

## **Song for a Wedding**

**(Tune: The Ash Grove")**

Let's praise the Creator who gave us each other  
in friendship and kinship to celebrate life  
let's sing our delight in this man and this woman,  
the promise of joy as a husband and wife.  
The love that we wish them, the love that we pray for  
is stronger than storms and more gentle than breath,  
endures every trouble, is selfless and faithful,  
more precious than life and more lasting than death.

Let's praise the Creator who gave us each other  
in friendship and kinship to celebrate life  
let's sing our delight in this man and this woman,  
the promise of joy as a husband and wife.  
In vows that are honoured, in kissing and blessing  
may happiness shine like the gold of a ring,  
in passionate joy and compassionate caring  
may theirs be the gifts that true loving can bring.

## **Bless, Lord, This Bride**

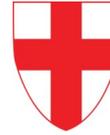
**(Tune of "O Perfect Love")**

Bless, Lord, this Bride; O, hold her in Thy keeping,  
Bless, Lord, this man and shield him safe from ill;  
Grant that their lives in love and gladness reaping,  
May lie in sunshine, with Thy peace be still.

Teach them O God, the nobleness of duty,  
Give them the crown unselfishness may win;  
Light in their hearts Thy fires of glowing beauty,  
Loyalty and truth; and keep their ways from sin.

Link Thou their lives, that death alone can sever,  
Trace for their feet the brave and steadfast way;  
Guide Thou their hands in works of good endeavour,  
Be Thou, their friend, their guardian and their stay.

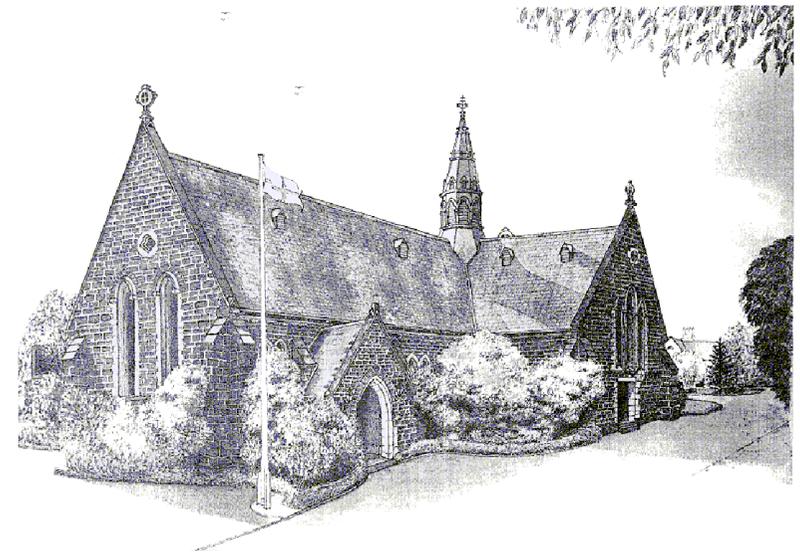
Blend them as one, in love that hath no ending,  
Love that no trial, no time or death can sway;  
And in this love, Lord, lead their steps ascending,  
Ever to Thee, and life's eternal day.



**St George's Anglican Church | Malvern**

## **Hymns**

*that could be included  
in your wedding service.*



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### **The Lord's My Shepherd**

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.

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.

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.

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 for evermore  
My dwelling-place shall be.

### **Now Thank We All Our God**

Now thank we all our God,  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours to-day.

O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in his grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The One eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

### **Gracious Lord We Ask Your Blessing** *(Tune: Song of Joy)*

Gracious Lord we ask your blessing,  
on these two who stand today  
As they make a new beginning,  
In a fresh and loving way.  
We who love them bless and thank you  
For the memories we hold dear,  
For your love which planned their union  
For your Grace which brought them here.

May they have the benediction  
Of your presence as they go,  
Comforting, sustaining, giving  
Quickened hearts that burn and grow;  
And may gracious deep devotion  
Fill their lives with fragrance rare  
Telling needy hearts around them  
Of a love which all can share.

May their hopes and dreams and longings  
Be transformed their whole life through  
Into memories they will treasure  
Bound with love undimmed and true.  
We would wish them all the gladness  
That this life can hold in store.  
Faith and hope, and joyful service  
We would ask for them and more.  
to serve and strive for truth and right.

### **When love is found**

When love is found and hope comes home,  
sing and be glad that two are one.  
When love explodes and fills the sky,  
praise God and share our Maker's joy.

When God has flowered in trust and care,  
build both each day, that love may dare  
to reach beyond home's warmth and light,  
to serve and strive for truth and right.

When love is tried as loved-ones change,  
hold still to hope, though all seems strange,  
till ease returns, and love grows wise  
through listening ears and opened eyes.

When love is torn, and trust betrayed,  
pray strength to love till torments fade,  
till lovers keep no score of wrong,  
but hear through pain love's Easter song.

Praise God for love, praise God for life,  
in age or youth, in calm or strife.  
Lift up your hearts! Let love be fed  
through death and life in broken bread.

### **Song of Joy**

Come, Sing a Song of Joy  
For peace shall come, my brother  
Sing, sing a song of joy,  
For all shall love each other,  
That day will dawn just as sure  
As hearts that are pure, are hearts set free,  
No man must stand alone  
With outstretched hand before him.

Come, sing a song of joy  
For peace shall come, my brother,  
Sing, sing a song of joy  
For men shall love each other,  
Reach out and take them in yours  
With love that endures for evermore,  
Then sing a song of joy  
For love and understanding.

Come, sing a song of joy  
Of freedom tell the story,  
Sing, sing a song of joy  
For mankind in his glory,  
One mighty voice that will bring  
A sound that will ring for evermore,  
Then, sing a song of joy  
For love and understanding.

### **The Servant Song**

Brother, sister, let me serve you,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

### **Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love,  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
*O Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console.  
To be understood as to understand.  
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,  
Where there is darkness, only light  
And where there's sadness, ever joy.  
*O Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console.  
To be understood as to understand.  
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
In giving of ourselves that we receive,  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

### **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven, 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 spotless 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.

### **Praise My Soul the King of Heaven**

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 for ever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless,  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like 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.

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.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

### **It May Be That Our Colour**

*(Tune: I vow to thee my country - Thaxted)*

It may be that our colour, the cadence of our speech,  
The riches of our country, the height our minds can reach  
The customs of our forbears, or the gods that rule our heart  
Can set a gulf between us to seal us far apart,  
Yet in this world so varied, warmed by a common sun,  
None is a private island, for all of us are one.

One in our easy laughter, one in our silent tears,  
One in our hope for something to quell tomorrow's fears,  
One in our need of pardon, our need of trust and love,  
Our need of one another, our need of God above,  
By bonds of life united, into one family blent,  
No islands separated, a single continent.

### **O Perfect Love, All Human Thought Transcending**

O perfect Love, all human thought transcending,  
Lowly we kneel in prayer before your throne,  
That theirs may be the love which knows no ending  
Whom you for evermore now join in one.

O perfect Life, be you their full assurance  
Of tender charity and steadfast faith,  
Of patient hope, and quiet brave endurance,  
With childlike trust that fears not pain or death.

Grant them the joy which brightens earthly sorrow,  
Grant them the peace which calms all earthly strife;  
And to life's day the glorious unknown morrow  
that dawns upon eternal love and life.

### **A New Commandment**

A new commandment I give unto you  
that you love one another as I have loved you,  
that you love one another as I have loved you.  
By this will all know that you are my disciples  
if you have love one for another  
By this shall all know that you are my disciples  
if you have love for one another.

### **As Man and Woman we were made**

As man and woman we were made  
that love be found and life begun;  
so praise the Lord who made us two  
and praise the Lord when two are one:  
praise for the love that comes to life  
through child or parent, husband, wife.

Now Jesus lived and gave his love  
to make our life and loving new;  
so celebrate with him today  
and drink the joy he offers you  
that makes the simple moments shine  
and changes water into wine.

And Jesus died to live again;  
so praise the love that, come what may,  
can bring the dawn and clear the skies,  
and waits to wipe all tears away  
and let us hope for what shall be,  
believing where we cannot see.  
Then spread the table, clear the hall  
and celebrate till day is done;  
let peace go deep between us all  
and joy be shared by everyone:  
laugh and make merry with your friends  
and praise the love that never ends.

### **Come Down, O Love Divine**

Come down, O Love divine,  
Seek thou this soul of mine,  
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
Within my heart appear,  
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,  
Till earthly passions turn  
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
And let thy glorious light  
Shine ever on my sight,  
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity  
Mine outward vesture be,  
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;  
True lowliness of heart,  
Which takes the humbler part,  
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,  
With which the soul will long,  
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
For none can guess its grace,  
Till he become the place  
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

### **Morning Has Broken**

Morning has broken  
like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken  
like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing,  
praise for the morning,  
praise for them, springing  
fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall  
sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall  
on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness  
of the wet garden,  
sprung from completeness  
where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight;  
mine is the morning  
born of the one light  
Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation,  
praise every morning,  
God's recreation  
of the new day.

### **God of All Living, Father, We Praise You**

God of all living, father, we praise you,  
Full of thanksgiving, For so much love:  
Now in this wedding, come down among us,  
Pour out your blessing,  
Heavenly Dove.

Perfect Companion God's gift in marriage,  
One true communion, Help on life's ways,  
May we be mindful in need and plenty,  
May we be faithful  
Every new day.

With love's true splendour Father, delight us,  
Each giving honour, With faithfulness;  
And may the sharing, of this sweet union,  
Deepen our caring,  
With tenderness.

May there be children Fruit of our loving,  
True men and women, With faith beside;  
Grant us your keeping in all our future,  
Your love caressing,  
Bridegroom and Bride.

### **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest - to both great and small;  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
And wither and perish - but nought changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

### **Lord of all hopefulness**

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,

Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy,  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.