

Second Order Wedding Service



The people stand at the invitation of the minister

music for the entry of the Bride

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And also with you.

God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.
(1 John 4.16)

We have come together in the presence of God to witness the marriage
of **(Bride)** and **(Groom)** and to ask God's blessing on them as we share
their joy.

Marriage is a gift of God our creator, a symbol of God's unending love
for his people, and a picture of the relationship between Christ and his
Church. Christ loved his bride the Church, and gave himself for her.

As God has called **(Bride)** and **(Groom)** to marriage, so he draws their
differing gifts and hopes into a unity of love and service.

Scripture teaches that marriage is a lifelong partnership uniting a woman
and a man in heart, mind, and body.

In the joy of their union, husband and wife enrich and respond to each
other, growing in tenderness and understanding.

Through marriage a new family is formed,
where children may be born
and grow in secure and loving care.

Marriage is therefore to be honoured by all.
No one should enter it lightly or selfishly,
but responsibly and joyfully,
with mutual respect and the promise to be faithful.

So let us pray with **(Bride)** and **(Groom)**
as they prepare to exchange their solemn vows:

Blessed are you, loving God,
your spirit binds us together.
Crown our lives with your goodness;
sustain us all our days with your love.
Bless **(Bride)** and **(Groom)** with wisdom and pleasure.

Be their friend and companion in joy,
their comfort in need and in sorrow.
And when this life is ended
welcome them into your presence,
there with all your people
to praise your holy name:

The congregation is seated for the reading of God's word

the first reading

Eg Ephesians 3:14-19

the second reading

Eg I Corinthians 13:4-13

After each reading, the readers say

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God

the address

the pledge

(Groom), will you give yourself to **(Bride)**,
to be her husband,
to live with her according to God's word?
Will you love her, comfort her,
honour and protect her,
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her
so long as you both shall live?

The groom answers

I will.

(Bride), will you give yourself to **(Groom)**,
to be his wife,
to live with him according to God's word?
Will you love him, comfort him,
honour and protect him,
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him
so long as you both shall live?

The bride answers

I will.

The congregation stands and the celebrant says

Families and friends,
you are witnesses to these vows.
Will you do everything in your power
to uphold **(Bride)** and **(Groom)** in their marriage?

The congregation answers

We will

The groom, taking the bride's right hand in his, says

I, (**Groom**), in the presence of God,
take you, (**Bride**), 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,
so long as we both shall live.
All this I vow and promise.

The bride taking the groom's right hand in hers, says

I, (**Bride**), in the presence of God,
take you, (**Groom**), 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,
so long as we both shall live.
All this I vow and promise.

the giving and receiving of rings

The priest, holding the rings, prays

God of steadfast love,
by your blessing,
let these rings be
for (**Bride**) and (**Groom**)
a symbol of their love and faithfulness
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Groom and bride will say as the rings are exchanged

I give you this ring
as a symbol of our marriage.
With all that I am and all that I have
I honour you; in the name of God. **Amen.**

Before they loose hands, the groom and bride may respond

I receive this ring
as a symbol of your love and faithfulness
to the end of our days.

The priest addresses the congregation

Before God and in the presence of us all,
(**Bride**) and (**Groom**) have joined hands
and made their solemn vows,
promising life-long faithfulness to each other.
In the name of God,
I declare them to be husband and wife.
What God has joined together,
let no one separate.

God the Father lovingly enfold you,
God the Son grace your home and table,
God the Holy Spirit crown you with joy and peace.
The Lord bless you and keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

the signing of the register

music for the signing of the register

the prayers

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers

God of all grace,
friend and companion,
look in favour on (**Bride**) and (**Groom**)
and all who are made one in marriage.
In your love deepen their love,
strengthen their wills
to keep the promises they have made,
that they may continue
in life-long faithfulness to each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord of life, you shape us in your image,
and by your gracious gift
the human family is increased.
To (**Groom**) and (**Bride**) grant the blessing of children.
Fill them with wisdom and love
as they care for their family,
so that they and their children
may know and love you,
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Faithful God,
giver of all good things,
give (**Bride**) and (**Groom**) wisdom and devotion
in the ordering of their life together.
May they dwell together in love and peace
all the days of their life,
 seeking one another's welfare,
 bearing one another's burdens,
 and sharing one another's joys;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Accept our prayers, loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,

**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 blessing

All stand as the priest addresses the congregation

May the faithful God grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that you may with one voice glorify God:

And the blessing of God,
the creator and redeemer,
the giver of life and love,
be with you now and for ever.
Amen.

the recessional

music for the exit of the bride and groom