

## **THE PROCESSIONAL**

*The title of the piece and artist may be indicated here as appropriate*

## **THE PREFACE**

Who brings this woman to be married to this man?  
(OPTIONAL)

Dearly beloved  
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.  
It is a symbol of God's unending love for his people,  
and of the union between Christ and his Church.  
Christ loved his bride the Church,  
and gave himself for her.  
As he has called N and N 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 N and N  
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 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:  
Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.

## **HYMN (OPTIONAL)**

## **THE READINGS**

Title of the Reading  
Name of Reader

Title of the Reading  
Name of Reading

## **HYMN (OPTIONAL)**

## THE CONSENT

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.

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 VOWS

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.

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.

## THE EXCHANGE OF RINGS

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.**

I give you this ring  
as a symbol of our marriage.  
May God enable us  
To grow in love together.

N, I receive this ring as a symbol of our marriage.

## THE DECLARATION

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.  
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.**

You may now kiss the bride.

## THE SIGNING OF THE MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES

*The title of the piece and artist may be indicated here as appropriate*

## THE PRAYERS

*This prayer or similar*

Eternal God, creator of us all,  
We praise you for all the ways  
In which your love comes into our lives,  
And for all the joys  
That can come to men and women through marriage.

Today we especially pray for N and N

As they begin their married life.  
With them we thank you for the love and care of their parents  
(*Name/s as appropriate*),  
Which has guided them to maturity  
And prepared them for this commitment.

Give them strength  
To keep the vows they have made,  
To be loyal and faithful to each other,  
And to support one another throughout their life,  
That they may bear each other's burdens  
And share each other's joys.  
Help them to be honest and patient with each other,  
And to welcome both friends and strangers into their home.

In all their future together  
May they enjoy one another  
And grow through the love they share,  
Until, at the end of this life,  
You receive us all into your eternal kingdom,  
Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

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

**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.**

**HYMN  
(OPTIONAL)**

**THE BLESSING & RECESSIONAL**

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