

Church of England wedding service.



Beginning the service: the priest welcomes the congregation and then reads out what Christians believe in marriage.

Declarations: the couple make their promises in front of God

that they will love, comfort, honour and protect their partner as long as they both shall live.

Vows: The couple then make their vows to one another.

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 do us part

Rings: The couple exchange rings and say:

With my body I honour you, all that I am I give to you,
and all that I have I share with you, within the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Proclamation: the priest tells the couple that they are now husband and wife.

Prayers: prayers are said for the couple. They may include a prayer for the gift of children, but this is optional.

Readings and sermon: there will be some readings from the Bible and the minister gives a sermon.

Signing of the register: the bride and groom, along with two witnesses, sign the register, which is a legal requirement. They receive a legally binding marriage certificate.