

THE WELCOME

Rev. Keith Johnson

Minister: 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.

Minister: God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.

All: 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.

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:

Jake, will you take Anna 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?

Bridegroom answers:

I will.

The minister says to the bride:

Anna, will you take Jake 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?

Bride answers:

I will.

The minister asks the parents of the bride and bridegroom:

Jake and Anna have declared their intention towards each other. As their parents, will you now entrust your son and daughter to one another as they come to be married?

Both sets of parents respond:

We will.

The minister says to the congregation:

Will you, the families and friends of Jake and Anna, support and uphold them in their marriage now and in the years to come?

All: We will.

READING: Song of Solomon 2: 10-13 and Song of Solomon 8: 6-7

(read by Rev. Margaret Maslen)

My beloved spoke and said to me,
"Arise, my darling,
my beautiful one, come with me.
See! The winter is past;
the rains are over and gone.
Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come,
the cooing of doves
is heard in our land.
The fig tree forms its early fruit;
the blossoming vines spread their fragrance.
Arise, come, my darling;
my beautiful one, come with me."

Place me like a seal over your heart,
like a seal on your arm;
for love is as strong as death,
its jealousy unyielding as the grave.
It burns like blazing fire,
like a mighty flame.
Many waters cannot quench love;
rivers cannot sweep it away.
If one were to give
all the wealth of one's house for love,
it would be utterly scorned.

**READING: They say sometimes love starts with a spark by
Whitney Hanson**

(read by Ed Robertson)

They say sometimes love starts with a spark
And that might be true
But if I were to wish you a love
I wouldn't wish fire for you.
You see fire is powerful
It burns bright then it's gone
It's beautiful and warm
But it doesn't last long.
So instead of wishing you
A love that burns
I wish you love like a river
That twists and turns.
It changes and flows
It is powerful and free
But it consistently finds its way
Back to the sea.
And so like the water
I hope your love is ever-growing ever-changing
I hope your love is powerful and free
And may you always find each other
Like the river finds the sea.

THE MARRIAGE:

THE VOWS, THE GIVING OF THE RINGS, AND THE PROCLAMATION

READING: The One by Anonymous

(read by Pam Hutt)

When the one whose hand you're holding,
Is the one who holds your heart,
When the one whose eyes you gaze into,
Gives your hopes and dreams their start,
When the one you think of first and last,
Is the one who holds you tight,
And the things you plan together,
Make the whole world seem just right,
When the one whom you believe in,
Puts the faith and trust in you,
You've found the one and only love,
You'll share your whole life through.

THE ADDRESS

Rev. Keith Johnson

HYMN: Bless the Lord (10,000 Reasons)

Chorus:

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Chorus x2

PRAYERS

(led by Jo Inman)

Jo Inman: As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All: 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: Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning
When the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon
And the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on the earth,
At Bethlehem
I had my birth.

Chorus:

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he*

I danced for the scribe
And the pharisee,
But they would not dance
And they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen,
For James and John
They came with me
And the Dance went on.

Chorus

I danced on the Sabbath
And I cured the lame;
The holy people
Said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
And they hung me on high,
And they left me there
On a Cross to die.

Chorus

I danced on a Friday
When the sky turned black
It's hard to dance
With the devil on your back.
They buried my body
And they thought I'd gone,
But I am the Dance,
And I still go on.

Chorus

They cut me down
And I leapt up high;
I am the life
That'll never, never die;
I'll live in you
If you'll live in me -
I am the Lord
Of the Dance, said he.