

WEDDING SERVICE 2
Red Lutheran Hymnal
Saint Mark Lutheran Church

GATHERING
ENTRANCE

A hymn may be sung during the entrance, or other music may be played.

GREETING

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

C/ **And also with you.**

INTRODUCTION

P/ Dear friends: We have come together in the presence of God to witness the
marriage of *name* and *name*, to surround them with our prayers, and to share in
their joy.

The scriptures teach us that the bond and covenant of marriage is a gift of God, a
holy mystery in which two become one flesh, an image of the union of Christ and
the church. As *name* and *name* give themselves to each other today, we remember
that at Cana in Galilee our Lord Jesus Christ made the wedding feast a sign of
God's reign of love.

Let us enter into this celebration confident that, through the Holy Spirit, Christ is
present with us now also; we pray that this couple may fulfill God's purpose for
the whole of their lives.

INTENT

P/ *Name* and *name* have come to make their marriage vows in the presence of God
and of this congregation. Let us now witness their promises to each other and
surround them with our prayers, giving thanks to God for the gift of marriage and
asking God's blessing upon them, so that they may be strengthened for their life
together and nurtured in their love for God.

We rejoice that marriage is given by God, blessed
by our Lord Jesus Christ, and sustained by the
Holy Spirit.

Therefore, let marriage be held in honor by all.

DECLARATION OF INTENTION

The minister addresses the couple, asking each person in turn:
A (see also below)

P/ *Name*, will you have *name* to be your *wife/husband*,
to live together in a holy marriage?
Will you love *her/him*, comfort *her/him*, honor and keep *her/him*,
in sickness and in health,
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to *her/him*
as long as you both shall live?

Couple's Response: I will.

The minister says to the families:

A (see also below)

P/ Will you, the families of *name* and *name*, give your love and blessing to this new family?

The families respond: We will.

The minister says to the assembly:

P/ Will all of you, by God's grace, do everything in your power to uphold and care for these two persons in their life together? If so answer, "We will with the help of God:"

C/ **We will, with the help of God.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P/ Gracious God,
you sent your Son Jesus Christ into the world
to reveal your love to all people.
Enrich *name* and *name* with every good gift,
that their life together may show forth your love;
and grant that at the last we may all celebrate with Christ
the marriage feast that has no ending;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

WORD

READINGS and RESPONSES

Two or three readings are proclaimed.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY or SOLO

MARRIAGE VOWS

The presiding minister addresses the couple in these or similar words:

P/ Name and name, I invite you to join your hands and declare your vows.

A

In the presence of God and this community,
I, name, take you, name, to be my *wife/husband*;
to have and to hold from this day forward,
in joy and in sorrow,
in plenty and in want,
in sickness and in health,
to love and to cherish,
as long as we both shall live.
This is my solemn vow.

B

I take you, name, to be my *wife/husband* from this day forward,
to join with you and share all that is to come,
and I promise to be faithful to you
until death parts us.

C

I, name, give myself to you, name.
By the grace of God,
I promise to support and care for you.
In the love of Christ,
I promise to love and cherish you.
With the Spirit's help,
I promise to be faithful to you,
as long as we both shall live.

D

I take you, name, to be my *wife/husband*,
and these things I promise you:
I will be faithful to you and honest with you;
I will respect, trust, help, and care for you;
I will forgive you as we have been forgiven;
and I will share my life with you,
through the best and worst of all that is to come,
until death parts us.

BLESSING OF RINGS

P/ A

Gracious God, by your blessing
let these rings be to name and name
a symbol of their unending love and faithfulness,
to remind them of the vow and covenant they have made this day,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

B
We give you thanks, O God of grace,
for your love and faithfulness to your people.
Bless these rings,
that they may be symbols of the enduring commitment
name and name have made to each other;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.

EXCHANGE OF RINGS

P/ Name, I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow.
With all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ACCLAMATION

P/ Name and name, by their promises before God and in the presence of this
assembly, have bound themselves to one another as husband and wife.
Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

NUPTIAL BLESSING

*The couple may kneel as the presiding minister prays for God's blessing: A
(see also below)*

P/ We give you thanks, most gracious God,
for in your great love you created us male and female
and made the union of husband and wife
an image of the covenant between you and your people.
You sent Jesus Christ to come among us,
making your love visible in him, to bring new life to the world.

Send your Holy Spirit to pour out the abundance of your blessing on name and
name, who have this day given themselves to each other in marriage.

Bless them in their work and in their companionship;
in their sleeping and in their waking;
in their joys and in their sorrows;

in their life and in their death.

INTERCESSION PRAYER

P/ Seeing how greatly God has loved us, let us pray for the whole world.

For the Christian community everywhere;
for the life and ministry of the baptized,
and for pastors, leaders, and servants of the gospel,
that the church may be the risen body of Christ in the world.
O God, source of all life,

hear our prayer.

For all communities everywhere;
for our nation, for all those who govern and for all in authority,
and for justice and peace throughout the world.
O God, source of all life,

hear our prayer.

For those we love easily, and for those with whom we struggle,
for those different from us and for those familiar to us,
that we might be instruments of God's peace.
O God, source of all life,

hear our prayer.

For those who suffer in any way, and those who are lonely, for
the sick, the dying, and those who are bereaved, for those who
are poor, hungry, homeless, or unemployed, for the victims of
violence, hatred, and intolerance. O God, source of all life,
hear our prayer.

For all those who are bound to us in love;
for our families, friends, and neighbors,
remembering also all who have gone before us (especially *name/s*).
O God, source of all life,

hear our prayer.

Other intercessions may be added. The presiding minister concludes the prayers:
Creator of all,
you make us in your image and likeness
and fill us with everlasting life.
Hear the prayers of your people

and grant to *name* and *name* grace to live in unity and joy
all the days of their lives.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit,
to whom, with you, one God, be praise forever and ever.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION (OPTIONAL)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P/ Loving God,
we thank you that you have fed us in this holy meal,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the marriage feast of the Lamb.
So strengthen us in your service that our daily lives may show our thanks,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

P/ God Almighty send you light and truth
to keep you all the days of your life.
The hand of God protect you;
the holy angels accompany you;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you now and forever.

Amen.

KISS

GIVING OF ROSES TO PARENTS

PRESENTATION

RECESSIONAL