

Liturgy for the wedding service
of
Wassim Dandash and Heleen van den Berg



October 15th, 2021

Pastor: J.A. van den Berg
Organist: E.M. van den End

Silent prayer – Stil gebed

Votum and benediction – Votum en groet

Psalm 68:10 (in English Bible text: Psalm 68:35 "O God, You are more awesome than Your holy places. The God of Israel is He who gives strength and power to His people. Blessed be God!").

Geloofd zij God met diepst ontzag!
Hij overlaadt ons, dag aan dag,
Met Zijne gunstbewijzen.
Die God is onze zaligheid;
Wie zou die hoogste Majesteit
Dan niet met eerbied prijzen?
Die God is ons een God van heil;
Hij schenkt, uit goedheid, zonder peil,
Ons 't eeuwig, zalig leven;
Hij kan, èn wil, èn zal in nood,
Zelfs bij het naad'ren van den dood,
Volkomen uitkomst geven.

Apostolic Confession of Faith – Apostolische geloofsbelijdenis

Psalter 422:3 – Psalm 89:3 in het Nederlands
The heavens praise, O Lord, Thy wonders day and night;
Thy saints on earth extol Thy faithfulness and might;
Exultingly they ask: "Who, Lord, within Thy dwelling,
Who of the kings of earth, in carnal strength excelling,
Can be compared with Thee, Jehovah great and glorious,
In all Thy wise designs triumphant and victorious?"

Prayer – Gebed

Reading Ephesians 5:15-33

15 See then that you walk
circumspectly, not as fools but as
wise,
16 redeeming the time, because

Efeze 5:15-33

15 Ziet dan, hoe gij voorzichtiglijk
wandelt, niet als onwijzen, maar
als wijzen.
16 Den tijd uitkopende, dewijl de

the days are evil.

17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife

dagen boos zijn.

17 Daarom zijt niet onverstandig, maar verstaat, welke de wil des Heeren zij.

18 En wordt niet dronken in wijn, waarin overdaad is, maar wordt vervuld met den Geest;

19 Sprekende onder elkander met psalmen, en lofzangen, en geestelijke liederen, zingende en psalmende den Heere in uw hart;

20 Dankende te allen tijd over alle dingen God en den Vader, in den Naam van onzen Heere Jezus Christus;

21 Elkander onderdanig zijnde in de vreze Gods.

22 Gij vrouwen, weest aan uw eigen mannen onderdanig, gelijk aan den Heere;

23 Want de man is het hoofd der vrouw, gelijk ook Christus het Hoofd der Gemeente is; en Hij is de Behouder des lichaams.

24 Daarom, gelijk de Gemeente aan Christus onderdanig is, alzo ook de vrouwen aan haar eigen mannen in alles.

25 Gij mannen, hebt uw eigen vrouwen lief, gelijk ook Christus de Gemeente liefgehad heeft, en Zichzelven voor haar heeft overgegeven;

26 Opdat Hij haar heiligen zou, haar gereinigd hebbende met het bad des waters door het Woord;

27 Opdat Hij haar Zichzelven heerlijk zou voorstellen, een Gemeente, die geen vlek of rimpel heeft, of iets dergelijks,

loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

31 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

maar dat zij zou heilig zijn en onberispelijk.

28 Alzo zijn de mannen schuldig hun eigen vrouwen lief te hebben, gelijk hun eigen lichamen. Die zijn eigen vrouw liefheeft, die heeft zichzelf lief.

29 Want niemand heeft ooit zijn eigen vlees gehaat, maar hij voedt het, en onderhoudt het, gelijkewijs ook de Heere de Gemeente.

30 Want wij zijn leden Zijns lichaams, van Zijn vlees en van Zijn benen.

31 Daarom zal een mens zijn vader en moeder verlaten, en zal zijn vrouw aanhangen; en zij twee zullen tot een vlees wezen.

32 Deze verborgenheid is groot; doch ik zeg dit, ziende op Christus en op de Gemeente.

33 Zo dan ook gijlieden, elk in het bijzonder, een iegelijk hebbe zijn eigen vrouw, alzo lief als zichzelf; en de vrouw zie, dat zij den man vreze.

Psalm 138:3 en 4 – Bible texts Psalm 138:5-8 "Yes, they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord. Though the Lord is on high, yet He regards the lowly; But the proud He knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand will save me. The Lord will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, o Lord, endures forever; do not forsake the works of Your hands."

3 Dan zingen zij, in God verblijd,
Aan Hem gewijd,
Van 's HEEREN wegen;
Want groot is 's HEEREN heerlijkheid,
Zijn Majesteit
Ten top gestegen;
Hij slaat toch, schoon oneindig hoog,
Op hen het oog,
Die need'rig knie - len;
Maar ziet van ver met gramschap aan
Den ijd'len waan
Der trotse zielen.

4 Als ik, omringd door tegenspoed,
Bezwijken moet,
Schenkt Gij mij leven;
Is 't, dat mijns vijands gramschap brandt,
Uw rechterhand
Zal redding geven.
De HEER is zo getrouw, als sterk;
Hij zal Zijn werk
Voor mij volen - den,
Verlaat niet wat Uw hand begon,
O Levensbron,
Wil bijstand zenden.

Bible text for Heleen and Wassim: Ephesians 5:20-21

20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Sermon

Psalter 415:3 and 4 – Psalm 25:3,4 in het Nederlands.

3 Call to mind, O Lord Jehovah,
Tender mercies manifold,
And Thy store of loving kindness
Which has ever been of old.
Sins of youth remember not,

Nor recall my hid' transgression;
For Thy goodness' sake, O God,
Think of me in Thy compassion.

4 Good and upright is Jehovah
In His dealings ever more.
Sinners are by Him instructed
In the way untrod before.
He will ever guide the meek
In His judgments true and holy;
Teach His ways to those who seek
With a contrite heart and lowly.

We read the Form for the Confirmation of Marriage:

Whereas married persons are generally, by reason of sin, subject to many troubles and afflictions; to the end that you, Wassim Dandash and Helena van den Berg who desire to have your marriage bond publicly confirmed, here in the name of God, before this Church, may also be assured in your hearts of the certain assistance of God in your afflictions, hear therefore from the Word of God, how honorable the marriage state is, and that it is an institution of God, which is pleasing to him. Wherefore he also will (as he has promised) bless and assist the married persons, and on the contrary, judge and punish whoremongers and adulterers.

I. In the first place you are to know, that God our Father, after he had created heaven and earth, and all that in them is, made man in his own image and likeness, that he should have dominion over the beasts of the field, over the fish of the sea, and over the fowls of the air. And after he had created man, he said, It is not good that man should be alone, I will make him a help meet for him. And the Lord caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof. And the rib which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, this is now bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man. Therefore shall a man leave his father, and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh (Gen. 2:18, 21-24). Therefore you are not to doubt, but that the married state is pleasing to the Lord, since he made

unto Adam his wife, brought and gave her himself to him to be his wife; witnessing thereby that he does yet as with his hand bring unto every man his wife.

For this reason the Lord Jesus Christ did also highly honor it with his presence, gifts and miracles, in Cana of Galilee, to show thereby that this holy state ought to be kept honorably by all, and that he will aid and protect married persons, even when they are least deserving it.

But that you may live godly in this state, you must know the reasons, wherefore God has instituted the same. The first reason is, that each faithfully assist the other, in all things that belong to this life, and a better. Secondly. That they bring up the children, which the Lord shall give them, in the true knowledge and fear of God, to his glory, and their salvation.

Thirdly. That each of them, avoiding all uncleanness and evil lusts, may live with a good and quiet conscience.

For, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and every woman her own husband (1 Cor. 7:2); insomuch that all, who are come to their years, and have not the gift of continence, are bound by the command of God, to enter into the marriage state, with knowledge and consent of parents, or guardians and friends; so that the temple of God, which is our body, may not be defiled; for, whosoever defiles the temple of God, him shall God destroy (1 Cor.3:17).

II. Next, you are to know, how each is bound to behave respectively towards the other, according to the word of God.

First. You, who are the bridegroom, must know, that God has set you to be the head of your wife, that you, according to your ability, shall lead her with discretion; instructing, comforting, protecting her, as the head rules the body; yea, as Christ is the head, wisdom, consolation and assistance to his Church.

Besides, you are to love your wife as your own body, as Christ has loved his Church: you shall not be bitter against her, but dwell with her as a man of understanding, giving honor to the wife as the weaker vessel, considering that ye are joint heirs of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered. And since it is God's command, that the man shall eat his bread in the sweat of his face (Gen. 3:19), therefore you are to labor

diligently and faithfully, in the calling wherein God has set you, that you may maintain your household honestly, and likewise have something to give to the poor.

In like manner, must you, who are the bride, know how you are to carry yourself towards your husband, according to the Word of God. You are to love your lawful husband, to honor and fear him, as also to be obedient unto him, in all lawful things, as to your Lord, as the body is obedient to the head, and the Church to Christ. You shall not exercise any dominion over your husband, but be silent: for Adam was first created, and then Eve, to be a help to Adam; and after the fall, God said to Eve, and in her to all women, "your will shall be subject to your husband." You shall not resist this ordinance of God, but be obedient to the word of God, and follow the examples of godly women, who trusted in God, and were subject to their husbands; "as Sarah was obedient to Abraham, calling him her lord": you shall also be a help to your husband in all good and lawful things, looking to your family, and walking in all honesty and virtue, without worldly pride, that you may give an example to others of modesty.

Wherefore you, Wassim Dandash, and you, Helena van den Berg, having now understood that God has instituted marriage, and what He commands you therein; are you willing thus to behave yourselves in this holy state, as you here do confess before this Christian assembly, and desirous that you be confirmed in the same?

What is the answer of both of you? Answer: Yes.

I take you all, who are met here to witness, that there is brought no lawful impediment.

Since then it is fit that you be furthered in this your work, the Lord God confirm your purpose, which He has given you; and your beginning be in the Name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

May I now request you to join hands and answer the following questions:

Wassim Dandash, do you acknowledge here before God and this His holy Church, that you have taken, and do take to your lawful wife, Helena van den Berg, here present, promising her never to forsake her;

to love her faithfully, to maintain her, as a faithful and pious husband is bound to do to his lawful wife; that you will live holily with her; keeping faith and truth to her in all things according to the holy gospel?

What is your answer, Wassim? Answer: Yes.

"I, Wassim Dandash, take you, Helena van den Berg, to be my wedded wife, and I do promise and covenant before God and these witnesses to be your loving and faithful husband, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, until death do us part."

Helena van den Berg, do you acknowledge here before God, and this His holy Church, that you have taken, and do take to your lawful husband, Wassim Dandash, here present, promising to be obedient to him, to serve and assist him, never to forsake him, to live holily with him, keeping faith and truth to him in all things, as a pious and faithful wife is bound to her lawful husband according to the holy gospel?

What is your answer, Heleen? Answer: Yes.

"I, Helena van den Berg, take you, Wassim Dandash, to be my wedded husband, and I do promise and covenant before God and these witnesses to be your loving and faithful wife, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, until death do us part."

Psalm 134:2 – Bible text Psalm 134:2: "Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord".

Heft uwe handen naar omhoog,
Slaat naar het Heiligdom uw oog,
En knielt eerbiedig voor Hem neer;
Looft, looft nu aller heren HEER.

Marriage benediction: The Father of all mercies, who of his grace has called you to this holy state of marriage, bind you in true love and faithfulness, and grant you his blessing. Amen.

Psalm 134: 3 - please, raise up – in English Bible text Psalm 134: "The Lord who made heaven and earth bless you from Zion!"

3 Dat 's Heeren zegen op u daal',
Zijn gunst uit Sion u bestraal'.
Hij schiep 't heelal, Zijn naam ter eer;
Looft, looft dan aller heren Heer"!

Personal word

Presentation of the Bible

Hear now from the Gospel, how firm the bond of marriage is, as described, Matt. 19:3-9: The Pharisees also came unto Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?" And he answered and said to them, "Have you not read, that He who made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate." They said to him, "Why then did Moses then command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?" He said to them, "Moses because of the hardness of your hearts permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, Whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery: and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

Believe these words of Christ, and be certain and assured, that your Lord God has joined you together in this holy state. You are therefore to receive whatever befalls you therein, with patience and thanksgiving, as from the hand of God, and thus all things will turn to your advantage and salvation. Amen.

Hearken now to the promise of God, from Psalm 128: Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways. When you eat the labor of your hands, you shall be happy, and it shall be well with you. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house, your children like olive plants all around your table. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord. The Lord bless you out of Zion, and may you see the good of Jerusalem all the days of your life. Yes, may you see your children's children. Peace upon Israel!

Let us pray:

Almighty God, You, who manifests your goodness and wisdom in all your works and ordinances; and from the beginning have said, that it is not good that man be alone and therefore have created him a help meet to be with him, and ordained that they who were two should be one, and who also punishes all impurity; we pray You, since You have called and united these two persons in the holy state of marriage, that You wilt give them your Holy Spirit, so that they in true love and firm faith may live holy according to Your divine will and resist all evil. Please, also bless them as You have blessed the believing fathers, thy friends and faithful servants, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; in order that they as coheirs of the covenant which You have established with these fathers, may bring up their children, which You will be pleased to give them, in the fear of the Lord, to the honour of Your holy name, to the edification of Your Church and to the extension of the holy gospel. Hear us, Father of all mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, our Lord, in whose name we conclude our prayer:

Our Father which is in heaven. Hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

The Lord our God replenish you with his grace, and grant that you may long live together in all godliness and holiness. Amen.

Psalter 42:6 – Psalm 84:6 in het Nederlands

O God Jehovah, good and kind,
On Zion's mount in clouds enshrined,
Thou art our sun and shield forever.
To upright souls that seek Thy face
Thou givest glory, truth, and grace;
E'en in death's vale Thou failest never.
O Lord of hosts, how blest is he
Who puts his stedfast trust in Thee!

Benediction