

The Marriage Covenant Celebration



*Amy Michelle Holzer
and
Adam Joseph McManus*

*Saturday, the Eleventh of November
In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Six
At Five O'clock in the Evening*

*Alamo Heights United Methodist Church
San Antonio, Texas*

God loves wedding days. He designed them to be a picture of heaven on earth. He invented them to be a foretaste of something far bigger than the bride and groom, far more than the cake and flowers. He created weddings to be a demonstration of who He is. We want the Author of lasting love to be our Guest of Honor.

A covenant is not a contract. It's not a business agreement scrawled on a piece of notebook paper that either party can terminate on a disgruntled whim. It's not a "feel good" transaction designed to get a whole bunch of free wedding gifts. A marriage covenant is an ancient ceremony, a solemn act, a sacred vow. It's a binding of two lives, the forging of two destinies for a common purpose. It is the most holy, most sacred, most celebrated, and most serious act a human being can make. A marriage covenant defines your life, your behavior, and all your future decisions from the moment you say, "I do."

A wedding isn't about the dress or the tux, the stringed quartet, the flowers, the candelabras, the gifts, the rings, or even the bride or the groom. It's about the covenant exchange and the God who oversees it. In God's economy, a wedding covenant is an earthly picture of a much more significant covenant that He established with His bride nearly 2,000 years ago. And God intends every wedding to be a reminder of that blood covenant, which He invites each and every one of us to enter into with Him.

Covenant making is a serious business. God treats covenants as binding and forever. When He covenants with us, He doesn't ever change His mind. He Himself is bound by covenant. He gives Himself entirely to us, everything He is and everything He has -- His entire life. His only request is that we give ourselves entirely to Him in return. That's the gospel. It's an invitation to enter into a covenant with the God of the universe, to become one with Him and to enjoy the fullness of His person for eternity. And that's the essence of a wedding day -- offering our entire life unequivocally to another, to become one with them and enjoy the fullness of their person for a lifetime.

Someone in love wants more than just kisses, love notes and love songs for a lifetime. After a while, the sparkle of each of those fabulous things will begin to fade if it is not backed up with a covenant commitment. The sacred vow of covenant, the sacred "I do," is what brings out the unprecedented beauty of romance in a marriage... The same is true with our King. He is eager for us to obey His truth, write Him love notes, and sing Him love songs, but as our chosen King, He desires a binding, non-retractable covenant commitment from us.

Excerpts from "A Perfect Wedding" by Eric and Leslie Ludy, pages 25-27

"The LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, ... the wife of your marriage covenant." - Malachi 2:14

The Prelude

“And Can It Be” by Thomas Campbell

“Father I Adore You” by Terrye Coelho

“Praise the Lord, The Almighty” by Stralsund Gesangbuch

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” by Ludwig Van Beethoven. Celestial Sounds

“Be Thou My Vision” by Dallan Forgaill Becker Quartet

“Come Thou Fount” by Robert Robinson Organist Robert Parrigan

“Yes, There’s An Answer” by Leon Patillo The Reverend Charles Flowers

“He Reigns Forever” arr. by Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir

. Maranatha Bible Choir led by Johnson Nantawubwa

Prayer for the Armed Forces on Veterans Day Mr. Clayton Trotter

“Star Spangled Banner” by Francis Scott Key Mrs. Robin Lees

The Wedding Ceremony

***G**ather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders,
gather the nursing children. Let the bridegroom leave his room
and the bride her chamber.*

- Joel 2:16

Call to Worship and Invocation The Reverend Rob Schenck

Seating of the Parents, Grandparents

“Fairest Lord Jesus” with “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” Becker Quartet

***H**onor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the
land the LORD your God is giving you.*

- Exodus 20:12

***T**hey can train the younger women to love their husbands and
children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be
kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the
word of God.*

- Titus 2:4-5

Parents of the Bride:

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew J. Holzer from DeSoto, Texas

Parents of the Groom:

Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. McManus from Potomac, Maryland

Grandmothers of the Bride:

Earlene Saunders and Naomi Montalvo from DeSoto, Texas

“Adopted” Grandmother of the Groom:

Hazel Ladd from Durham, North Carolina

Procession of the Groom and Groomsman

“Trumpet Tune” by Henry Purcell Becker Quartet and organ

Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!
~ Matthew 25:6

He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the
Lord.
~ Proverbs 18:22

Best Man: Todd Reid

GROOMSMEN:

Don Johnson, Louis Bratton, Brett Becker, Josh Davis, Damon Holzer

GROOMSWOMAN: Roe Ann Estevez

Procession of the Bridesmaids

“Pax” (Peace) by Catherine McMichael Celestial Sounds

Maid of Honor: Sarah Gray

Matron of Honor: Audra Abseck

Dear friends, since God so loved us,
we also ought to love one another.
~ I John 4:11

Bridesmaids:

Jodie Holzer, Rae Alexander, Christina Higgins, Jennifer Reynolds

Bridesman: Robert Reynolds

Procession of Flower Girls, Bell Girl and Ring Bearers

“Jesus Loves Me” Celestial Sounds with the Becker Quartet

And He said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

~ Matthew 18:3

Flower girls:

Hallie Holzer, Amy’s niece, daughter of Damon and Jodie Holzer

Olivia McManus, Adam’s niece, daughter of John and Melissa McManus

Bell Girl:

Abigail Holzer, Amy’s niece, daughter of Damon and Jodie Holzer

Ring Bearers:

Matthew Holzer, Amy’s nephew, son of Damon and Jodie Holzer

Jack McManus, Adam’s nephew, son of John and Melissa McManus

Entrance of the Bride

“Trumpet Voluntary” by Jeremiah Clarke Becker Quartet with organ

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.

~ Proverbs 31:10-12

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

~ Ephesians 5:25-27

Declaration of Intent

Giving of the Bride

Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 4:8-12 Mr. Josh Davis

Marital Covenant Blessing Mr. Doug Phillips

Salt Covenant Rev. Rob Schenck

The salt covenant in Bible times was a covenant of loyalty. The God we serve is a God of covenant. The Word of God says “the Lord keeps covenant for a thousand generations to those who love him and keep His commands.” (Deuteronomy 7:9) The Gospel that we preach is a covenant Gospel.

Why is salt used? Because salt is a type of the church. Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth.” (Matthew 5:13) Salt fights corruption. Jesus said, “If the salt has lost its saltiness, it is good for nothing but to be cast out and trodden under foot.” The church is not here to cover before evil. The church is here to conquer evil. We are not people-pleasers. We are God-pleasers.

Salt is used because salt, in history, was priceless. Men have been paid in salt for their labor. We still have the word “salary” from the Latin word for salt. We also have the saying, “He who is not willing to work is not worth his salt.” In the eyes of God, every believer, like salt, is priceless in His sight.

In ancient times, when two people wanted to enter into a covenant of loyalty, they would recite the details of the covenant, exchange salt from one pouch to the other and then shake the pouches. The symbolism is powerful. The only way this contract could possibly be broken is for each to individually retrieve their own grains of salt, which is impossible. So, once the covenant of loyalty is spoken and made, it is bound on earth and recorded in heaven.

“Amazing Grace” by John Newton . . . Members of the San Antonio Pipes And Drums

“When Jesus Gets Married:

A Wedding Sermon for Adam and Amy” Rev. Rob Schenck
Matthew 25: 1–3

Contrary to our typical way of thinking, marriage isn't only about two people in love vowing to live in faithfulness 'til death parts them. Marriage is about two people serving each other, preparing each other for a heavenly Spouse, the ultimate Bridegroom, Jesus Christ.

“How Majestic” Maranatha Bible Choir led by Johnson Nantawubwa

Exchange of Vows

Exchange of Rings

“Flesh of my Flesh” by Leon PatilloRev. Charles and Janice Flowers

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.
~ Genesis 2:24

So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.

- Matthew 19:6

Pronouncement of Marriage

Presentation of Bride & Groom

We give you thanks, O Lord God Almighty. The One who is and was and is to come. Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.

- Revelation 11:17

Breaking of the Glass

This Jewish tradition serves as an expression of sadness at the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, and identifies the couple with the spiritual and national destiny of the Jewish people. A Jew, even at the moment of greatest rejoicing, is always mindful of the Psalmist's injunction to set Jerusalem above his highest joy.

Beyond that, the breaking of the glass also serves to remind us of three important aspects of a marriage. First, the Bride and Groom and all the witnesses should consider these marriage vows as permanent and final as the breaking of this glass is unchangeable. Second, the breaking of the glass is also a warning of the fragility of a marriage. That sometimes a single thoughtless act, a breach of trust or infidelity can damage a marriage in ways that are very difficult to undo -- just as it would be difficult to undo the breaking of the glass.

Finally, it is also meant to remind us that even during this happy occasion, the world is still full of pain and sadness. Our task as Christians is to offer the balm of Jesus Christ to help repair the shattered people in our shattered world.

Benediction

Wedding Recessional

La Rejouissance (The Rejoicing) by George F. Handel

Rondeau by J. Mouret

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- I Timothy 1:17

The Reverend Charles E. Flowers has served as the Senior Pastor of Faith Outreach Center, International in San Antonio since 2001. He's been married to the love of his life, Janice for 25 years. They have four wonderful children; Jarrell, 24, Kimberly, 23, Marsha, 21, and Richard, 20. Pastor Flowers also is the Founder and Director of Christian Boot Camp -- a 32-day, in-residence, military-style boot camp for young men and women between the ages of 13 and 19. Christian Boot Camp is designed to re-instill the values that have been lost in our society for a couple of generations -- values such as discipline, morality, unity and integrity. Pastor Flowers is a powerful, heart-stirring singer and has released his first CD entitled "Tribute to America" featuring "God Bless America," "Amazing Grace," and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" among others that have been a source of strength, courage and comfort to America. Learn more at www.faith-outreach.org

The Reverend Rob Schenck, a Messianic Jew, is president of the National Clergy Council and co-founder with his twin brother, Dr. Paul Schenck, of Faith and Action in Washington, D.C., America's only Christian missionary outreach to the justices of the United States Supreme Court. Their office is literally right across the street. The mission of Faith and Action, supported by its more than 25,000 donors from all 50 states, is to "Bring the Word of God to bear on the hearts and minds of those who make public policy in America." An ordained minister in the Evangelical Church Alliance and a volunteer with the U.S. Senate Chaplain's office, Rob is an outspoken national advocate for the sanctity of life, the sanctity of marriage and the right to display the 10 Commandments in the public marketplace. In his capacity as a minister to Capitol Hill, Rev. Schenck has met and spoken personally with President George W. Bush, Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, numerous members of Congress and all nine justices of the U.S. Supreme Court. He is a close personal friend to former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore. Rob is the author of *The Ten Words That Will Change A Nation* and a regular guest on Adam's radio show. In fact, his work has been featured on CNN, NBC Nightly News, MSNBC, ABC and CBS News, PBS, The Lehrer News Hour, NPR, the BBC, CBC and CBN. Major articles about the Schenck brothers or their quotes have appeared in the Atlanta Constitution, the Baltimore Sun, the Chicago Tribune, the Houston Post, the Jerusalem Times, the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, USA Today, the Washington Times, the Washington Post, Time Magazine, Life Magazine, Newsweek and US News and World Report. Rob is married to Cheryl. They have two children, Anna, 27, and Matthew, 25 and live in Northern Virginia. Learn more at www.FaithandAction.org

Mr. Doug Phillips is the director of Vision Forum Ministries, a discipleship and training ministry that emphasizes Christian apologetics, worldview training, multi-generational faithfulness, and creative solutions whereby fathers can play a maximum role in family discipleship. A constitutional attorney, Doug served with the Home School Legal Defense Association for six years. He serves as Adjunct Professor of Apologetics for the Institute for Creation Research, and co-authored the book, *Weapons of Our*

Warfare with ICR's president Dr. John Morris. He is the author/editor of *Robert Louis Dabney: The Prophet Speaks; Poems for Patriarchs; The Birkenhead Drill;* and *The Letters & Lessons of Teddy Roosevelt for His Sons*. In addition to editing and writing numerous books, Doug founded the Witherspoon School of Law and Public Policy, The Christian Boys' & Men's Titanic Society, the National Center for Family-Integrated Churches, the All-American Boy's Adventure Catalog, the Beautiful Girlhood Collection catalog, and the Vision Forum Book Catalog. Doug has appeared on numerous radio and television shows and has spoken at more than one-hundred home school conferences in forty-two states. Doug has produced and directed the feature documentary *Raising the Allosaur* and a look at the heroic stand of Chief Justice Roy Moore entitled *The Law of the Land*. His most recent film, *The Faith of Our Fathers*, about how Christian fatherhood impacted three men during the bloody conflict of Iwo Jima, is currently in production. The greatest joys in Doug's life are his wife Beall and the eight children that God has graciously given to them: Joshua, Justice, Liberty, Jubilee, Faith Evangeline, Honor, Providence and their latest arrival Virginia Hope, born on October 20th. They live in San Antonio, Texas. Learn more at www.VisionForum.com

The Wedding Party

A wedding ceremony is not merely two people covenanting before God. It is two people covenanting before God and before a select host of witnesses. It includes a wedding party covenanting before God to serve this covenant bond and help preserve its sacred wholeness for as long as both shall live. A wedding party shouldn't be chosen merely out of social obligation, but out of a desire to surround yourself with a community that can hold you accountable to your sacred covenant vows.

Another name the Scriptures use to describe John the Baptist is "friend of the bridegroom" (John 3:29) which was the equivalent term in the Hebrew culture for what we know as the best man. That's right! John the Baptist, was, in a sense, Jesus' best man. Unfortunately, over the past 2,000 years, much of the significance of that sacred position has been lost.

God appointed John the Baptist to care for His bride (God's set-apart people) and prepare her for the arrival of Her groom (Jesus Christ). The Jewish custom was for a man to entrust his bride-to-be into the care of his most trusted friend while he went off and prepared a home for himself and his future wife. While the groom was gone, the friend of the bridegroom was responsible for protecting the purity of his friend's fiancé.

And when the groom finally returned to claim his bride, the friend of the bridegroom would decrease in the bride's life so that the bridegroom could increase and take his rightful position. So when John the Baptist said the words, "He [Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30), he was using terminology that a Jew would understand in the context of a wedding covenant.

If God Himself picked out a friend – John the Baptist -- for the enactment of His covenant with mankind, let's follow His example and pick the most excellent of men and women to assist us in the enactment of covenant on our sacred day.

Excerpts from "A Perfect Wedding" by Eric and Leslie Ludy, pages 43-44

Best Man

Todd Reid and Adam met through one of Adam's talk show sponsors and Todd's former employer -- Artesia Water. Through the encouragement of Todd's boss Barney Randall, Todd began attending Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) where he ultimately trusted Jesus Christ as his Savior. Adam and Todd became good friends through their attendance at BSF, Harvest Fellowship's singles group, and their mutual love of politics. Todd has had a front row seat and been a witness to the ebb and flow of Adam and Amy's relationship over the past four plus years. Throughout the blossoming friendship and eventual engagement, Todd has been their biggest cheerleader. Todd, who now works as a salesman with TruLife in the health care industry, just bought a condo in Phoenix, Arizona, attends Scottsdale Bible Church and, yes ladies, he's single!

Groomsmen:

Don Johnson and Adam met through Crossroads Fellowship in Raleigh, North Carolina where they both volunteered in the Sunday School children's ministry. Adam taught the kindergarten class for several years -- helping kids memorize Scripture, acting out Bible stories and bringing "Pockets" -- the Kangaroo puppet -- to life. Don, a gifted guitarist, would travel between classes, leading the kids with enthusiastic praise songs. Throughout Adam's radio career in Raleigh/Durham, Don, a Senior Account manager with DuPont, and his wife Audrey all became close friends -- enjoying meals and Columbo re-runs together. Don lives in Vista, California, attends Calvary Chapel of Oceanside where he wrote and produced a kids' album called Calvary Kids Concert, has two grown children Cris and Russell and is now the proud grandfather of Kyla, age 4, and Avery, 21 months.

Louis Bratton and Adam met through Louis' wife Loretta when she worked at KSLR Radio in the sales department and ultimately as Adam's call screener for "Take A Stand." They were the first family in San Antonio to take Adam under their wing, acquainting this East Coaster with the strange new world of Mexican food and Texas-sized shrimp from Corpus Christi. Louis and Adam have watched many a James Bond movie marathon together around Thanksgiving as Adam has whipped up his signature cranberry chutney. Louis, a gifted artist, is co-owner of Bratton Brothers Sign Company, a Trinity University graduate, teaches Sunday School at Leon Springs Baptist Church here in San Antonio and has two grown children Crystal and Shaun, and two grandkids Amber, 7, and Katelyn, 4.

Brett Becker and Adam met through one of Adam's "Current Events Forums" at the Lighthouse Christian Coffee and Café. Inevitably, Brett would answer the most correct questions during the 100-question pop quiz which kicked off the monthly roundtable discussion. Not surprising for a Princeton Theological Seminary grad. Eventually, Adam and Brett became housemates for a couple of years during which they battled with two remotes pointed at the same TV in the living room. Brett wanted to watch sports and hunting. Adam wanted to watch Fox News, Food TV and reality shows. However, many an evening was spent discussing God's gift of women! Brett pastors St. Paul Evangelical Church in Cibolo and would love to settle down, like Adam, at the ripe age of 40. By the way, that's next year!

Josh Davis and Adam first became acquainted through the world of radio. After having interviewed Josh several times about how he unashamedly talks about Christ in the world of sports, Adam asked Josh to guest host "Take A Stand" on KSLR Radio. In 1996, Josh Davis made history by becoming the only man in any sport from any nation at the Atlanta Olympic Games to win 3 gold medals. With a passion for representing America, Josh returned to the Olympics in Sidney, Australia in 2000 where he was elected Captain of the USA Men's Swim Team. He went on to break the American record three times in the 200 meter free-style event and won two silver medals at the 2000 Sidney Games. Josh is one of the most optimistic and enthusiastic people you'll ever meet. He and his devoted wife Shantel are raising five champions for Christ: Caleb, Abigail, Luke, Annabelle, and Liam. He's a professional swimmer, attends Oak Hills Church and speaks 100 times a year across the country about Jesus and developing the Olympian within.

Damon Holzer and Adam obviously met during Adam's dating relationship with Amy. In fact, it was Damon who wrote Adam an e-mail in which he said, "I feel that she would drop anything for you in a heartbeat if you would commit to her." Damon, the older of the two, is married to Jodie, and they have three very adorable children: Hallie, 4, Matthew, 3, and Abigail, 18 months. Like Amy, Damon is a consummate voice impersonator, often starting phone conversations with a heavy foreign accent. Damon is a voracious reader, has a heart to learn about creationism, and is not afraid to be politically incorrect, prompting an occasional eye roll from his family. He works for AT&T, attends Oak Fellowship and lives in Waxahachie, Texas.

Groomswoman:

Roe Ann Estevez had listened to Adam's talk show while working in public relations at St. Mary's University. When Adam was challenging KSLR listeners to call and e-mail KENS-TV 5 -- urging them not to air a scene of Jack Kevorkian killing Thomas Youk on camera during a "60 Minutes" segment -- Roe Ann called in Friday afternoon asking Adam to lead a candlelight prayer vigil in front of the TV station that Sunday night. 114 KSLR listeners showed up, taking a stand for the sanctity of human life. KENS-TV was one of five stations in the country not to air that disturbing segment. Roe Ann and Adam became good friends, sharing a desire to make a difference for Christ and a love for cooking and entertaining. She works for A. Larry Ross Communications representing Billy Graham and Promise Keepers, lives with her husband Leo on a lake in a Dallas suburb with their three Shelties and attends Firewheel Bible Fellowship.

Maid of Honor:

Sarah Gray and Amy became friends through their 10th grade dance class in Cedar Hill, Texas where they grew up. After graduating from high school, they went to the University of Texas at Austin where they were roommates who too often got caught up in the latest episode of A&E's "The Wedding Story." Sarah now lives in Houston, where she works for Gurwitch Products, a distributor of Laura Mercier cosmetics as Manager of Product Procurement. Amy and Sarah share a love of sarcasm, analyzing their love lives, and drinking red wine with dinner. Sarah's play-by-play peanut-gallery comments always keep Amy smiling. She's 29 and has been dating Ben for three months.

Matron of Honor:

Audra Abseck and Amy became close friends through their 10th grade history class. The football coach/history teacher would often play classic movies during which Audra and Amy would solve the world's problems -- or at least 10th grade girl problems! Inevitably, they'd get lost together as Amy drove them around in her red '89 Mustang. Directions were never a forte for either one. Amy's mother swore that it was an excuse to stay out later. Audra, who works as a nurse at an elementary school in Austin, lives with her husband Carl and their 3-year-old son Gunnar.

Bridesmaids:

Jodie Holzer is Amy's sister-in-law. The first thing most people notice about Jodie is her longsuffering patience -- which is pretty much a requirement since she married Amy's brother Damon. If you're not careful, she'll suck you into playing a German board game named "Settlers of Catan" for hours on end. Amy loves eating Jodie's homemade chocolate chip cookies while they're still warm. She's a stay-at-home Mom raising Hallie -- age 4, Matthew, 3, and Abigail, 18 months. Jodie's family attends Oak Fellowship where they attend Bible studies and serve in the nursery.

Rae Alexander and Amy first met when Amy moved to Houston in April, 2004 because Adam wasn't ready to commit. Rae, 27, is an aspiring actress who works as a Chevy Motor Sports spokesmodel at NASCAR events across the country. After having committing her life to Christ several years ago, she's become involved in Bible studies and Sunday School at New Life Church in Houston. Like Amy, Rae has an uncanny ability to impersonate virtually anyone. As roommates, they treasured their 5 a.m. runs around Memorial Park, their Sunday afternoon mimosas and making up cheesy Christmas commercials.

Christina Higgins is Amy's cousin and a stay-at-home mother who lives in Roswell, New Mexico with her husband Jamie and their two children Taylor, age 3, and Nathaniel, 2. Growing up, Amy and Christina loved dressing alike since both felt like the other was the sister they never had. Some of their favorite childhood memories include celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas with Amy's parents and Grandma Mamer. A holiday highlight was visiting their Great Aunt Hazel who always fed them glazed, chocolate donuts. Christina loves the Lord and is very involved in her home church.

Jennifer Reynolds is married to Amy's cousin Mike. They live in Midlothian and have two children -- Graydon, age 4, and Marenn, 2. She works as an aesthetician at an Aveda spa where she and some other Christian co-workers have led several colleagues and clients to faith in Christ. Amy always looks forward to her visits home as she and Jennifer spend countless hours talking about everything from the Lord to relationships to eyebrow waxing. When Adam virtually proposed over the phone during a four-hour conversation on Christmas Day 2005, Amy was at Jen's house. The very next day, they celebrated by purchasing five bridal magazines!

Bridesman

Rob Reynolds is Amy's cousin. During their teenage years and early 20's, they would always date each other's friends. Inevitably, when one cousin got a new friend of the same sex, the other cousin got excited about the possibility of exploring a new romantic relationship. Rob lives in Arlington, Texas where he has had a career in software development.

Our wedding vows

Groom

I, Adam Joseph McManus, covenant before God and man, to you Amy Michelle Holzer to be your loving husband, and to lead you, to protect you, and provide for you in the fear of the Lord.[1] I vow to love you as my wife even as Christ also loved the church, to lay down my life for you;[2] and to wash you with the water of the Word.[3] I vow to love you as my own body, and to nourish and cherish you even as the Lord does the church, to render unto you the affection due you, knowing that I do not have authority over my own body but you do.[4] I vow to dwell with you according to knowledge, giving honor unto you, as unto the weaker vessel, and living together with you as heirs of the grace of life.[5] Amy, you alone will be my delight as the wife of my youth.[6] I will fight for you, for our sons, for our daughters, and for our household.[7] The Lord do so to me, and more also, if anything but death parts you and me.[8]

Bride

I, Amy Michelle Holzer, covenant before God and man, to you Adam Joseph McManus to be your loyal wife and to submit myself under your headship.[10] Just as the Church is subject to Christ,[11] so I will be to you in everything. I will live first unto our God and then unto you, loving you, caring for you, obeying you, and ever seeking to please you as my earthly lord.[12] I will be your discreet keeper at home,[13] diligently and faithfully caring for the affairs of your household so that your heart may always safely trust in me.[14] If the Lord chooses to so bless us, it will be my delight to be your fruitful bearer[15] of children, and I will help you diligently teach them the commandments of the Lord as we talk of them in your house, as we walk by the way, when we lie down, and when we rise up.[16] Wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.[17] The Lord do so to me, and more also, if anything but death parts you and me.[18]

1. 1 Timothy 5:8 -- "If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."
2. Ephesians 5:25 -- "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her."
3. Ephesians 5:26 -- "to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word,"
4. 1 Corinthians 7:4 -- "The wife's body does not belong to her alone, but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone, but also to his wife."
5. 1 Peter 3:7 -- "Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers."
6. Proverbs 5:18 -- "May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth."
7. Nehemiah 4:14 -- "After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, 'Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.'"
8. Ruth 1:17 -- "Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me."
9. Hosea 2:19-20 -- "I will betroth you to me forever; I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the Lord."
10. Ephesians 5:22 -- "Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord."
11. Ephesians 5:24-25 -- "Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her."

12. I Peter 3:6 -- "like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear."
13. Titus 2:5 -- "to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the Word of God."
14. Proverbs 31:11 -- "Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value."
15. Psalms 128:3 -- "Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table."
16. Deuteronomy 6:6-7; 11:19 -- "These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."
17. Ruth 1:16 -- "But Ruth replied, 'Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.'"
18. Ruth 1:17 -- "Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me."

Special thanks to our wonderful vendors for their commitment to Our Wedding Celebration

The Becker Quartet is comprised of Will and Dawn Becker and their two children Luke and Anna. If you would like to inquire about The Becker Quartet and their repertoire of music for your next formal occasion, call them at 830.438.7888 or e-mail: beckerquartet@gmail.com

Celestial Sounds is a sibling quartet composed of four of the 12 children in the Huber Family. Nikkæ, 22, plays piano in addition to violin. Katherine, 18, plays the flute and piano. Brandon, 16, plays cello. And Anthony, 14, plays cello and piano. If you'd like to add some beauty and class to your special event, please contact Nikkæ Huber of Celestial Sounds at 210.363.7566 or e-mail: celestialsounds@gmail.com

If you've had a chance to see our wedding website, www.AdamsWedding.net, you can see first-hand that **Full Fusion** can build a professional-looking, fully-functional website for you, your ministry or your business. Over the past several months, Roger Hall has been an absolute God-send as we have brainstormed and tweaked our site from start to finish as well as the design layout for this program. Call Full Fusion at 210.587.7560 or visit www.FullFusion.net

Joan Meredith, an award-winning photojournalist and commercial photographer, has a passion for photography that spans the past 30 years. Call Joan Meredith Photography at 210.828.7678, e-mail her: joan@joanmeredith.com or visit www.JoanMeredith.com

As Amy and I were searching for our florist, we finally chose Letty Rodriguez of **Pretty Petals Floral Boutique**. Call Pretty Petals Floral Boutique at 210.732.6241 or toll-free 1.800.648.7673 or e-mail lettymk@yahoo.com. They're located at 2932 Hillcrest, San Antonio, TX 78201 and their website is www.prettypetalsfloral.com.

Throughout her 20-year musical journey, singer and songwriter **Robin Lees** has performed and written in a wide range of genres of music ranging from country to Christian. If you're looking to add some pizzazz to your next church or corporate event, invite Robin Lees to sing. To book Robin, contact Brenda Gonzeles by e-mail at brendag@robinleesmusic.com or call 210.617.4172 or her cell 210.367.7443. Get her music and check out her website: www.robinleesmusic.com

If you or a loved one is looking for an excellent videographer, look no further than **TiMachine** at 2603 Altadena, San Antonio, Texas 78259. Call Tim or Darrah Fowler at 210.481.2586, e-mail them at info@timachine.com or visit their website www.Timachine.com

Special Message from Adam and Amy

First and foremost, we thank our Lord Jesus Christ for calling us unto Himself. Without His guiding presence in our lives, we would not be who we are today. It is by His perfect plan that we stand here today, committing our lives to Him and each other.

We are honored today by the witness of friends and family as we enter into the covenant of marriage. We thank our parents in particular for the love and support they bestowed upon us throughout our lives. It is because of your sacrifice, dedication and example that we desire to create a family of our own. Thank you for loving each other and for preparing us for today and the years to come, by demonstrating to us Godly marriages in the midst of a covenant-breaking culture.

To our friends, thank you for your kindness and for rejoicing with us today. Your prayers and support have been a constant encouragement. Thank you for walking through life with us, for bearing our burdens in the difficult times and for celebrating with us in the good. We look forward to creating many more memories with you in the months and years to come.

If any of you have not yet asked your Creator to forgive you for your sins and trusted Christ as your Savior, we prayerfully encourage you to call 1-888-Need-Him or visit www.livingwaters.com/good. Once you have begun that relationship with Jesus, make sure you find and attend a Bible-believing church and read the Scriptures daily, starting with a chapter a day in the book of John in the New Testament. Check out the “Our Daily Bread” devotional on-line at www.rbc.org/odb.

Romans 10:9 says “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Making that heart-felt confession was the most *important* decision that either one of us has ever made.

As the threads of our lives are joined together, we are grateful for how all of you have been an integral part in the weaving of this tapestry. May the Lord truly bless you and keep you and make His face to shine on you!

In the name of our heavenly Bridegroom Jesus Christ,

Adam and Amy

Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority.

~ Jude 24, 25

I have found the one my soul loves.
~ Song of Solomon 3:4



As Adam and Amy head off to their long-awaited honeymoon tomorrow, they'll remember the wise counsel of Song of Solomon 2:10-13: "My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for lo, 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.'"

Aaaamen!!

Our address:

Adam and Amy McManus
11765 West Avenue #272
San Antonio, Texas 78216
adam@TakeAStand.net

Look for wedding pictures and videos in December at www.AdamsWedding.net

Marriage presents a constant choice to decrease so that Christ may increase in your spouse's life. When both spouses choose to befriend the heavenly Bridegroom, the natural result is a romantic and poetic love for all time.