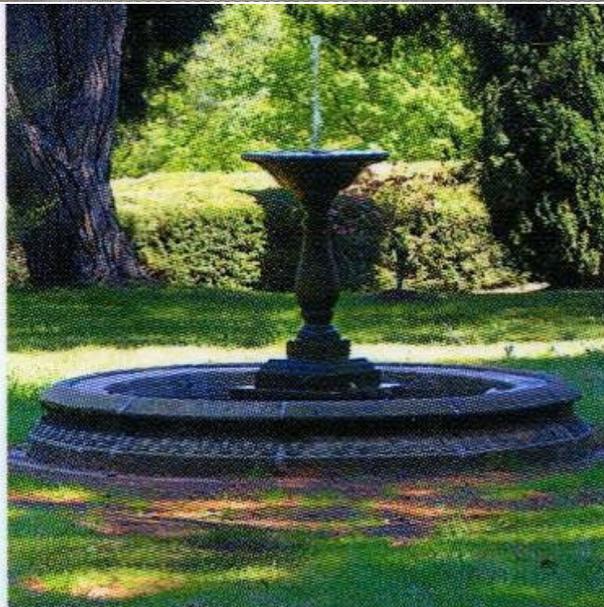
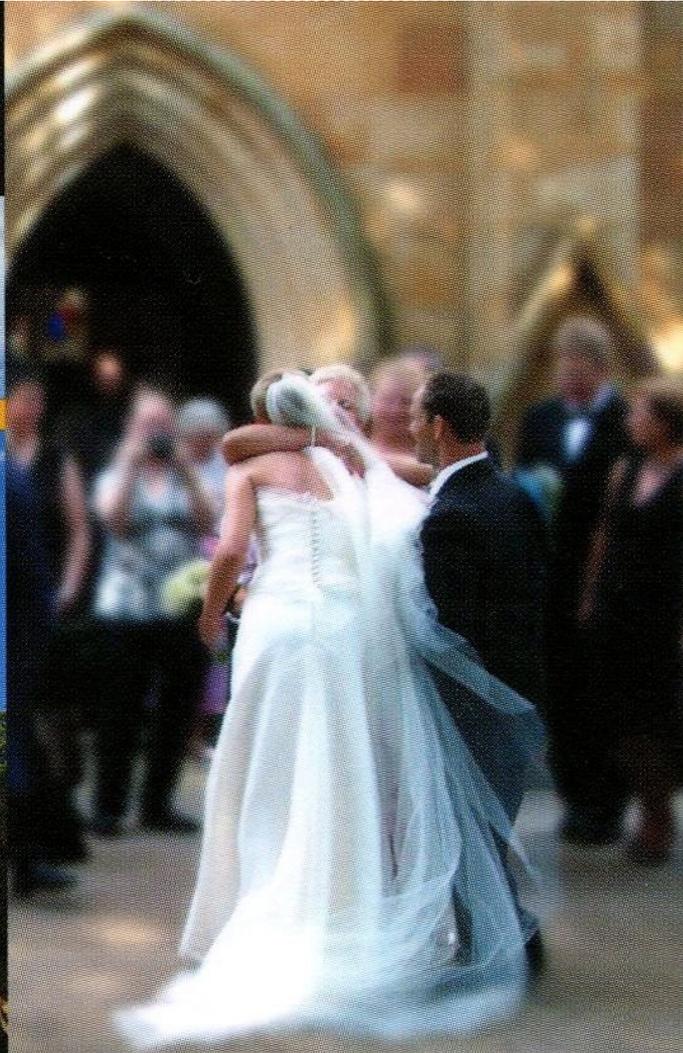
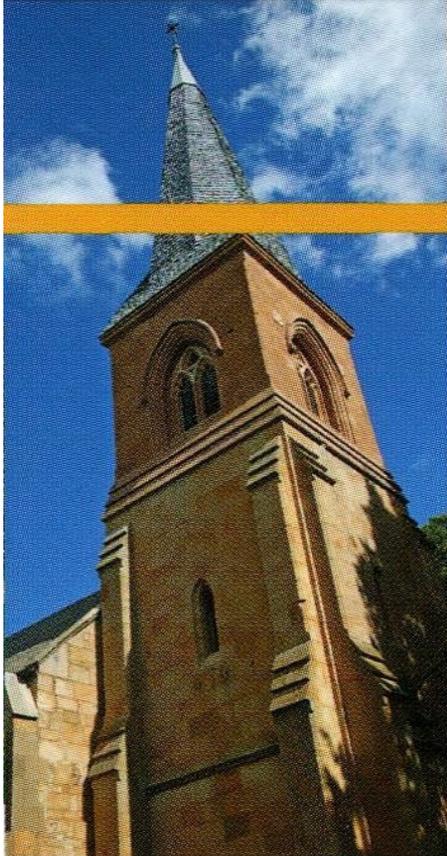


# your love, your wedding





## **your love, your wedding**

Congratulations on your decision to marry!

A wedding is one of life's great moments. St John's has been celebrating weddings in the Canberra region since our foundation in 1841. The Church is open daily and we invite you to come and experience the ambience of our Church and grounds.

Marriage is one of the most important commitments a couple can make. "Marriage is a gift of God... a life-long partnership uniting a woman and a man in heart, mind and body" (*A Prayer Book for Australia*). When choosing to be married in the church you add a God dimension to your future. You stand in the spiritual presence of the One who makes and gives life to all things – including you and your partner.

Please go to our website [www.stjohnscanberra.org](http://www.stjohnscanberra.org) for more information on weddings at St John's, including the marriage relationship workshop called *Making Love Last* to help you prepare for the life long commitment of your marriage.

At St John's we use the services authorised by the Anglican Church of Australia. This includes options that allow you to personalise the service for your special day, through the choice of readings, music, prayers, etc.

The church provides two flower arrangements, arranged by members of our church. Lent is the penitential period leading up to Easter. One of the marks of Lent is the absence of all flowers in the church building, therefore in Lent only one arrangement of flowers is allowed.

You are welcome to decorate the pews, as long as decorations are fixed by ribbon or elastic only (no sticky tape, pins, etc). Confetti, rice, flower petals, etc are not allowed in the church or grounds. Your guests are welcome to blow "bubbles" in the grounds, after the service.

Photographs and videos are a wonderful way to record your special day. Your photographer and video operator are welcome and should introduce themselves to the Celebrant before the wedding.

Punctuality is important as there can be a number of weddings at St Johns on any given day.

# A Service for Marriage

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

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.  
I John 4.16.

*A hymn or song may be sung.*

We have come together in the presence of God  
to witness the marriage of N and N,  
and to ask God's blessing on them  
as we share their joy.

Marriage is a gift of God our creator.

As God has called N and N to marriage,  
so God 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 N and N  
as they prepare to exchange their solemn vows:

Blessed are you, loving God,  
your Spirit binds us together.  
Bless N and N 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: **Amen.**

*A reading, poem etc consistent with Christian teaching and the theme of the service  
may be read here.*

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

*One or more Readings from the Scriptures.*

*An address by The Reverend.....*

## **THE WEDDING**

N, will you give yourself to N 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?

**I will.**

N, will you give yourself to N, 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?

**I will.**

*The minister says to the congregation*

Families and friends,  
you are witnesses to these vows.  
Will you do everything in your power  
to uphold N and N in their marriage?

**We will.**

*The man, facing the woman and taking her hand in his, says*

I, N, in the presence of God,  
take you, N, 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.

*They loose their hands.*

*The woman, still facing the man and taking his hand in hers, says*

I, N, in the presence of God,  
take you, N, 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.

*When rings are to be given, the minister may receive them and may say*

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

*The giver places the ring on the ring-finger of the other's hand and says*

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.**

*After rings have been exchanged, the man and woman say together*

I receive this ring  
as a symbol of your love and faithfulness  
to the end of our days.  
May God enable us to grow in love together.

*The minister joins their hands and declares to the people*  
Before God and in the presence of us all,  
N and N 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.

*The couple may say*  
God of tenderness and strength,  
you have brought our paths together  
and led us to this day;  
go with us now as we travel through good times,  
through trouble, and through change.  
Bless our home, our partings and our meetings.  
Make us worthy of one another's best,  
and tender with one another's dreams. **Amen.**

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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*A selection of the following or other prayers is said. The prayers may be led by a friend or member of the families of the couple.*

**a**        ***For faithfulness***  
God of all grace,  
friend and companion,  
look in favour on N and N,  
    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.**

**b** ***For the joy of loving***

God our Creator,  
we thank you for your gift of sexual love  
by which husband and wife  
    may delight in each other,  
    and share with you the joy of creating new life.  
By your grace may N and N remain lovers,  
rejoicing in your goodness all their days. **Amen.**

**c** ***For children***

Lord of life,  
you shape us in your image,  
and by your gracious gift  
the human family is increased.  
To N and N 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.**

**d** ***For an existing family***

God of all grace and goodness,  
we thank you for this new family,  
and for everything parents and children have to share;  
by your Spirit of peace draw them together  
and help them to be true friends to one another.  
Let your love surround them  
and your care protect them,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**e** ***For grace to live well***

Faithful God,  
giver of all good things,  
give N and N 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.**

**f** ***For discipleship***

Eternal God,  
without your grace nothing is strong, nothing is sure.  
Strengthen N and N with patience, kindness, gentleness,  
and all other gifts of the Holy Spirit,  
so that they may fulfil the vows they have made.  
Keep them faithful to each other and to you.  
Fill them with such love and joy  
that they may build a home of peace and welcome.  
Make their life together a sign of Christ's love in this broken world,  
that unity may overcome estrangement,  
forgiveness heal guilt,  
and joy conquer despair;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**g** ***For the families of the couple***

Gracious Lord,  
bless the parents and families of N and N  
that they may grow in love and friendship.  
Grant that, as they have witnessed these vows today,  
they may find their lives enriched and strengthened  
and their loyalties confirmed. **Amen.**

**h** ***For the healing of memory***

Loving God,  
you are merciful and forgiving.  
Grant that those who are suffering the hurts of the past  
may experience your generous love.  
Heal their memories, comfort them,  
and send them all from here  
renewed and hopeful. **Amen.**

**i** ***For the joy of companionship***

All praise and blessing to you, God of love,  
creator of the universe,  
maker of man and woman in your likeness,  
source of blessing for married life.  
All praise to you, for you have created  
courtship and marriage,  
joy and gladness,  
feasting and laughter,  
pleasure and delight.  
May your blessing come in full upon N and N.

May they know your presence  
in their joys and in their sorrows.  
May they reach old age in the company of friends  
and come at last to your eternal kingdom. **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 marriage certificates are signed here.*

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in such harmony with one another,  
in accord with Christ Jesus,  
that together you may with one voice  
glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

*concluding with either*

and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*or*

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

*or*

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance on you,  
and give you peace. **Amen.**

## Creating an Order of Service

Many couples create an order of service to be given to their guests when they arrive.

Most couples prepare an outline of the service (*suggestion below*). Weddings are visual events and in our experience if the service is printed word for word people will sit and read it rather than participate.

However, if you want to reproduce the whole service an electronic copy can be forwarded to you. In this case you *must* add the following copyright details:

© The Anglican Church of Australia, *A Prayer Book for Australia*, Broughton Books, 1999

If hymns are going to be sung they will need to be printed in the order of service and acknowledged with their composer.

### Suggested Wedding Service Outline

The Wedding of BRIDE and GROOM		
date and time		
St John the Baptist Anglican Church		
Canberra		
Wedding Party		
Matron of Honour		Best Man
Bridesmaids		Groomsmen
Flower girl		Page Boy
Celebrant: The Reverend.....		

The Processional (eg Pachelbel's Canon in D)

### **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.

1 John 4:16

Hymn (?)

(A Reading consistent with Christian teaching, eg a poem, literature)

Read by.....

A Reading(s) from Scripture eg. 1 Corinthians 13.

Read by .....

An Address by the Reverend .....

### **THE WEDDING**

The Exchange of Vows

The Giving and Receiving of Rings

A Blessing for ..... and .....

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(A selection of prayers may be included in the Order of Service – see pages 7-10 of this booklet)*

Led by .....

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

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed by 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 Marriage Certificates  
(the name of the piece of music chosen, soloist, etc.)

## **A FINAL BLESSING**

The Recessional (eg Mendelssohn's Wedding March)

*Please include the following somewhere on your order of service:*

In order for the beautiful grounds at St John's to remain we ask that no confetti, rice or petals be thrown at the conclusion of the service.  
Please blow bubbles away from the church to protect the stonework.

*You may use also the traditional form of the Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*(For the Lord's Prayer please use the above spacing)*

## Suggested Bible Readings

### *From the Hebrew Scriptures (The Old Testament)*

#### **Genesis 1 26-2.4a**

**26** Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." **27** So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. **28** God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

**29** God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. **30** And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

**31** God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

#### **Genesis 2.18-24**

**18** Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." **19** So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. **20** The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

**21** So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. **22** And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. **23** Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." **24** Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

#### **Genesis 24 58 – 67**

**58** And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." **59** So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. **60** And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain

possession of the gates of their foes." **61** Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

**62** Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb.

**63** Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. **64** And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, **65** and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. **66** And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. **67** Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

### ***Song of Solomon 2.8-14***

#### **The Woman**

I hear my lover's voice,  
He comes running over the mountains,  
racing across the hills to me.  
My lover is like a gazelle, like a young stag.  
There he stands beside the wall.  
He looks in through the window and glances through the lattice.  
My lover speaks to me.

#### **The Man**

Come then, my love; my darling, come with me.  
The winter is over; the rains have stopped;  
in the countryside the flowers are in bloom.  
This is the time for singing;  
the song of doves is heard in the fields.  
Figs are beginning to ripen;  
The air is fragrant with blossoming vines.  
Come the, my love; my darling, come with me  
You are like a dove that hides in the crevice of a rock.  
Let me see your lovely face and hear your enchanting voice.

### ***Song of Solomon 4 1-7***

How beautiful you are, my love, how very beautiful!  
Your eyes are doves  
behind your veil.  
Your hair is like a flock of goats,  
moving down the slopes of Gilead.  
Your teeth are like a flock of shorn ewes

that have come up from the washing all of which  
bear twins,  
and not one among them is bereaved.  
Your lips are like a crimson thread,  
and your mouth is lovely.  
Your cheeks are like halves of a pomegranate  
behind your veil.  
Your neck is like the tower of David, built in courses;  
on it hand a thousand bucklers,  
all of them shields of warriors.  
Your two breasts are like two fawns,  
twins of a gazelle,  
that feed among the lilies.  
Until the day breathes  
and the shadows flee,  
I will hasten to the mountain of myrrh  
and the hill of frankincense.  
You are altogether beautiful, my love;  
There is no flaw in you.

***Song of Solomon 8.6-7***

Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm;  
for love is strong as death,  
passion fierce as the grave.  
Its flashes are flashes of fire,  
a raging flame.  
Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can floods drown it.  
If one offered for love  
all the wealth of one's house,  
it would be utterly scorned.

***Psalms 23, 46, 67, 100, 111, 121, 127, 128, 138***

## ***From the Christian Scriptures (The New Testament)***

### ***Matthew 5.1-12***

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely\* on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### ***Matthew 22.35-40***

<sup>35</sup> a lawyer, asked Jesus a question to test him. <sup>36</sup> 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' <sup>37</sup> He said to him, '“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” <sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

### ***John 2.1-11***

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

<sup>3</sup> When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.'

<sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.'

<sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

<sup>6</sup> Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup> He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.'

<sup>9</sup> When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first,

and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' <sup>11</sup>Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

### **John 15.9-12 and/or 12-16**

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

<sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

<sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants\* any longer, because the servant\* does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

### **Romans 12. 9 – 18**

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.\* <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly;\* do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

### **I Corinthians 12. 31-13.8**

And I will show you a still more excellent way.

<sup>13</sup> If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,\* but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes

all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup> Love never ends.

### ***Ephesians 5. 21-33***

<sup>21</sup> Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

<sup>22</sup> Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, the body of which he is the Saviour. <sup>24</sup>Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands.

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup>in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup>so as to present the church to himself in splendour, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind—yes, so that she may be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup>In the same way, husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup>For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, <sup>30</sup>because we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup>For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. <sup>32</sup>This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, and a wife should respect her husband.

### ***Colossians 3. 12- 17***

<sup>12</sup> As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord\* has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ\* dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.\* <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### ***I John 3. 18-24***

<sup>18</sup> Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

<sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup> And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup> All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

### ***1 John 4.7-16***

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. <sup>15</sup> God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

## **Wedding Music**

Your choice of music personalises your wedding. You will need to choose three pieces of music, ie for the bride's entry, during signing the register and as you leave.

Enclosed is a CD with a selection of music and hymns. Please know you are not limited to any of these suggestions, they are a starting point for you to consider.

If you have any special musical requests, e.g. a solist, or music not on the CD, please discuss this with the Celebrant. Our Musical Director, Mrs Sheila Thompson, (ph: 62813433) can also assist you. The words of any solo are subject to approval, and you may need to provide the music for the organist. Live music (organ, string quartet, piano and voice) is always preferable. However it is possible for CDs to be played through our sound system.

***For special musical requirements 4 weeks notice is required.***

***The music selection insert and the CD need to be completed and returned at your final interview.***

## Suggested Hymns

The following hymn tunes are on the wedding CD. When choosing hymns it is important that the hymns are well known and that your guests can sing them. You are not limited to this hymn selection. We can discuss other hymns if you are interested.

### ***As Man and Woman***

As man and woman we were made,  
that love be found and life begun;  
so praise the Lord who made us two,  
and praise the Lord when two are one:  
praise for the love that comes to life  
through child or parent, husband, wife.

Now Jesus lived and gave his love  
to make our life and loving new;  
so celebrate with him today,  
and drink the joy he offers you  
that makes the simple moment shine  
and changes water into wine.

And Jesus died to live again;  
so praise the love that, come what may,  
can bring the dawn and clear the skies,  
and waits to wipe all tears away;  
and let us hope for what shall be,  
believing where we cannot see.

Then spread the table, clear the hall,  
and celebrate till day is done;  
let peace go deep between us all,  
and joy be shared by everyone:  
laugh and make merry with your friends,  
and praise the love that never ends.

*Brian Arthur Wren 1936- Words: Brian Wren  
Words © 1983 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

### ***Now thank we all our God***

### ***The Lord's my Shepherd***

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.  
He makes me down to lie  
in pastures green, he leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again;  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
ev'n for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill:  
for thou art with me; and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnish'ed  
in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me:  
and in God's house for evermore  
my dwelling-place shall be.

*Scottish Psalter 1650*

### ***Praise my Soul***

Praise, my soul, the king of heaven;  
to his feet your tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
praise the everlasting king!

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to his people in distress;  
praise him still the same for ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
glorious in his faithfulness!

Father-like he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes:  
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
widely as his mercy flows!

Frail as summer's flower we flourish,  
blows the wind and it is gone;  
but while mortals rise and perish  
God endures unchanging on.  
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
praise the high eternal one!

Angels, help us to adore him,  
you behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space:  
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
praise with us the God of grace!

*Henry Francis Lyte 1793-1847 alt.  
based on Psalm 103*

### **Love Divine**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown:  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave:  
thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be,  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee:  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.

*Charles Wesley 1707-88 alt.*

***Father, Hear the Prayer***

***O Perfect Love***

***Lord of Creation***

## **Wedding Rehearsal**

A wedding rehearsal will be arranged a few days prior to your wedding. Legal declarations need to be signed at this point and we run through the day so that everyone in the wedding party knows what they are doing.