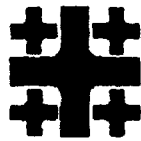


*The Celebration  
and  
Blessing of the Covenant  
of*

*and*

*Saturday, January 18, 1992  
at Noon*



*Pasadena*

CELEBRATION AND BLESSING  
OF THE COVENANT OF AND  
January 18, 1992  
12 o'clock  
Pasadena, California

VOLUNTARY

Fugue in E-flat Major (*St. Anne*) --Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

"Festerlicher Einzug" --Richard Strauss  
(1864-1949)

PROCESSIONAL *Standing.*

"Grand Choeur Dialogue" --Eugene Gigout  
(1844-1925)

A PROCLAMATION *Seated.*

Minister: Beloved people of God: We have come together in the presence of God to witness and bless the covenant of love and fidelity which and have made with each other.

The union of two persons 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 that their love may be a blessing to all whom they encounter. This solemn covenant is not to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, deliberately and with the commitment to seek God's will for their lives.

**THE DECLARATION OF CONSENT**

**Minister:**           , you come to affirm your covenant of love and fidelity with           and your intention to live together in a committed relationship. 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?

**:**                   I will.

**Minister:**           , you come to affirm your covenant of love and fidelity with           , and your intention to live together in a committed relationship. 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?

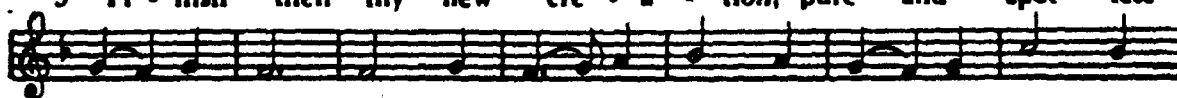
**:**                   I will.

**Minister:**           Will all of you witnessing these promises do all in your power to uphold these two persons in their covenant?

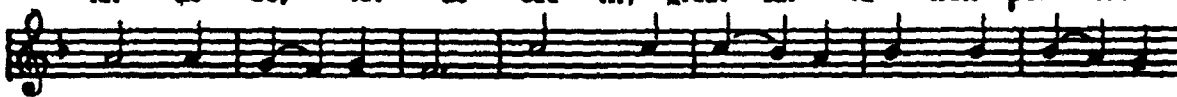
**People:**            We will.

HYMN 657 "Love Divine" *Standing; everyone sings.*

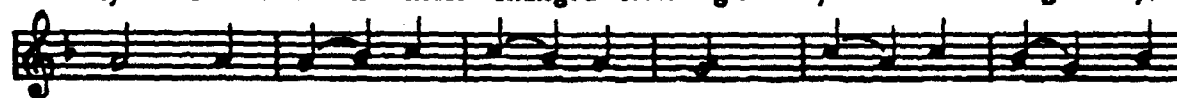
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
 2 Come, al - mighty - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



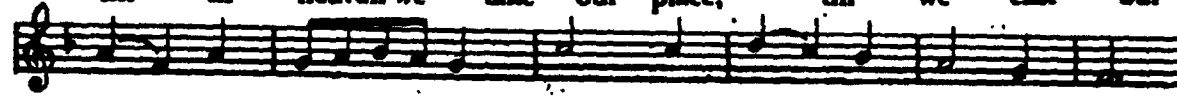
earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

--Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Ryfydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887)

**THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD** *Remain standing.*

Minister: The Lord be with you.  
 People: And also with you.  
 Minister: Let us pray.

O gracious and everliving God, you have created us in your image; 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.

**THE FIRST READING** *Seated.*

So Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, "Send me your son David who is with the sheep." Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a kid, and sent them by his son David to Saul. And David came to Saul, and entered his service. Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer. Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor in my sight." And whenever the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand, and Saul would be relieved and feel better, and the evil spirit would depart from him.

When David had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing, and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and

his bow and his belt. David went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him; as a result, Saul set him over the army. And all the people, even the servants of Saul, approved.

But David also swore (to Jonathan), "Your father knows well that you like me; and he thinks, 'Do not let Jonathan know this, or he will be grieved.' But truly, as the Lord lives and you yourself live, there is but a step between me and death." Then Jonathan said to David, "Whatever you say, I will do for you."

In the morning Jonathan went out into the field to the appointment with David.

David rose from beside the stone heap and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. He bowed three times, and they kissed each other, and wept with each other; David wept the more. Then Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, since both of us have sworn in the name of the Lord, saying, 'The Lord shall be between me and you, and between my descendants and your descendants, forever.'"

Now the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled before the Philistines, and they fell slain on Mount Gilboa. The Philistines overtook Saul and his sons; and the Philistines killed Jonathan and Abinadab and Malchisua, the sons of Saul. The next day, when the Philistines came to strip the dead, they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa.

After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites... Then David took hold of his clothes and tore them; and all the men who were with him did the same. They mourned and wept, and fasted until the evening for Saul and for his son Jonathan, and for the army of the Lord and for the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Jonathan.

Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely!  
In life and in death they were not divided;  
they were swifter than eagles,  
they were stronger than lions.

How the mighty have fallen in the midst of battle!  
Jonathan lies slain upon your high places.

I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan;  
greatly beloved were you to me;  
your love to me was wonderful,  
passing the love of women.

How the mighty have fallen,  
and the weapons of war perished!

--Selections from I Samuel (16:19-32; 18:1-5;  
20:3-4, 35, 41-42; 31:1-2, 8) and II Samuel  
(1:1, 11-12, 17, 23, 25-27).

Ministers: The Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

**ANTHEM** *Seated; sung by members of Coventry Choir.*

Yihyu lerozon imrei fi,  
Vehegyon libi lefonecho,  
Adonai tzuri vegoali.  
Amen.

*O Lord, may the words of my mouth,  
and the meditations of my heart  
be acceptable before Thee,  
Adonai, my Rock and Redeemer. Amen.*

--Words: Psalm 19:14  
Music: Ernest Bloch (1880-1959)

## THE SECOND READING

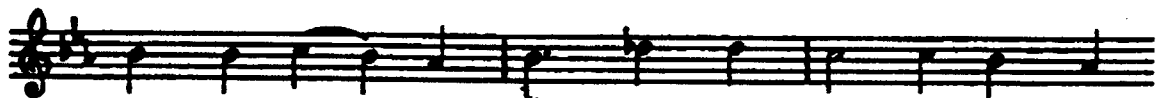
He is entirely alone who is without a friend. But what happiness, what security, what joy to have someone to whom you dare to speak on terms of equality as to another self; one to whom you need have no fear to confess your failings; one to whom you can unblushingly make known what progress you have made in the spiritual life; one to whom you can entrust all the secrets of your heart and before whom you can place all your plans! What, therefore, is more pleasant than so to unite to oneself the spirit of another and of two to form one, that no boasting is thereafter to be feared, no suspicion to be dreaded, no correction of one by the other to cause pain, no praise on the part of one to bring a charge of adulation from the other.

--Aelred of Rievaulx (1110-1167),  
*Spiritual Friendship 2:11*

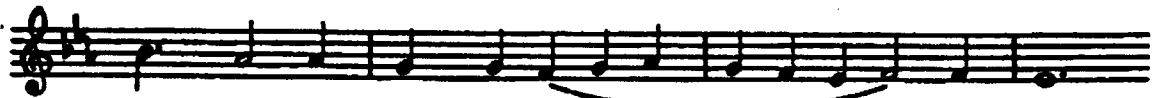
HYMN 487 "Come, My Way" *Standing; everyone sings v. 1 & 2.*



1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a  
2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all  
light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in



strife; such a life as kill eth death.  
length; such a strength as makes his guest.



**THE GOSPEL** *Remain standing.*

Minister: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
Matthew (5:14-16).


People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Creator in heaven."

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**HYMN 487** "Come, My Way" *Remain standing; everyone sings v. 3.*



3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a  
joy as none can move; such a love as none c  
part; such a heart as joys \_\_\_\_\_ in love.

--Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)  
Music: *The Call*, Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

## HOMILY

## THE COVENANT

: 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.

: 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.

## THE BLESSING OF THE RINGS

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

, 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.

Minister: Now that and have given themselves to each other by solemn vows, with the joining of hands and the giving and receiving of rings, I proclaim that they are united to one another in a holy covenant in the Name of God--Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

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

People: Amen.

**ANTHEM** *Remain seated; sung by members of Coventry Choir.*

My Shepherd will supply my need,  
 Jehovah is his Name;  
 in pastures fresh he makes me feed  
 beside the living stream.  
 He brings my wandering spirit back  
 when I forsake his ways,  
 and leads me, for his mercy's sake,  
 in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death,  
 thy presence is my stay;  
 one word of thy supporting breath  
 drives all my fears away.  
 Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,  
 doth still my table spread;  
 my cup with blessings overflows,  
 thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God  
 attend me all my days;  
 oh, may thy house be mine abode  
 and all my work be praise.  
 There would I find a settled rest,  
 while others go and come;  
 no more a stranger or a guest,  
 but like a child at home.

--Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23  
 Music: *Resignation*, American folk melody, arr. Virgil Thomson

**THE PRAYERS** *Standing.*

**Minister:** 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 Jesus gave his life, and especially upon these two people whose Covenant you bless.

**People:** Amen.

**Minister:** 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.

**Minister:** 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 lives.

**People:** Amen.

- Minister:** 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.
- Minister:** 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.
- Minister:** Bless the children in their lives and give them the grace to bring them up to know you, to love you, and to serve you.
- People:** Amen.
- Minister:** Give them such fulfillment of their mutual affection that they may reach out in love and concern for others.
- People:** Amen.
- Minister:** Grant that all persons who have witnessed these vows may find their lives strengthened and their loyalties confirmed.
- People:** Amen.
- Minister:** 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 God, with your son and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign in perfect unity, now and for ever.
- People:** Amen.

**THE BLESSING OF THE COVENANT** *Congregation stands;  
kneel.*

**Minister:** 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 your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon these 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 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.

**People:** Amen.

**THE PEACE**

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

**GREETINGS** *Seated.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Remain seated; sung by members of* *Choir.*

From all that dwell below the skies  
let the Creator's praise arise!  
Let the Redeemer's Name be sung  
through every land, by every tongue!

Eternal are thy mercies, Lord,  
and truth eternal is thy word:  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore  
till suns shall rise and set no more.

*Congregation stands and joins in singing:*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

--Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)  
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Standing.***

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.  
**People:** And also with you.

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.  
**People:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People:** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

**Priest:** God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
**People:** Glory to you for ever and ever.

**Priest:** At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
**People:** By your will they were created and have their being.

**Priest:** From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.  
**People:** Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

**Priest:** Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.  
**People:** By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

**Priest:** And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



**SANCTUS/BENEDICTUS** *Remain standing; everyone sings.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly. ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
 might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

--Setting: Jonathan A. Tuuk

**THE CONSECRATION** *Kneeling.*

**Priest:** And so, God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts.. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**Priest and People:**

We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of Christ's coming.

**Priest:** Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebekah, and Rachel; God and Creator of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in Christ's name.

**People:** Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

**Priest:** Accept these prayers and praises, God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**People:** Amen.

Minister: Let us pray together,  
in the words our Savior taught us.

Minister and People:

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

*A period of silence is kept, during which the Priest  
breaks the consecrated Bread.*

Priest: We are one bread, one body.  
People: We will love one another as Christ loves us.

**THE INVITATION**

**Priest:**       The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION**

*All persons, whether Episcopalians or not, are welcome to participate in the sacrament. If you seek a greater and stronger Christian life and a more humane society, we urge you to come to the altar.*

*The ushers will assist people to the appropriate place for communion.*

*Please take hold of the chalice firmly and guide it to your lips, or dip the wafer in the small chalice of wine.*

*Please respond to the reception of bread and wine by saying, "Amen."*

## DURING COMMUNION

ANTHEM *Sung by*                      *and*                      *Choir members.*

Love bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back,  
 Guilty of dust and sin.  
 But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack  
 From my first entrance in,  
 Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,  
 If I lacked any thing.

A guest, I answered, worthy to be here:  
 Love said, You shall be he.  
 I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear  
 I cannot look on thee.  
 Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,  
 Who made the eyes but I?

Truth, Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame  
 Go where it doth deserve.  
 And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?  
 My dear, then I will serve.  
 You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:  
 So I did sit and eat.

--Words: Poem by George Herbert (1593-1633)  
 Music: "Love Bade Me Welcome" from *Five Mystical  
 Songs*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

HYMN 333 "Now The Silence" *Everyone sings.*

Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty  
 hands up - lift - ed Now the kneel - ing Now the plea  
 Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come Now the hear - ing  
 Now the power Now the vas - sel brimmed for pour - ing  
 Now the Bo - dy Now the Blood Now the joy - ful  
 cel - e - bra - tion Now the wed - ding Now the songs  
 Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing Now the Spi - rit's  
 vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny  
 Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

--Words: Jaroslav J. Vajda (b. 1919). Copyright 1969 by Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
 Music: Carl Flentge Schalk (b. 1929)

HYMN "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" *Everyone sings.*



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Blest be the tie that binds<br/>Our hearts in Jesus' love:<br/>The fellowship of Christian minds<br/>Is like to that above.</p>            | <p>3. We share our mutual woes,<br/>Our mutual burdens bear;<br/>And often for each other flows<br/>The sympathizing tear.</p>                    |
| <p>2. Before our Father's throne<br/>We pour united prayers;<br/>Our fears, our hopes, our aims<br/>are one;<br/>Our comforts and our cares.</p> | <p>4. When we at death must part,<br/>Not like the world's, our pain;<br/>But one in Christ, and one in<br/>heart,<br/>We part to meet again.</p> |
| <p>5. From sorrow, toil, and pain,<br/>And sin, we shall be free;<br/>And perfect love and friendship reign<br/>Throughout eternity.</p>         |   |

--Words: John Fawcett, 1782  
Music: L. Mason, 1832

**A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *Standing.*

**Priest:** 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, and 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.

**People:** Amen.

**THE BLESSING**

**Priest:** God the Creator, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully look with favor 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 RECESSIONAL**

"Now Thank We All Our God" (1950)<sup>2</sup>



**SOLOISTS:**

**ACOLYTES:**

**BANNER BEARERS:**

**USHERS:**

**PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE:**

**Pasadena, California**