

Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Matrimony & Holy Eucharist

May 3, 2025 – 4:00 pm



CELEBRATION AND BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE OF

*Erin Kelly &
Dan Bartley*

WELCOME TO GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
FOR THIS JOYOUS OCCASION.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
SERVICE IS INCLUDED IN THIS BULLETIN.

HYMNS ARE FOUND IN THE BLUE *HYMNAL 1982*,
WITH HYMN NUMBERS NOTED IN THE BULLETIN.

Then the Officiant 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.

DECLARATION OF CONSENT

Celebrant

Erin, 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?

Bride I will

Dan, 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?

Groom 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 COLLECT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O gracious and everliving God, you have created humankind in your image: Look mercifully upon Erin and Dan 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 people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Song of Songs 2:10-13, 8:6-7

Lector A reading from the Song of Songs

My beloved speaks and says to me:

“Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away,
for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave.

Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it.

If one offered for love all the wealth of one’s house,
it would be utterly scorned.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The psalm is read responsively by whole verse.

PSALM

Psalm 67

- 1 May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
- 2 that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has yielded its increase;

God, our God, has blessed us.

7 May God continue to bless us;

let all the ends of the earth revere him.

The people stand.

HYMN 487

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

The Call

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-10

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people are seated.

HOMILY

Father Santiago Rodriguez

Silence is kept.

THE BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE

Celebrant

Erin and Dan, you have come here today to seek the blessing of God and of his Church upon your marriage. I require, therefore, that you promise, with the help of God, to fulfill the vows which Christian Marriage demands.

The groom, takes the right hand of the bride and says

In the Name of God, I, Dan, take you, Erin, 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.

The bride, takes the right hand of the groom and says

In the Name of God, I, Erin, take you, Dan, 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.

BLESSING OF THE RINGS

Bless, O Lord, this ring 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 groom places the ring on the ring finger of the bride and says

Erin, 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.

The bride places the ring on the ring finger of the groom and says

Dan, 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.

JOINING OF SPOUSES

Then the Celebrant joins the right hands of the couple and says

Now that Erin and Dan 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 wed to one another, 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. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OVER THE SPOUSES

The Leader and People pray responsively

For Erin and Dan. For peace in their home and love in their family;

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

For the grace and wisdom to care for the children you entrust to them;

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

For the honesty to acknowledge when they hurt each other, and the humility to seek forgiveness;

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

For the outpouring of your love through their work and witness;

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

For the strength to keep the vows each of us has made;

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

For all of us that the witness of this sacred union may strengthen our hope and aid us in all our bonds of friendship and love;

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

Silence

Celebrant

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF THE SPOUSES

The people stand.

THE PEACE

BCP, p. 332

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people are seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

HYMN 390

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe den Herren

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP P.361

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 God 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. Because you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: 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:

**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. 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.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 364

Celebrant 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

BCP, p. 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BCP, p. 364

Celebrant 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.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the eucharist.

A full communion is made with the bread alone, but if you choose to receive the wine, you may either drink from the cup, or you may offer your wafer to the person holding the chalice, who will dip the bread in the wine for you.

If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are available.

During communion, if you prefer not to receive, you may offer a prayer for Erin and Dan.

HYMN 482

Lord of all hopefulness

Slane

The people stand or kneel.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP, p. 432

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, Erin and Dan, 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 blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All stand and sing the hymn.

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

RECESSIONAL

La Réjouissance (Music for Royal Fireworks)

George Frideric Handel

A Message to Family and Friends of Erin & Dan: Commitment of Prayers and Love

As family and friends, you are here today to celebrate the joy and hopes of this couple, but your role extends beyond this day. Marriage is God's love story for their lives, and their decision to say "I do" is a sacred offering to one another and to God. As family and friends, we are called to support and pray for them, not only in moments of joy but also during times of sadness, hardship, and uncertainty. May we help them live out their vows with grateful hearts and a spirit willing to embrace God's love and deep care.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

<i>Celebrant & Preacher</i>	Father Santiago Rodriguez
<i>Organist</i>	John C. Stowe
<i>Lectors</i>	Karlene Parker, Tom Parker
<i>Acolyte</i>	Jay Legere
<i>Usher</i>	Elizabeth Legere
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Sarah Schultz, Lucy Lee Reed
<i>Wedding Coordinator</i>	Eleanor Reed