracious and everliving God, look mercifully upon this couple 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.

Hymn 690 "Guide me, O thou great Jehovah"

*Cwm Rhondda*

The First Reading Ruth 1:16-17

*Read by Mr. Ralph*

Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die—there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

*The reader says, The Word of the Lord. All reply, Thanks be to God.*

Psalms 121 Book of Common Prayer page 779

The Second Reading I John 4:7-16

*Read by Mrs. Margaret*

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 Savior 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.

*The reader says, The Word of the Lord. All reply, Thanks be to God.*

Hymn 525 "The Church's one foundation"

*Aurelia*

The Holy Gospel Matthew 7:21, 24-29

*At the Announcement, all say* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!" Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

*The Reader says, The Gospel of the Lord.  
All reply Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Homily The Rev. William

### THE COMMITMENT

*All stand.*

*Each, in turn says to the other.*

In the name of God, I, take you, 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 Priest blesses the rings, saying*

Bless, O Lord, these rings to be signs of the vows by which these people have bound themselves to each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*They exchange rings, saying*

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 God.

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Ian and Jack, you have come together in love, witnessed by this company, and have committed yourselves to each other in the sight of God.

Those whom God has joined together, let no one put asunder.

*People* Amen.

### THE PRAYERS

*Remain standing.*

*The Celebrant says: 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 couple whom you have brought together in love. 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 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 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 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

*The People remain standing, the couple kneel*

*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. By the power of the Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon these two men. 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 Priest then says* 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 stand.*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* And also with you.