



THE WEDDING CEREMONY

Bishop Pat Buckley

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All: In the morning, Lord, fill us with Your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us; Lord, give success to the work of our hands.

Bishop: + In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Bishop: The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Bishop: INTRODUCTION

Bishop: Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father. Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

Bishop: Lord Jesus, you have given us the consolation of the truth. Christ have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

Bishop: Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd leading us into everlasting life. Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy

Bishop: Glory to God in the highest

All: And peace to his people on earth

**Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

**Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the world;
Have mercy upon us;**

You are seated at the right hand of the Father;

Receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High

Jesus Christ,

With the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF TWO CANDLES

Bishop: Let us pray:

Father, hear our prayers forand who today are united in marriage before your presence. Give them your blessing and strengthen their love for each other. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

All: Amen/

FIRST READING:

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

God said: "Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of Heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth".

God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them. God blessed the saying: "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and conquer it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all the living animals on the earth". God saw all that he had made, and indeed it was very good.

This is the Word of The Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

All: The Lord fills the earth with his love

They are happy whose God is the Lord
The people he has chosen as his own
The Lord looks on those who revere him

On those who hope in his love.

All: The Lord fills the earth with his love.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord
The Lord is our help and our shield
In him do our hearts find joy
We trust in his Holy Name

All: The Lord fills the earth with his love.

May your love be upon us, O Lord
As we place all our hope in you.

All: The Lord fills the earth with his love.

ALLELUIA (ALL STAND)

Alleluia, Alleluia,

**As long as we love one another
God will live in us,
And his love will be complete in us
Alleluia**

Bishop: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Bishop: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew

All: Glory to you O Lord

Bishop: A lawyer, to disconcert Jesus, put a question: "Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?" Jesus replied: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole law and the prophets also. This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

RITE OF MARRIAGE

Bishop: Dear.....and.....you have come to this place today so the Lord may seal your love in the presence of your chosen priest and your family and friends, the Christian community. Christ blesses your love. He has already consecrated you both at birth and baptism but now by a special grace he will strengthen you to fulfil the duties and obligations of married life.

.....and..... you are about to celebrate your marriage. Have you come here today of your own free will and choice and without compulsion to marry each other ?

Couple: We have.

Bishop: Will you love and honour each other in marriage all the days that you shall live ?

Couple: We will.

Bishop: I invite you then to declare before God and everyone here present

your consent to become husband and wife.

.....do you takeas your wife, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health all the days of your life ?

Groom: I do.

Bishop:do you takeas your husband, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health all the days of your life ?

Bride: I do.

Bishop: May the Lord confirm the consent that you have just given and from this day forward may he bless you with every possible grace and blessing.

All: Amen.

BLESSING OF RINGS

Bishop: May the Lord bless these rings which will be a sign of your love and faithfulness.

Groom:wear this ring as a sign of our faithful love in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Bride:wear this ring which will be a sign of our faithful love in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

EXCHANGE OF COINS/GIFTS

Couple: I give you this coin as a token of all that I possess.

LIGHTING OF MARRIAGE CANDLE

BIDDING PRAYERS

Bishop: Now thatand.....have given themselves to each other in Christian Marriage let us ask God our Father to

keep them and all married couples faithful to him and united in themselves.

1. For.....and.....as they begin their married life and for happiness in their home. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

2. For their parents, family and friends and for all who have helped them to this happy day. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

3. For all who suffer in any way and for all who are deprived of love and affection. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

4. For all happy couples and for all couples who have problems in the relationships. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

5. For all our deceased relations and friends that they might enjoy the happiness of everlasting life. Lord hear us.

All: Lord graciously hear us.

Bishop: For a few moments let us pray in silence for our own special needs and for the people and the situations in our lives for which we need God's help

SILENCE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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

THE BLESSING OF THE NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE

Bishop: Father you created man and woman in your own image and united them in body and heart so that they might fulfil your plan for the world. To reveal your loving design you made the union of man and woman a sign of the covenant between you are your people. Through Christian Marriage you perfect this union and make it a sign of Christ's love for his bride, the church. Lord bless this new husband and wife and protect them. Grant as they live their marriage together they may learn to share with each other the gifts of your love. May they become one in heart and mind as witnesses to your presence in their marriage.

May.....be a good wife, caring for her husband and family, faithful to her husband....., generous and kind.

May.....be a good husband. Gentle and strong, faithful to his wife.....and a careful provider for his household.

Father grant as they now come to you as man and wife they may one day share you feast in heaven through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

PRAYER OF THE NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE

Bride & Groom

**We thank you, Lord
And we praise you**

**For bringing us
To this happy day.**

**You have given us to each other.
Now we give ourselves to you.
We ask you, Lord,
Make us one in your love.
Keep us one in your peace.**

**Protect our marriage.
Bless our home.
Make us gentle.
Keep us faithful.**

**And when life is over
Unite us again
Where parting is no more
In the Kingdom of your Love.
There we will praise you
In the happiness and peace
Of our eternal home.
Amen.**

Bishop

May Almighty God bless all of you and your family and friends in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit Our ceremony has ended. Go in peace to serve your Lord and your neighbour.

All: Amen