


WELCOME TO THE MARRIAGE OF



Connie
&
Tom

5TH AUGUST, 2023 | 2.00pm

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH | LOCKS HEATH, SOUTHAMPTON

ENTRANCE OF THE BRIDE
The Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin, R Wagner

THE WELCOME
Canon David Isherwood

Introduction

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.

God is love, and those who live in love live in God
and God lives in them. 1 John 4.16

**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.**

Hymn

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
This grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home**

**When we've been here ten thousand years
Bright, shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun**

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see**

The Preface

The Declarations

*Tom, will you take Connie 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?
I will.*

*Connie, will you take Tom 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?
I will.*

*Will you, the families and friends of Tom and Connie,
support and uphold them in their marriage
now and in the years to come?*

All We will.

The Collect

*God our Father, from the beginning
you have blessed creation with abundant life.
Pour out your blessings upon Tom and Connie,
that they may be joined in mutual love and companionship,
in holiness and commitment to each other.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.*

All Amen.

Readings

Love is friendship set on fire read by Miss Anya Griffin

1 Corinthians 13 read by Mr Dudley Mewett

Sermon

The Marriage Hymn

The Lord's my Shepherd; I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill:
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still;

My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

The Vows

*Tom and Connie, I invite you to join hands
and make your vows in the presence of God and his people.*

The Giving of Rings

*Heavenly Father, by your blessing
let these rings be to Tom and Connie
a symbol of unending love and faithfulness,
to remind them of the vow and covenant
which they have made this day
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

All Amen.

The Proclamation

*In the presence of God, and before this congregation,
Tom and Connie have given their consent
and made their marriage vows to each other.
They have declared their marriage by the joining of hands
and by the giving and receiving of rings.
I therefore proclaim that they are husband and wife.*

Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

The Blessing of the Marriage

*God the Father,
God the Son,
God the Holy Spirit,
bless, preserve and keep you;
the Lord mercifully grant you the riches of his grace,
that you may please him both in body and soul,
and, living together in faith and love,
may receive the blessings of eternal life.*

All Amen.

Registration of the Marriage

During which Jonas Stanley will sing

Prayers are led by Toby Dodson, Tom's father

A prayer written by Tom and Connie

Heavenly Father,

*We thank you for the joy this day has brought to us:
for our family and friends whose patterns of
love and friendship have sustained us over the years;
for the joy of creating a new home in a new community built on
the love and respect we have grown with each other.*

Bless us with the gift of children that, in turn, we may watch them grow the values that have bound us together with our families; keep us generous in our love as we bring to you a hurting world – that your peace and justice may reign in our hearts and homes, in our neighbourhood and throughout the world.

And as we have, today, committed to you our future life together, so will you be - within us, among us and beyond us – the One who calls us into the future as we place our hands, our hearts and our love into your hands. Guide us, great Redeemer.

All Amen.

**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

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.**

**Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation;
enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

**Come, Almighty, to deliver,
let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never,
never more they temples leave.**

**Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
Finish, then, thy new creation;
true and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee.**

**Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.**

The Dismissal

*God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.*

All Amen.

Exit of the bride and groom

*The Wedding March. Incidental Music No. 9 from A Midsummer Night's Dream
- Mendelssohn*

*Our thanks extend to our parents Mike and Helen Stanley and Toby and
Catherine Dodson; our siblings and wider family.*

*To the Best Men, Ben and Jack; our Stewards, Jonas and Jack;
and to the Bridesmaids, Olivia, Genevieve, Faye, Abi, Lauren and Ellie.*

*And finally ...Connie and Tom have suggested that a suitable donation to
MIND is collected as you leave St John's after the wedding service. A bowl has
been placed at the back of the church for your gifts.*

