

# The Wedding Service

The Wedding of (names, M and W)

With special thanks to

Celebrant Rev.

Parents

Matron of Honour

Best Man

Bridesmaid

Groomsman

Organist

## PROCESSIONAL MUSIC

### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

We have come together in the sight of God for the joining in marriage of this man (M) and this woman (W).

Our Lord Jesus Christ said of marriage that "From the beginning of creation God made them male and female. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one." So they are no longer two but one. What therefore God has joined together, let no person put asunder.

Marriage is the symbol of God's unending love for his people, and of the union between Christ and his Church. So Saint Paul teaches that the husband must love his wife as Christ loved the Church, and that the wife must give due honour to her husband.

Marriage is a gift from God for the well-being of humankind, and for the proper expression of natural instincts and affections with which he has endowed us.

It is a life-long union in which a man and a woman are called so to give themselves in body, mind, and spirit, and so to respond, that from their union will grow a deepening knowledge and love of each other. In the joys and sorrows of life, in prosperity and adversity, they share their companionship, faithfulness, and strength.

In marriage a new family is established in accordance with God's purpose, so that children may be born and nurtured in secure and loving care, for their well-being and good order of society, to the glory of God.

I charge you both, as you will answer before God, that if either of you know any reason why you may not lawfully be joined together in matrimony, you now confess it. For be assured that those who marry otherwise than God's word allows are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful in his sight.

#### THE CONSENT

M, will you take W to be your wife, to live together according to God's law? Will you give her the honour due to her as your wife and, forsaking all others, love and protect here, as long as you both shall live?

I will

W, will you take M to be your husband, to live together according to God's law? Will you give her the honour due to her as your wife and, forsaking all others, love and protect here, as long as you both shall live?

I will

Who brings this woman to be married to this man?

I do OR "we do" (option for one parent or two)

God our Father, in your great love for mankind you have given us the gift of marriage; so bless these two persons as they pledge their lives to each other, that their love may evermore grow to be the true reflection of your love for us all; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THE EXCHANGING OF RINGS

Grant, Lord, that these rings may be a token and constant sign of the pledge of love and faithfulness which these two persons make to each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THE GIVING AND RECEIVING OF RINGS

**(M)**, With this ring I wed you; With all that I am and all that I have I honour you; in the name of God. Amen.

**(W)**, I receive this ring in token of our marriage. May God enable us to grow in love together.

**(W)**, With this ring I wed you; With all that I am and all that I have I honour you; in the name of God. Amen.

**(M)**, I receive this ring in token of our marriage. May God enable us to grow in love together.

## The Minister Declares:

Before God and the presence of us all, by solemn consent and promise, by the giving and receiving of a ring, and by the joining of hands, M and W have now accepted each other in marriage. In the name of God I declare them to be husband and wife.

God the Father enrich you with his grace,

God the Son make you holy in his love,

God the Holy Spirit strengthen you with his joy.

The Lord bless you and keep you in eternal life.

**Amen. Blessed be the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; one God, to be praised for ever.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Two Readings from the Bible

**A Wedding Sermon** (The Minister)

## THE PRAYERS

Lead by the Minister

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

## THE SIGNING OF THE DOCUMENTS

## THE RECESSIONAL