

Order of Service
for the wedding ceremony of



HANNAH COUPLAND
and
RICHARD THACKRAY
28.09.2024

St. Aldhelm's Church, Malmesbury
Conducted by Canon Colin Mason

Please Stand

The Entrance of the Bride

Choral Song, *Samuel Sebastian Wesley*

The Introductory Rites

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

Hannah and Richard, the Church shares your joy and warmly welcomes you, together with your families and friends, as today, in the presence of God our Father, you establish between yourselves a lifelong partnership.

May the Lord hear you on this your joyful day.

May he send you help from heaven and protect you.

May he grant you your hearts' desire and fulfil every one of your prayers.

Be attentive to our prayers, O Lord, and in your kindness pour out your grace on these your servants Hannah and Richard, that, coming together before your altar, they may be confirmed in love for one another.

Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n to earth come down,
fix in us Thy humble dwelling;
all Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, Thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love Thou art;
visit us with Thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty to deliver;
let us all Thy life receive;
suddenly return and never,
never more Thy 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;
pure and sinless let us be;
let us see Thy great salvation
perfectly restored in Thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before Thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Please Sit
The Liturgy of The Word

Reading from the Song of Songs, 2:10-13 & 8:6-7

Read by Emma West

My beloved speaks and says to me:

“Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away,
for behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

The fig tree ripens its figs, and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away.”

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm;
for love is strong as death,
passion fierce as the grave.

Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.

Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can
floods drown it.

If one offered for love
all the wealth of one’s house,
it would be utterly scorned.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Reading from Colossians, 3:12-17

Read by Susannah Thackray

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please Stand

Gospel Acclamation

All: Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

The Gospel of St. John, 2:1-12

Read by Canon Colin Mason

The Lord be with you

All: And with your Spirit

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you O Lord

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So, they took it. When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers and his disciples, and they stayed there for a few days.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Please Sit

Homily, by Canon Colin Mason

Please Stand

Here I am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky,

I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night,

I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,

I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them, they turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,

give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord...

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will send the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them.

My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord...

Please Sit

The Celebration of Marriage

Dearly beloved, you have come together into the house of the Church, so that in the presence of the Church's minister and the community your intention to enter into Marriage may be strengthened by the Lord with a sacred seal.

Christ abundantly blesses the love that binds you. Through a special Sacrament, he enriches and strengthens those he has already consecrated by Holy Baptism, that they may be faithful to each other for ever and assume all the responsibilities of married life.

And so, in the presence of the Church, I ask you to state your intentions.

The Questions before the Consent

Hannah and Richard, have you come here to enter into Marriage without coercion, freely and wholeheartedly?

Both reply "I am."

Addressing the bridegroom, the minister says:

Richard, are you resolved to take Hannah to be your wife: to love her, comfort her, honour and protect her, and forsaking all others, to be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

The bridegroom replies "I am."

Next, the minister asks the bride:

Hannah, are you resolved to take Richard to be your husband: to love him, comfort him, honour and protect him, and forsaking all others, to be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

The bride replies: "I am."

Addressing the bridegroom and bride, the minister asks:

Are you prepared to accept children lovingly from God and to bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?

The bridegroom and bride each say: "I am."

The Civil Declaration of Freedom

The bridegroom repeats the following after the minister:

I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I, Richard Thackray, may not be joined in matrimony to Hannah Coupland

The bride repeats the following after the minister:

I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I, Hannah Coupland, may not be joined in matrimony to Richard Thackray

The Consent

Since it is your intention to enter the covenant of Holy Matrimony, join your right hands and declare your consent before God and his Church.

The bridegroom says:

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, Richard Thackray, do take thee, Hannah Coupland, to be my lawful wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish till death us do part.

The bride says:

I call upon these persons here present to witness
that I, Hannah Coupland, do take thee, Richard Thackray,
to be my lawful wedded husband,
to have and to hold from this day forward
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love and to cherish
till death us do part.

The Reception of Consent

May the Lord in his kindness strengthen the consent you have declared before
the Church, and graciously bring to fulfilment his blessing within you.
What God joins together, let no one put asunder.

Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Blessing and Giving of Rings

Bless and sanctify your servants in their love, O Lord, and let these rings, a
sign of their faithfulness, remind them of their love for one another.

Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

The husband places his wife's ring on her ring finger, saying,

Hannah, I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage:
with my body I honour you, all that I am I give to you,

and all that I have I share with you,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

The wife places her husband's ring on his ring finger, saying,

Richard, I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage:
with my body I honour you, all that I am I give to you,
and all that I have I share with you,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

The Universal Prayer

Rev. William Thackray, Father of the Bridegroom

Each prayer will end 'Lord, in your mercy',
please respond '**Hear our prayer**'

The Signing of the Register

"Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen" from *The Magic Flute*, *W.A. Mozart*
Sung by Jeremy Thackray and Jen Bergevin

The Nuptial Blessing

Now let us humbly invoke God's blessing upon this bride and groom, that in his kindness he may favour with his help those on whom he has bestowed the Sacrament of Matrimony.

O God, who by your mighty power created all things out of nothing, and, when you had set in place the beginnings of the universe,

formed man and woman in your own image, making the woman an inseparable helpmate to the man, that they might no longer be two, but one flesh, and taught that what you were pleased to make one must never be divided;

O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage by so great a mystery that in the wedding covenant you foreshadowed the Sacrament of Christ and his Church;

O God, by whom woman is joined to man and the companionship they had in the beginning is endowed with the one blessing not forfeited by original sin nor washed away by the flood.

Look now with favour on these your servants, joined together in Marriage, who ask to be strengthened by your blessing. Send down on them the grace of the Holy Spirit and pour your love into their hearts, that they may remain faithful in the Marriage covenant. May the grace of love and peace abide in your daughter Hannah, and let her always follow the example of those holy women whose praises are sung in the Scriptures. May her husband entrust his heart to her, so that, acknowledging her as his equal and his joint heir to the life of grace, he may show her due honour and cherish her always with the love that Christ has for his Church.

And now, Lord, we implore you: may these your servants hold fast to the faith and keep your commandments, made one in the flesh, may they be blameless in all they do; and with the strength that comes from the Gospel, may they bear true witness to Christ before all; may they be blessed with children, and prove themselves virtuous parents, who live to see their children's children.

And grant that, reaching at last together the fulness of years
for which they hope, they may come to the life of the blessed in
the Kingdom of Heaven.

Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Please Stand

Ring Christ, Ring Mary

Ring Christ, ring Mary, Benedict and Bede,
With Michael, till our hearts from sin be freed;
Ring Cuthbert, Oswald, Margaret and Hild,
Till, blessed Lord, our hearts with joy be filled.

Let bells peal forth the universal fame,
Creator Lord, of Thy mysterious name;
Conscience within, the boundless heavens above,
Disclose to faith the hidden name of Love.

Loudly proclaim with each insistent chime
How Thine eternity redeems our time;
Past sins forgiv'n, and future hopes restored,
Reveal Thy presence with us, gracious Lord.

Spirit divine, recast our faulty ways,
Make them ring true and echo to Thy praise;
Through every change of circumstance and choice
May we confess Thee with a single voice.

Call us to worship, call us to obey,
Call us to pilgrimage along life's way;
Rouse us from sleep; renewed in mind and heart,
Call us to love Thee, Lord, since Love Thou art.

The Conclusion of the Celebration

May the Lord Jesus, who blessed the wedding at Cana by his presence, bless you and your loved ones.

All: Amen

May he, who loved the Church to the end, unceasingly pour his love into your hearts.

All: Amen

May the Lord grant that, bearing witness to faith in his Resurrection, you may await with joy the blessed hope to come.

All: Amen


And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here,
The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

The Departure of the Bride and Groom

Voluntary on Woodlands, *Simon Peberdy*

Hannah and Richard are grateful to the church and parish of St. Aldhelm's for supporting the celebration of their marriage. A special thanks for Fr. Thomas Kulandaisamy for his warm welcome and acting as registrar today.



MAID OF HONOUR

Teresa Coupland

BEST MAN

Richard Eifler

BRIDESMAID

Marion Chan

GROOMSMEN

Jeremy Thackray

Mark Greenhalgh

Matthew Harrison

WITNESSES

Alison Coupland

Hugh Fell

ORGANIST

Alex Durston