

## THE MARRIAGE SERVICE

**ENTRANCE**    *(The congregation stands)*

Bridal March

*While the music is played, the Choir and the Clergy enter.*

*The Bride enters with the bride's maids and flower girls*

Opening hymn

- 1        The voice that breathed O'er Eden  
          that earliest wedding day,  
          the primal marriage blessing,  
          it hath not pass'd away.
- 2        Still in the pure espousal,  
          of Christian man and maid,  
          the Holy Three are with us,  
          the three fold grace is said.
- 3        For dower of blessed children,  
          for love and faith's sweet sake,  
          for high mysterious union,  
          which nought on earth may break.
- 4        Be Present, Heavenly Father,  
          to give away this bride,  
          as Eve thou gav'st to Adam,  
          out of his own pierced side.
- 5        Be present, Gracious Saviour,  
          to join their loving hands,  
          as Thou didst bind two natures,  
          in Thine eternal bands.
- 6        Be present, Holiest Spirit,  
          to bless them as they kneel,  
          as thou for Christ, the Bridegroom,  
          the heavenly spouse dost seal.
- 7        O spread Thy pure wings O'er them,  
          let no ill pow'r find place,  
          when onward through life's journey,  
          the hallowed path they trace.

8 To cast their crowns before Thee,  
in perfect sacrifice,  
till to the home of gladness  
with Christ's own bride they rise.

*After the Hymn the congregation sits while the bride and the groom stand before the officiating presbyter.*

### **INVOCATION**

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

*I John 4: 16*

Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and he will act.

*Psalms 106: 1*

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain. Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.

*Psalms 127: 1*

Let us pray

God of our fathers and mothers, with grateful hearts we praise your holy name for your infinite goodness. We thank you for our human life with all its gracious ties and tender relationships; and especially at this time for the holy estate of marriage, which you have ordained to guard, to hallow and to perfect the sacred gift of love. You are the Lord of life and love eternal, Author of all good and Giver of all joy, we thank you and praise you for bringing these your servants, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ who are now to be joined in this sacred bond.

We thank you that they have found in each other faith and love, that they desire to make their lives one and to dwell together as long as they live. Without your help we cannot do anything. We ask you to graciously bestow upon \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the Holy Spirit in your name as they give each other their vows of love and faithfulness. Help them with simple trust to commit themselves into your loving care, and enter this marriage covenant in sure dependence upon your unchanging grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **EXHORTATION**

*The Presbyter says:*

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here in the presence of God to join \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in marriage. This is a way of life instituted by

God, and Holy Scripture commands all people to hold it in honour. Our Lord Jesus Christ blessed it by his presence at Cana of Galilee.

About this way of life, hear what our Lord says:

‘From the beginning of creation, “God made them male and female”. “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one.” So they are no longer two but one. What therefore God has joined together, let no one put asunder.’ (Mark 10.6-9)

Marriage is therefore not by any to be undertaken lightly or ill-advisedly, but seriously and prayerfully, duly considering the purposes for which it is ordained.

It is ordained:

That marriage gives full expression to the love between man and woman: that in marriage husband and wife belong to each other, and with affection and tenderness freely give themselves to each other;

That husband and wife may give to each other life-long companionship, help and comfort, both in prosperity and in adversity;

That marriage gives full expression to the love between man and woman: that in marriage husband and wife belong to each other, and with affection and tenderness freely give themselves to each other;

That marriage being thus held in honour, human society may stand upon firm foundations.

## **THE MARRIAGE**

*The Presbyter says:*

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have come here to be made one in this holy estate. But if anyone of you here know any just cause why they may not be married according to the discipline of the Church and the law of this land, please make it known now, or else for ever hold your peace.

*If no impediment is alleged, the Presbyter says to the persons who are to be married:*

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ I charge you both in the presence of God, that if either of you knows any reason why you may not be joined together in marriage, you do now confess it.

*If no impediment is alleged, then;*

*The Presbyter prays:*

Almighty and most merciful God, without whose help we cannot do anything as we ought, we pray that, as you have brought these persons together by your providence, you

will enrich them with your grace, that they may enter into the marriage covenant as in your sight, and truly keep the vows they are about to make; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **DECLARATION OF INTENT**

*Then the Presbyter says to \_\_\_\_\_:*  
\_\_\_\_\_, will you have this woman, \_\_\_\_\_, to be your wife, and cleave to her alone? Will you love her, honour her and be a faithful husband to her as long as you both shall live?

*And \_\_\_\_\_ answers:*  
I will, with God's help.

*Then the Presbyter says to \_\_\_\_\_:*  
\_\_\_\_\_, will you have this man, \_\_\_\_\_, to be your husband, and cleave to him alone? Will you love him, honour him and be a faithful wife to him long as you both shall live?

*And the \_\_\_\_\_ answers:*  
I will, with God's help.

*The Presbyter says:*

Who gives these two young persons one to another in holy matrimony?

*The parents come forward and place the hands of the couple together.*

### **THE MARRIAGE PLEDGE**

\_\_\_\_\_ *says :*  
Before God and these witnesses, I , \_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my wife, to have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer; in health and in sickness; to love, cherish, and protect, as long as we both shall live, according to God's holy law; and to this I give you my pledge.

*They still hold hands, and \_\_\_\_\_ says:*  
Before God and these witnesses, I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my husband, to have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer; in health and in sickness; to love, cherish, and protect, as long as we both shall live, according to God's holy law; and to this I give you my pledge.

*The Presbyter says:*  
God has heard your vows, and we are witnesses.

**HYMN** (*sung prayerfully*)

O Perfect love, all human thought transcending,  
lowly we kneel in prayer before thy throne,  
that theirs may be the love which knows no ending,  
whom Thou for evermore dost join in one.

O Perfect Life, be Thou their full assurance,  
of tender charity and steadfast faith,  
of patient hope, and quiet brave endurance,  
with childlike trust that fears no pain nor death.

Grant them the joy which brightens earthly sorrow,  
grant them the peace which calms all earthly strife,  
and to life's day the glorious unknown morrow,  
that dawns upon eternal love and life.

*The Presbyter blesses the Thirumangalyam, saying,*  
Bless this Thirumangalyam, O merciful Lord, that he who gives it and she who wears it  
may ever be faithful one to the other, and continue together in love so long as they both  
live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Presbyter delivers the Thirumangalyam to \_\_\_\_\_, who puts it  
on \_\_\_\_\_ in the customary manner, and holding it and says after the  
Presbyter:*

This Thirumangalyam I give you as a sign of our constant faith and abiding love. With  
my body I honour you, what I am I give to you, what I have I share with you.

\_\_\_\_\_ says

This Thirumangalyam I accept as a sign of our constant faith and abiding love. With my  
body I honour you, what I am I give to you, what I have I share with you.

*The Presbyter declares:*

As \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have made their pledge  
to each other before God and before this congregation, I declare that they are now  
husband and wife, according to the law of this land and the ordinance of God; in the  
name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Whom therefore God has joined together, let no one separate.

*The man and the woman kneel, while the congregation remains standing, and the Presbyter says:*

Most merciful and gracious God, our Parent, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named: Send your blessing upon \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, whom we bless in your name; that living faithfully together, they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to your law; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve and keep you; the Lord mercifully look upon you with favour, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace: that you may so live together in this life that in the world to come you may have life everlasting. **Amen.**

### **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise him all creatures here below,  
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts,  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*A Bible is placed in the hands of the couple by the Presbyter, with the words:*

May the word of God be a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

### **SPECIAL SONG:**

### **SERMON**

*During the singing of the following Psalm the couple move to the Altar.*

### **PSALM 128**

Blessed are all they that fear the Lord; and walk in His ways.

For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands; O well is thee, and happy shalt thou be.

Thy wife shall be as the fruitful vine: Upon the walls of thine house.

Thy children like the Olive branches: round about the table.

Lo, thus shall the man be blessed: that feareth the Lord.

The Lord from out of Zion shall so bless thee: that thou shall see Jerusalem in prosperity all thy life long.

Yea, that thou shalt see thy children's children and peace upon Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son; and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

## **PRAYERS**

Lord have mercy on us  
**Christ have mercy on us**  
Lord have mercy on us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done; In earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that 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.**

Lord save thy servant and thy handmaid:  
**And let them put their trust in thee.**

O Lord, send help from thy holy place:  
**And evermore defend them.**

Be unto them a tower of strength:  
**From the face of their enemy.**

O Lord, hear our prayer:  
**And let our cry come unto thee.**

Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all life, Giver of all grace: look with favour upon the world you have made and redeemed, especially upon \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Give them wisdom and devotion in their common life, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow and a companion in joy. Grant that their wills may so be knit together in your will and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may grow in love and peace with you and each other, all the days of their life. Amen

Loving God, Give them the grace, when they hurt each other, to recognize and confess their fault, and to seek each other's forgiveness and yours. Make their life together a sign of Christ's love to this sinful and broken world and grant that, bearing one another's

burdens, sharing one another's joys, and together fulfilling the duties of their home, they may ever be faithful to each other in love and obedience to your Word through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

O Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: Reign, we ask you, in the home of these your servants as Lord and King; give them grace that they may serve others as you served others, and grant that by deed and word they may be witnesses of your saving love to those amongst whom they live; for your holy name's sake, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**

Eternal God, designer of families: give \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ grace to lead a responsible family life. Give to them the gift of children, and the wisdom to bring them up in your knowledge, love and service. Grant that all who witness these vows today may find their lives strengthened, and that all who are married may depart with their own promises renewed. Enrich with your grace, all husbands, and wives, parents and children, that loving and supporting one another, they may serve those in need and be a sign of your kingdom. Grant that the bonds by which all your children are united to one another may be so transformed by your Spirit that your peace and justice may fill the earth, through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **BENEDICTION**

Now unto God's gracious care we commit you. May He make you strong in Faith and Love, uphold you in every need and guide you in Truth and Peace. May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

### **REGISTRATION**

During the singing of the following two lyrics, the couple will sign the registers.



## புரண ஆசீர்வாதம்

பல்லவி

ஆசீர்வதியும் கர்த்தரே, ஆனந்த மிகவே  
நேசா உதியும் சுத்தரே, நீத்தம் மகிழவே

அனுபல்லவி

வீசீரோ வான ஜோதி கதிங்கே  
மேசியா எம் மணவாளனே  
ஆசாரியரும் வான் ராஜனும்  
ஆசீர்வதித்திடும்.

சரணங்கள்

1. இம்மணமக்களோடின்றும் என்றென்றும் தங்கிடும்  
உம்மையே கண்டும் பின்சென்றும் ஒங்கச் செய்தரும்  
இம்மையே மோட்சமாக்கும் வல்லவரே  
இன்பத்தோடன் பாக்கீ சூட்சமே  
உம்மிலே தங்கித் தரிக்க  
ஊக்கமருளமே. - வீசீரோ

2. ஒற்றுமையாக்கும் இவரை ஊடாக நீர் நின்றே  
பற்றோடும் மீது சாந்தமே பாரில் வசிக்கவே  
வெற்றி பெற்றோங்கும் இவர் நெஞ்சத்திலே

வீற்றாளும் நீர் ஏகராஜனாய்  
உற்றவான் இராயர் சேயர்க்கே  
ஒப்பாய் ஒழுகவே

- வீசீரோ

3. பூதல ஆசீர்வாதத்தால் பூரணமாகவே  
ஆதித்தாளும் கர்த்தரே ஆசீர்வதித்திடும்  
மாதிரளாக இவர் சந்ததியார்  
வந்தும்மை என்றும் பிரஸ்தாபிக்க  
ஆ தேவகிருபை தீர்மானம்  
ஆம்போல் அருளமேன்

- வீசீரோ

## மங்கள வாழ்த்து

மங்களம் செழிக்க கிருபையருளும் மங்கள நாதனே

சரணங்கள்

மங்கள நித்திய மங்களம் தீ  
மங்கள முத்தியும் நாதனும் தீ  
எங்கள் புங்கவ நீ, எங்கள் துங்கவ தீ  
உத்தம சத்திய நித்திய தத்துவ மெத்த மகத்துவ  
அத்தனுக் கத்தனாம், ஆபிராம் தேவன் தீ

- மங்களம்

மங்கள மணமகன்

மங்கள மணமகள்

மானுவேலர்க்கும் மகானுபாவர்க்கும்  
பக்தியுடன் புத்திமுத்தியளித்திடும் நித்தியனே உன்னைத்  
துத்தியம் செய்திடும், சத்திய வேதர்க்கும்

- மங்களம்

Wedding March