

BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE

Tune: Slane (the same tune as for "Lord of all hopefulness God, in the planning and purpose of life Has hallowed the union of husband and wife: And this we embody where love is displayed, When rings are presented and promises made.

Jesus was found, at a similar feast,
Where he took the roles of both waiter and priest,
By turning the worldly towards the divine,
He changed tears into laughter, and water to wine.

Therefore we pray that His Spirit preside
Now over the wedding of bridegroom and bride,
Fulfilling all that they now hope will come true,
And lighting with love all they dream of, and do.

Praise then the Maker, the Spirit, the Son,
The source of the love through which two are made one.
And God is the glory, the goodness and grace
As seen in this marriage, and known in this place.

LORD AND LOVER OF CREATION

Tune: Regent Square – a strong tune – well known.

Lord and lover of creation,
Bless the marriage witnessed now:
Sign of lives no longer separate,
Sealed by symbol, bound by vow,
Celebrating love's commitment
Made to live and last and grow.

Praise and gratitude we offer,
For the past which shaped today:
(ken)
Woes which stirred and deepened conscience
Family life, good company,
Friends who touched and summoned talent
Nourished all words can't convey.

On your children wed and welcome
Here among us, we request
Health in home and hearts, and humour,
Open doors and human pleasure,
Through which heaven and earth are blessed
Time for touch and trust and rest.

Take them hence that, in each other,
Love fulfilling love shall find
Much to share and more to treasure,
Such that none dare break or bind
Those your name has joined together
One in body, heart and mind.

BLESSING THE MARRIAGE

Tune: The Sussex Carol (a well-known and cheerful Christmas Carol tune close association with the village of Monks Gate, Horsham
That human life might richer be,
That children may be named and known,
That love finds its own sanctuary,
That those in love stay not alone.
*Praise, Praise the Maker, Spirit, Son,
Blessing this marriage now begun.*

As two we love are wed this day
And we stand witness to their vow,
We call on God, the Trinity,
To sanctify their pledges now.

Parents and families they leave,
Their own new family to make;
And, sharing what their pasts have taught,
They shape it for the future's sake.

This is as God meant it to be,
That man and woman should be one
And live in love, and love through life,
As Christ on earth has taught and one.

Then, bless the bridegroom, bless the bride,
The dreams they dream, the hopes they share
And thank the Lord whose love inspires
The joy their lips and ours declare.

GOD BEYOND GLORY

Tune: Bunessan (usually sung to "Morning Has Broken")

God beyond glory, gracious and holy,
In whose rare image each life is made,
Love is the treasure, love is the measure
Of all your Son on earth displayed.

Binding each other, father to mother,
Parents to children and friend to friend,
Love, in its sharing, love in its caring
Dares to begin what non dare end.

Here, in your presence, love is the essence
Sealing the vows shared by husband and wife.
This love confessing; send them your blessing
To guard and guide their chosen life.

When joys are deepest, where paths are steepest,
Whatever figures in years to come,
Let love in duty and love in beauty
Embrace their hearts, their hopes, their home.

**HORSHAM PARISH CHURCH
OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN****YOUR WEDDING MUSIC**

Please contact the Organist and Choirmaster
Mr. Jeremy Weaver

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SECTION 1: HYMNS

The marriage Service would normally allow for three hymns – (i) at the beginning of the Service (ii) after the Marriage itself and (iii) before the signing of the Register. Therefore, it would be appropriate to select a hymn from each section of the following:

(i) Praise

- 263 All creatures of our God and King (verses 1,2,3, & 7)
333 All my hope on God is founded
334 All people that on earth do dwell
264 All things bright and beautiful (omit verse 5)
436 Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven
** Bridegroom & Bride
** That human life might richer be

(ii) Marriage

- 137 Come down, O love divine
353 Dear Lord and Father of mankind
239 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy
457 The King of love my Shepherd is (a version of the 23rd Psalm)
459 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want (23rd Psalm)
339 Be thou my vision
** God beyond glory

(iii) Thanksgiving, Commitment, Dedication

- 285 For the beauty of the earth
368 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer
393 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
408 Love Divine, all loves excelling
413 Now thank we all our God
237 Morning has broken
320 O Perfect Love
** Lord and lover of creation

The numbers refer to the **New English Hymnal**

- ** The texts are on the back page of the leaflet. These four hymns (from Iona) speak more personally, perhaps, than some of the more frequently-used hymns

SECTION 2: CHOIR ANTHEM– during the signing of the Register. The Choir often sing TWO of the following songs at this part of the Service.

- Jesus, joy of man's desiring *Always very popular with wedding guests* J.S. Bach
Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness *Very attractive: short* S.S. Wesley
The Lord's my shepherd (23rd Psalm) *set to the well-known Brothers James' Air*
All things bright and beautiful – *a cheerful and colourful setting – very popular*
John Rutter
The Lord bless you and keep you – *lovely words, with an excellent tune to match*
John Rutter
Panis Angelicus *well-known tune, made popular with TV presentation of The Choir*
Cesar Franck
Ave Verum Corpus – *two very beautiful settings: either is a perfect comparison to any of the other songs*
Mozart or Elgar
Pie Jesu – *two well-known settings by very contrasting composers*
Fauré, Lloyd Webber

SECTION 3: ORGAN MUSIC

(a) At the Entrance of the Bride

- All four pieces are very effective and, from the timing of this Procession, they are highly appropriate.
Bridal Chorus from *Lohengrin* Wagner
Trumpet Tune Henry Purcell
Trumpet Voluntary Jeremiah Clarke
Trumpet Tune Charpentier

(b) During the signing of the Register (in lieu of Choir Anthem)

- Jesus, joy of man's desiring J.S. Bach
Sheep may safely graze J.S. Bach
Bach
Air on a G string J.S. Bach
Air from the *Water Music* Suite Handel
Salut d'Amour Elgar
Nimrod Elgar

(c) At the concluding Procession of the Bride and Bridegroom

- Wedding March from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* Mendelssohn
Toccata in F (from Fifth Organ Symphony) Widor
Hornpipe from the *Water Music* Suite Handel
Trumpet Tune Clarke/Purcell/Stanley
All 4 pieces are exhilarating, the Mendelssohn & Widor being the most frequently requested.