



The Marriage
of
Samantha and
John



March 16, 2024
Grace Lutheran Church

Prelude

Processionals

Te Deum

Charpentier

Largo from Xerxes

Handel

Opening Prayer

P: Almighty God the stories we hear from the past reveal the power and promise of the love you have for your people. Our own experiences affirm the constancy of Your continuing love for us now and forever. At this moment, stir up and awaken in Samantha and John the fullest possible measure of that pure love which you have shared with us through Your Holy Spirit, that the promises that they make to each other today will reflect the intimacy, and constancy and hope of the covenant you share with us through Your Son, our savior, Jesus Christ.

C: AMEN.

Reading

Exodus 2:16-25

The priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. But some shepherds came and drove them away. Moses got up and came to their defense and watered their flock.

When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come back so soon today?"

They said, "An Egyptian helped us against the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock."

He said to his daughters, "Where is he? Why did you leave the man? Invite him to break bread."

Moses agreed to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah in marriage.

She bore a son, and he named him Gershom (Sojourner There); for he said, "I have been an alien residing in a foreign land."

After a long time the king of Egypt died.

The Israelites groaned under their slavery and cried out. Out of the slavery their cry for help rose up to God and God hears their moaning, and God remembers God's covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and God saw the Children of Israel, and God knew.

R: *The Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God!**

*Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord,
who walks in his ways!*

**You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.**

*Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots around your table.*

**Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.
The Lord bless you from Zion!**

*May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life!
May you see your children's children!
Peace be upon Israel!*

*Reading**Revelation 19 & 21*

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunderpeals, crying out,

"Hallelujah!
For the Lord our God
the Almighty reigns.
Let us rejoice and exult
and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready;
to her it has been granted to be clothed
with fine linen, bright and pure"--

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had gone, and the sea is no more. . .

And the city, the holy new Jerusalem, I saw, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice from the throne saying,
 "See, the tabernacle of God is among mortals.
 He will tabernacle with them {as their God;*}
 they will be his peoples,*
 and God himself will be with them;*
 he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
 Death will be no more;
 mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
 for the first things have gone away."
 And the one sitting on the throne said, "Behold, I make all new."

R: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!

Verse

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the second chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

John 2:1-11

And on the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. And Jesus and his disciples were called into the wedding.

And lacking wine, the mother of Jesus says to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus says to her, "What is that to you and to me, ma'am? My hour has not yet come."

His mother says to the servants, "Whatever he may say to you, do it!"

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.

Jesus says to them, "Fill the jars with water."

And they filled them to the very top of the brim.

And he says to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward!"

So they took it.

When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from, but the servants who had drawn the water knew, the steward called the bridegroom and says to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and after getting drunk, the lesser. But you have kept the good wine until now."

This he did, the beginning of the signs of Jesus, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples had faith in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

Hymn

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,



Exchange of Vows

John, wilt thou have thys woman to thy wedded wyfe, to lyve together after Goddes ordynaunce in the holye estate of Matrimony? Wylt thou love her, comforte her, honour, and kepe her, in sickenes, and in healthe? And forsakyng al other, kepe thee onely to her, so long as you both shall live?

The man shall aunswere, "I will."

Samantha, wilt thou have this man to thy wedded housband, to lyve together after Goddes ordynaunce in the holy estate of matrimony? wilt thou obey hym and serve him, love, honour, and kepe him, in sycknes and in health? And forsakyng al other, kepe the onely to him so long as ye bothe shal live?

The woman shall aunswere, "I will."

I John/Samantha take thee Samantha/John to my wedded wife/Husband, to have and to hold from thys day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for porer, in sickenes, and in healthe, to love and to cheryshe, tyll death us departe; according to Gods holy ordinaunce, and therto I plight thee my trouth.

Blessing of Rings

Gracious God, by your blessing let these rings be to Samantha and John symbols of their unending love and faithfulness; reminders of the vow and covenant they have made this day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Exchange of Rings

With this ring I thee wed: with my body I thee worship: and with all my worldly goodes, I thee endow. In the name of the Father, and of the Sonne, and of the holy Ghost. Amen.

Declaration of Marriage

*Samantha and John by their promises before God and in the presence of this congregation, have bound themselves together as husband and wife. Blessed be the Father, Son and Holy Spirit now and forever. **C: AMEN***

Blessing

Our Lord God who created our first parents and established them in marriage, establish and sustain you until your life's end. **C: AMEN**

Prayers

O eternall God, creatoure and preserver of all mankynd, giver of all spirytuall grace, the aucthour of everlastyng life: send thy blessing upon these thy servauntes, thys man and this woman, whom we blesse in thy name, that as Isaac and Rebecca lyved faithfully together: So these persons may surely performe and kepe the vow and covenaut betwixte them made, wherof these rings geven, and received, is a token and pledge, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according unto thy lawes, thorough Jesus Christ our Lorde. Amen.

All praise and blessing to you, God of love, creator of the universe, maker of man and woman in your likeness, source of blessing for married life. May your blessings continue to come in full upon Samantha and John. May they ever know your presence in their joys and sorrows. May they be sustained and nurtured with the love and support of family and friends, and may they live ever in your promised hope that they will come at last to your eternal wedding banquet which has no end.

Now, God of tenderness and strength, we give you thanks that you have brought Samantha and John's paths together and led them to this day; go with them now as they travel through the life together. Bless all our homes, all our meetings, and our partings. Make us worthy of each other's best and make us tender with each other's dreams. Trusting in the never-failing love of your Son we ask this in His name.

C: AMEN

Passing of the Peace

Great Thanksgiving

S 161

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Detailed description: This block contains the first four staves of a musical score. Each staff is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and half notes with various phrasing slurs. The lyrics are printed below each staff, aligned with the notes.

P: It is right . . .

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Detailed description: This block contains the second four staves of the musical score. The melody continues from the previous section. The lyrics are printed below each staff. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

P: Holy God . . .

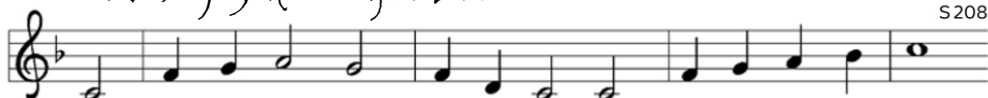
The Lord's Prayer

S 163



Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

S208



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Distribution Hymn

Here I am Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Distribution Hymn

Taste and See

Refrain - All

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,

taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Leader or All

1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall

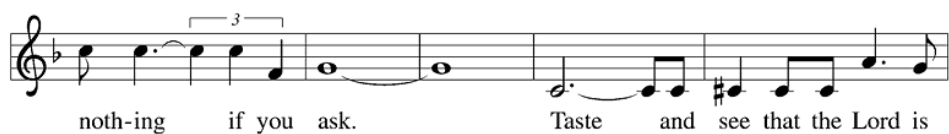
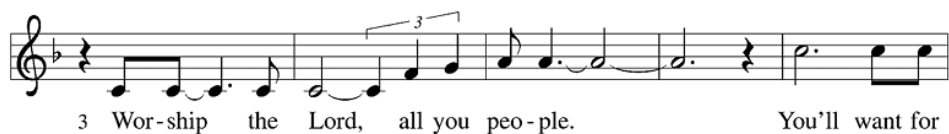
al-ways be on my lips; my soul shall glo-ry in the

Lord; for God has been so good to me.

Refrain

2 Glo-ri - fy the Lord with me. To - geth-er let us

all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who an - swered



Distribution Hymn

I Am the Bread of Life

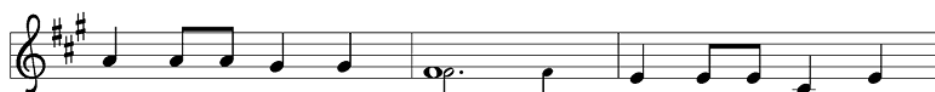
Leader or All



1 "I am the Bread of life. You who
2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my
3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the
4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion, . . .
5 Yes, Lord, . . . I be - lieve that . . .



come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
flesh for the life of the world, . . . and if you
flesh of the Son of Man . . . and . . .
I . . . am the life. . . If you be -
you . . . are the Christ, . . . the . . .



lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
eat . . . of this bread, and you shall . . live for -
drink . . . of his blood, and drink . . . of his
lieve . . . in . . . me, e - ven . . . though you
Son . . . of . . . God, who . . . have . . .



me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
ev - er, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
die, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
come in - to . . . the . . . world. . .

Refrain

All



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,



and I will raise you up on the last day.”

The image shows a musical score for a vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The key signature is D major (two sharps: F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. The vocal melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the piano accompaniment is written on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "and I will raise you up on the last day.”. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases slurred together. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines.

Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer

Benediction & Kiss

Recessional

Overture from *Marriage of Figaro*

Mozart