BRIDAL PROCESSION

Canon in D, Pachelbel

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Rev. Angela Askwith

FIRST READING: IN ONE ANOTHER'S SOULS

By Rumi, Read by Graham Johnstone

The moment I heard my first love story
I started looking for you,
not knowing how useless that was.
Lovers don't meet somewhere along the way.
They're in one another's souls all along.

DECLARATIONS & VOWS

EXCHANGE OF RINGS & BLESSING

SECOND READING: THE BLESSING OF THE HANDS

By Rev. Daniel L. Harris, Read by Charlotte Johnson

These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and full of love for you, that are holding yours on your wedding day, as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow, and forever.

These are the hands that will work alongside yours, as together you build your future.

These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, and with the slightest touch, will comfort you like no other.

These are the hands that will hold you when fear or grief fills your mind. These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes; tears of sorrow, and tears of joy.

These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children.

These are the hands that will help you to hold your family as one.

These are the hands that will give you strength when you need it.

And lastly, these are the hands that even when wrinkled and aged,
will still be reaching for yours, still giving you the same unspoken tenderness
with just a touch.

THIRD READING: THE ART OF A GOOD MARRIAGE

By Wilferd Arlan Peterson, Read by Lydia Whitworth

Happiness in marriage is not something that just happens.

A good marriage must be created. In marriage the little things are the big things.

It is never being too old to hold hands.

It is remembering to say "I love you" at least once a day.

It is never going to sleep angry.

It is at no time taking the other for granted; the courtship should not end with the honeymoon, it should continue through the years.

It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives.

It is standing together facing the world.
It is forming a circle of love that gathers the whole family.
It is doing things for each other, not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy.

It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.

It is not looking for perfection in each other. It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding and a sense of humour.

It is having the capacity to forgive and forget. It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow old. It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.

It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal, dependence is mutual and the obligation is reciprocal.

It is not only marrying the right partner; it is being the right partner

THE SIGNING

FOURTH READING: LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND

1 Corinthians 13: 4–7, Read by Rev. Angela Askwith

Love is patient, love is kind.

It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

PRAYERS & BLESSINGRev. Angela Askwith

THE RECESSIONAL