

Lisabeth Miller & Matt Kettledon Wedding ~ June 6, 2010 ~ A homily preached by The Rev'd Erl G. Purnell at Wadsworth Mansion, Middletown, CT

*The Princess Bride* is one of my favorite movies. The reason? Because it's about a Great Love.

Great Love is rare stuff. Great Love is like the sweetness of lavender honey in the comb or dark, rich maple syrup. It's sticky and warm and the taste is unforgettable.

Great Love might be compared to a closet full of Cole Haans of every style and color. Perhaps Great Love could also be described as a bug-less computer program, or even better, clients who don't bug the computer programmer.

Liz and Matt, you have a Great Love. We've all seen your relationship blossom. While I'm tempted to banter with you as we often do, this moment is just too special for those antics. Rather, let me make two observations.

Matt, while you already know this, I want to say out loud that Liz is an Original. She's one-of-a-kind. Her kind spirit, her good heart, her energy, creativity, and work ethic...these are bred in the bone. And, it's an added blessing that she's chosen to express herself in music, the most universal language. You know you're lucky to share life with Liz. And, as good as she is now, as the years go by, she's only going to get better. I've watched Liz grow and mature for awhile now and, if that's any indication of what's to come, she will continue to spread her wings as she follows her star.

And Liz. Liz, Matt's a rock...a big, strong, tender rock. A handsome rock who knows well how to take the lead and when to ease back. Best of all, Matt's steady. When the vagaries of life whirl you around, and they will, reach out and find his hand because he'll be anchored and ready to calm the storm. I think we agree, too, that it's a good thing to be connected to somebody who's as smart as Matt. He has professional, business smarts as well as the practical kind of smarts. Like Matt, you are lucky; you've chosen to share your life with this really, really good man.

There's more to say about each of you and about the Great Love you've embarked upon. But, there's also a marriage that's waiting to happen. So, let's do that...