

## HYMN

*All sing:* Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
Hold me with thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven  
Feed me till I want no more.  
Feed me till I want no more.

Open thou the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream shall flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through:  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer  
Be thou still my strength and shield.  
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side:  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee.  
I will ever give to thee.

## OPENING PRAYER

*All:* Amen.

**Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring**  
**by Johann Sebastian Bach**

*performed by Euphony Voices, accompanied by Richard Brasier*

## READING

### **Finnish Wedding Blessing by P.E. Kaplan**

*Read by Martin Chohan*

Eat plenty of oatmeal.

Sauna every season,  
Roll in the snow,  
Naked.

Laugh, until you cry,  
Cry, until you laugh.

Leave a love note,  
For no reason.

Take long, lazy, walks,  
Behold Mother Earth.

Hug tightly,  
Tease lightly,  
Kiss tenderly,  
yet mightily.

Listen always,  
Heart open.

Forgive quickly.  
Love lavishly.  
And  
Every day,  
Every single day,

Pray, Pray, Pray.

## **HYMN**

*All sing:* And did those feet in ancient time  
Walk upon England's mountains green?  
And was the holy Lamb of God  
On England's pleasant pastures seen?  
And did the countenance divine  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here  
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!  
Bring me my arrows of desire!  
Bring me my spear: o clouds unfold!  
Bring me my chariots of fire!  
I will not cease from mental fight;  
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand  
Till we have built Jerusalem  
In England's green and pleasant land

## **SERMON ON THE MARRIAGE VERSE 1 John 4:12**

*given by the Revd. Silke Halfmann*

*"No one has ever seen God, but if we love another,  
God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."*

**Moon River by Henry Mancini**

*performed by Euphony Voices*

## **THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY**

*Lise and Jari stand in front of the pastor, facing her.*

Pastor: Are you, Lise Ann Emerson,  
free lawfully to marry Jari Pentti Juhani Partanen?

Lise: I am.

Pastor: Are you, Jari Pentti Juhani Partanen,  
free lawfully to marry Lise Ann Emerson

Jari: I am.

Pastor: So, listen to words from the Holy Scriptures  
about the life together of people in marriage  
and committed partnerships.

## **THE LESSON**

### **Colossians 3:12-17**

*Read by Ellen Dickinson*

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## THE SOLEMNISATION OF THE MARRIAGE

Pastor: The Holy Scriptures testify that marriage is a good and healing gift from God. God also desires to protect and bless your marriage.

After hearing the word of the Holy Scriptures, I ask you before God and His congregation:

Jari Pentti Juhani Partanen, do you take Lise as your wife from God's hand, to love and honour her, to share joy and sorrow with her, and to remain faithful to her until death do you part? If so, answer "I do".

Jari: I do.

Pastor: Lise Ann Emerson, do you take Jari as your husband from God's hand, to love and honour him, to share joy and sorrow with him, and to remain faithful to him until death do you part? If so, answer "I do".

Lise: I do.

## EXCHANGE OF RINGS WITH VOWS

*Lise and Jari now face each other.  
The following words are whispered to them  
so that they can repeat them out loud themselves.*

Jari: I take you, Lise, to be my wedded wife.  
I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.

*Jari puts the ring on Lise's finger.*

Lise: I take you, Jari, to be my wedded husband.  
I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.

*Lise puts the ring on Jari's finger.*

## **DECLARATION**

Pastor to Lise and Jari:  
Please join hands with each other.

*Pastor puts her hands on theirs.*

Lise and Jari, by their promises before God and in the presence of this congregation, have bound themselves to one another as husband and wife. Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.  
In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

*All: Amen.*

## **PRAYER**

Loving God, we ask you for this couple, Lise and Jari, to preserve their mutual love and affection.  
May they find happiness in their marriage  
and much joy in each other's company.

Grant them also the strength  
to endure the difficult times  
in their shared life.

Keep them open and respectful  
of each other's beliefs.  
May good friends and family  
remain warmly connected to them,  
and may they also support others  
with advice and help,  
sharing their joy with them.  
We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*All: Amen.*

## WEDDING BLESSING

*The couple turns back to the pastor. The pastor places her hands on the couple's heads.*

Pastor: The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit come upon you and remain with you now and always. In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Can't Help Falling in Love by Elvis Presley**  
*performed by Euphony Voices*

during the **SIGNING OF THE REGISTER** *witnessed by the mother and uncle of the bride in the presence of the pastor and the authorised person.*

## INTERCESSIONS

Pastor ends each one with "Lord, in your love".

*All, after each one:* Hear our prayer.

## 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.

## HYMN

*All sing:* Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;  
To His feet thy tribute bring!  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven.  
Who like me His praise should sing?  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress!  
Praise Him still the same forever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Fatherlike He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows,  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Widely as His mercy flows!  
Frail as summer's flower we flourish;  
Blows the wind, and it is gone;  
But while mortals rise and perish,  
God endures unchanging on.  
Praise Him! praise Him!  
Praise the high eternal One!

Angels, help us to adore Him;  
Ye behold him face to face.  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.