**Prayers to be used at Marriage Service with Holy Communion**

Almighty God, look graciously on the world which you have made and for which your Son gave his life. Bless all whom you make one flesh in marriage. May their life together be a sign of your love to this broken world, so that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy overcome despair.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

May N and N so live together that the strength of their love may reflect your love and enrich our common life.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

May they be gentle and patient, ready to trust each other, and, when they fail, willing to recognise and acknowledge their fault and to ask each other’s forgiveness.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

[May N and N be blessed with the gift of children. Fill them with wisdom and love as they care for their family.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.]**

May the lonely, the bereaved, and all who suffer want or anxiety, be defended by you, O Lord.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

May those whose lives are today brought together be given wisdom, patience and courage to serve one another in Christ’s name.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

May friends and family gathered here, and those separated by distance, be strengthened and blessed this day.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

We praise you, merciful God, for those who have died in the faith of Christ. May we be strengthened by their example.

*The prayers conclude with either*

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith**

**we may by your grace receive,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**