

# ST ANDREW'S EATON

## SAMPLE SERVICE - FULL RUNNING ORDER



'a church for all - a place for you'

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**This booklet contains the complete running order for a wedding at St Andrew's.**

**Not all of this goes in the service sheet - the Vicar will give you a separate template which will give you all that you need to include in your service sheet.**

**The number of hymns and readings can be altered to suit your preferences.**

# The Marriage Service

Venue: St Andrew's - New/Old Church

## Introduction and Notices

*Entrance of the Bride:*

*BRIDE & GROOM sit together on GROOM's side*

## The Welcome

*The minister welcomes the people:*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
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 pray to commit this special time together to God using the words printed on the service sheet. We say together:*

God of wonder and of joy:  
grace comes from you,  
and you alone are the source of life and love.  
Without you, we cannot please you;  
without your love, our deeds are worth nothing.  
Send your Holy Spirit,  
and pour into our hearts  
    that most excellent gift of love,  
that we may worship you now  
with thankful hearts  
and serve you always with willing minds;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **Hymn 1**

### **Introduction**

*All sit down -  
BRIDE & GROOM stand before the minister.*

*The minister says:*

In the presence of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
we have come together

to witness the marriage of *HER* and *HIM*,  
to pray for God's blessing on them,  
to share their joy  
and to celebrate their love.

Marriage is a gift of God in creation  
through which husband and wife may know the  
grace of God.

It is given  
that as man and woman grow together in love and  
trust,  
they shall be united with one another in heart,  
body and mind,  
as Christ is united with his bride, the Church.

The gift of marriage brings husband and wife together  
in the delight and tenderness of sexual union  
and joyful commitment to the end of their lives.  
It is given as the foundation of family life  
in which children are born and nurtured  
and in which each member of the family,  
in good times and in bad,  
may find strength, companionship and comfort,  
and grow to maturity in love.

Marriage is a way of life made holy by God,  
and blessed by the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ  
with those celebrating a wedding at Cana in Galilee.  
Marriage is a sign of unity and loyalty  
which all should uphold and honour.  
It enriches society and strengthens community.

No one should enter into it lightly or selfishly  
but reverently and responsibly in the sight  
of almighty God.

*HER* and *HIM* are now to enter this way of life.  
They will each give their consent to the other  
and make solemn vows,  
and in token of this they will give and receive a ring.  
We pray with them that the Holy Spirit will guide  
and strengthen them,  
that they may fulfil God's purposes  
for the whole of their earthly life together.

## **The Declarations**

*The minister says to the congregation*

First, I am required to ask anyone present who  
knows a reason why these persons may not  
lawfully marry, to declare it now.

*The minister says to the couple*

The vows you are about to take are to be made in  
the presence of God,  
who is judge of all and knows all the secrets of our  
hearts;  
therefore if either of you knows a reason why you  
may not lawfully marry,  
you must declare it now.

*The minister says to the bridegroom*

*HIM*, will you take *HER* to be your wife?  
Will you love her, comfort her, honour and protect her,  
and, forsaking all others,  
be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

*He answers*

I will.

*The minister says to the BRIDE*

*HER*, will you take *HIM* to be your husband?  
Will you love him, comfort him, honour and protect him,  
and, forsaking all others,  
be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

*She answers*

I will.

*The minister says to the congregation  
(directing them to the service sheet for their  
response):*

Will you, the families and friends of *HER* and *HIM*,  
support and uphold them in their marriage  
now and in the years to come?

**All: We will.**

## The Special Wedding Prayer

*The minister invites the people to pray, silence is kept and the minister says the Special Wedding Prayer*

God our Father,  
from the beginning  
you have blessed creation with abundant life.  
Pour out your blessings upon *HER* and *HIM*,  
that they may be joined in mutual love and  
companionship,  
in holiness and commitment to each other.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*BRIDE & GROOM sit in their places*

## First Reading

e.g. 1 Corinthians chapter 13 verses 1-13,  
read by ???

## The Marriage

*BRIDE & GROOM stand before the minister.*

## The Vows

*HER and HIM, I now invite you to join hands and make your vows, in the presence of God and his people.*

*The bride and bridegroom face each other.  
The bridegroom takes the bride's right hand in his.*

I, *HIM*, take you, *HER*,  
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,  
till death us do part;  
according to God's holy law.  
In the presence of God I make this vow.

*They loose hands.*

*The bride takes the bridegroom's right hand in hers, and says*

I, *HER*, take you, *HIM*,  
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,  
till death us do part;  
according to God's holy law.  
In the presence of God I make this vow.

*They loose hands.*

## **The Giving of Rings**

*The minister receives the ring(s), and says this prayer or the prayer here*

Heavenly Father, by your blessing  
let these rings be to *HER* and *HIM*  
a symbol of unending love and faithfulness,  
to remind them of the vow and covenant  
which they have made this day  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The GROOM places the ring on the fourth finger of the BRIDE's left hand and, holding it there, says*

*HER*, I give you this ring  
as a sign of our marriage.  
With my body I honour you,  
all that I am I give to you,  
and all that I have I share with you,  
within the love of God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*They loose hands and the BRIDE places a ring on the fourth finger of the GROOM's left hand and, holding it there, says*

*HIM*, I give you this ring  
as a sign of our marriage.  
With my body I honour you,  
all that I am I give to you,  
and all that I have I share with you,  
within the love of God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

## The Proclamation

In the presence of God, and before this  
congregation,  
*HER* and *HIM* have given their consent  
and made their marriage vows to each other.  
They have declared their marriage by the joining  
of hands  
and by the giving and receiving of rings.  
I therefore proclaim that they are husband and  
wife.

*The minister joins their **right** hands together and says*

Those whom God has joined together  
let no one put asunder.

## The Blessing of the Marriage

*BRIDE & GROOM kneel in front of the minister.*

Let us sit or kneel to pray...

Blessed are you, O Lord our God,  
for you have created joy and gladness,  
pleasure and delight, love, peace and fellowship.  
Pour out the abundance of your blessing  
upon *HER* and *HIM* in their new life together.  
Let their love for each other be a seal upon their  
hearts

and a crown upon their heads.  
Bless them in their work and in their  
    companionship;  
awake and asleep,  
in joy and in sorrow,  
in life and in death.

Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that banquet  
where your saints feast for ever in your heavenly  
    home.

We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The minister says to the couple*

God the Father,  
God the Son,  
God the Holy Spirit,  
bless, preserve and keep you;  
the Lord mercifully grant you the riches of his  
    grace,  
that you may please him both in body and soul,  
and, living together in faith and love,  
may receive the blessings of eternal life. **Amen.**

*BRIDE & GROOM return to GROOM's side of church  
together*

## Hymn 2 (optional)

## Signing of the Register

*Music during the Signing of the Registers:...*

## Second Reading

## Address

## Prayers

*These or other suitable prayers are used (see Note 9 and here). The prayers usually include these concerns and may follow this sequence:*

- *Thanksgiving*
- *Spiritual growth*
- *Faithfulness, joy, love, forgiveness and healing*
- *Children, other family members and friends*

*End with the Lord's Prayer...*

Using the words on the service sheets, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

*or:*

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.**

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### Hymn 3

### Closing Prayer of Blessing

God the Holy Trinity make you strong  
in faith and love,  
defend you on every side,  
and guide you in truth and peace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**All: Amen.**

*Departure of Bridal Party: Music???*

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