



Wedding Information



St. Chad's Church Kirkby Team Ministry 2017

As the big day draws ever nearer, this folder contains some resources and ideas to make the day even more memorable for you. You will need to choose at least one bible reading, and you may also choose a poem or other reading. If you choose to have hymns or songs, as most people do, there is also a list of hymns that might help you choose.

Possible Bible readings

You need at least one biblical reading. These may help you choose, but you can have any other you may find.

I Corinthians 13: 1-8.

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work; if one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no-one to help him up! Also if two lie down together they will keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

I John 4: 7-12.

Dear friends let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent His one and only son into the world so that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No-one has seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us.

Song of Solomon 2:10-13, 8:6-7

My beloved speaks and says to me:

'Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;
for now 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 turtle-dove
is heard in our land.

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

Arise, my love, my fair 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.

John 2: 1-11.

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

"Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied, "My time has not yet come." His mother said to the servants: "Do whatever he tells you."

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from 20 to 30 gallons. Jesus said to the servants: "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them: "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water which had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, although the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said: "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best until now."

This the first of his miraculous signs Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory and his disciples put their faith in him.

More Readings for Your Wedding

- This sheet features a selection of poems and extracts from books that you may like to consider for your wedding.
- A Church of England wedding service should include at least one reading from the Bible. The others can be a poem or an extract from a book.
- We would also advise all couples to discuss their choice of readings with the vicar who is presiding at your wedding. S/he will be able to advise you about what would be most appropriate.
- Whichever readings you choose, they should have special significance for you as a couple.
- You can also find a selection of readings on the Church of England wedding website:
www.churchofengland.org

Let Me Not to the Marriage of True Minds

William Shakespeare, Sonnet 116

Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove:
O, no! It is an ever-fixed mark,
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;
It is a star to every wandering bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come;
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
If this be error and upon me proved,
I never writ, nor no man ever loved

Never Marry But for Love

William Penn (1644-1718)

Never marry but for love: but see that thou lovest what
is lovely.
He that minds a body and not a soul
Has not the better part of that relationship,
And will consequently lack the noblest comfort of a
married life.
Between a man and his wife nothing ought to rule but
love.
As love ought to bring them together,
So it is the best way to keep them well together.
A husband and wife that love one another
Show their children that they should do so too.
Others visibly lose their authority in their families
By their contempt of one another,
And teach their children to be unnatural by their own
examples.
Let not enjoyment lessen, but augment, affection;
It being the basest of passions to like when we have
not,
What we slight when we possess.

Here it is we ought to search out our pleasure,
Where the field is large and full of variety,
and of an enduring nature;
Sickness, poverty or disgrace being not able to shake it
Because it is not under the moving influences
of worldly contingencies.
Nothing can be more entire and without reserve;
Nothing can be more zealous, affectionate and sincere;
Nothing more contented than such a couple,
Nor greater temporal felicity than to be one of them.

Sonnet from the Portuguese XLIII

Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806-1861)

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of Being and ideal Grace.

I love thee to the level of every day's
Most quiet need; by sun and candle-light.
I love thee freely, as men strive for Right;
I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise;
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints, I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life! And, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after Death.

Marriage Advice – Jane Wells (1866)

Let your love be stronger than your hate or anger.
Learn the wisdom of compromise,
for it is better to bend a little than to break.
Believe the best rather than the worst.
People have a way of living up or down to your opinion
of them.
Remember that true friendship is the basis for any
lasting relationship.
The person you choose to marry is deserving of the
courtesies
and kindnesses you bestow on your friends.
Please hand this down to your children and your
children's children.

A Walled Garden - Author Unknown

'Your marriage', he said, 'Should have within it a secret
a protected place, open to you alone. Imagine it to be a
walled garden. Entered by a door to which only you
have the key. Within this garden you will cease to be a
mother, father, employee. Homemaker or any other
roles which you fulfil in daily life. Here you are
yourselves, two people who love each other. Here you
can concentrate on one another's needs. So take my
hand and let us go back to our garden. The time we
spend together is not wasted but invested. Invested in
our future and the nurture of our love.'

Paths and Journeys (*Adapted from Far from the Madding Crowd, Thomas Hardy*)

We are all on our own paths, all on our own journeys. Sometimes the paths cross, and people arrive at the crossingpoints at the same time and meet each other. There are greetings, pleasantries are exchanged, and then they move on. But then once in a while the pleasantries become more, friendship grows, deeper links are made, hands are joined and love flies. The friendship has turned into love. Paths are joined, one path with two people walking it, both going in the same direction, and sharing each other's journeys. Today N and N are joining their paths. They will now skip together in harmony and love, sharing joys and sorrows, hopes and fears, strengthening and upholding each other as they walk along side by side. At home by the fire, whenever I look up, there you will be. And whenever you look up, there I shall be.

Be at One with Each Other – *George Eliot*

What greater thing is there for two human souls than to feel that they are joined - to strengthen each other - to be at one with each other in silent unspeakable memories.

An Apache Wedding Prayer - *Author unknown*

Now you will feel no rain,
For each of you will be shelter to the other.
Now you will feel no cold,
For each of you will be warmth to the other.
Now there is no more loneliness for you,
For each of you will be companion to the other.
Treat yourselves and each other with respect,
And remind yourselves often of what brought you together.
Give the highest priority to the tenderness,
gentleness and kindness that your connection deserves.
When frustration, difficulty and fear assail your relationship;
As they threaten all relationships at one time or another.
Remember to focus on what is right between you,
Not only the part which seems wrong.
In this way, you can ride out the storms
When clouds hide the face of the sun in your lives,
Remembering that even if you lose sight of it for a moment,
The sun is still there.
And if each of you takes responsibility
For the quality of your life together,
It will be marked by abundance and delight.
Go now to your dwelling place,
to enter into the days of your life together.
And may your days be good and long upon the earth.

The Prophet on Marriage
Khalil Gibran (1883-1931)

Then Almitra spoke again and said...
"And what of Marriage, master?"
And he answered saying:
You were born together,
and together you shall be forevermore.
You shall be together when the white wings
of death scatter your days.
Aye, you shall be together even in the
silent memory of God.
But let there be spaces in your togetherness,
And let the winds of the heavens dance between you.
Love one another, but make not a bond of love.
Let it rather be a moving sea between
the shores of your souls.
Fill each other's cup but drink not from one cup.
Give one another of your bread but eat not from the
same loaf.
Sing and dance together and be joyous,
but let each of you be alone,
Even as the strings of a lute are alone
though they quiver with the same music.
Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping.
For only the hand of Life can contain your hearts.
And stand together, yet not too near together.
For the pillars of the temple stand apart,
And the oak tree and the cypress
grow not in each other's shadow.

An Extract from Captain Corelli's Mandolin
By Louis de Bernieres

Love is a temporary madness, it erupts like volcanoes and then subsides. And when it subsides you have to make a decision. You have to work out whether your root was so entwined together that it is inconceivable that you should ever part. Because this is what love is. Love is not breathlessness, it is not excitement, it is not the promulgation of promises of eternal passion. That is just being in love, which any fool can do. Love itself is what is left over when being in love has burned away, and this is both an art and a fortunate accident. Those that truly love have roots that grow towards each other underground, and when all the pretty blossoms have fallen from their branches, they find that they are one tree and not two.

Some suggested wedding hymns.

This list is not meant to be exhaustive, but a starting point to help you choose. If you would like a hymn not on this list, please ask!

All things bright and beautiful

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one.

The tall trees in the greenwood,
the meadows for our play,
the rushes by the water,
to gather ev'ry day.

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

Amazing Grace

Made famous by various singers

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am 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;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

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

Be our Chief Guest, Lord

New hymn written to tune of 'Morning has Broken'

Be our chief guest Lord, Lord of all living,
Lord of all loving, this wedding day;
Bind us together, in your sure keeping,
So we may never, wander away.

Bless all who have brought us, up from our childhood,
Caring forgiving, through the long day;
May the same spirit, shine in our home, Lord,
Lighting our pathway, we humbly pray.

Bless all our friends, Lord, happy and true friends,
Laughing or crying, always the same;
Bright with this friendship, may our own home be,
Ready to welcome, all in your name.

Be our chief guest Lord, Lord of all living,
Warm with compassion, showing the way;
Keep us together, in loving service,
Families and friends, Lord, this wedding day.

Be thou my Vision *Celtic hymn*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word,
I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true heir;
Thou in me dwelling, and I in Thy care.

Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be Thou my armour, and be Thou my might;
Thou my soul's shelter, and Thou my strong tower:
raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise:
Thou mine inheritance through all my days;
Thou and Thou only the first in my heart:
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heaven's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Christ be with you

*Celtic blessing set to the tune of Pachelbel's Canon –
suitable for the choir to sing at the signing of the register*

Christ be with you, Christ within you,
Christ behind you, Christ before you,
Christ beside you, Christ to guide you,
Christ to comfort and restore you.

Christ beneath you, Christ above you,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love you,
Christ in care of friend and stranger.

Colours of day

School hymn

Colours of day dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet.

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return.
Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.*

Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing a friend.

Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has come, the sun came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.

Do not be afraid

Popular scriptural hymn

*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are mine.*

When you walk through the waters, I'll be with you.
You will never sink beneath the waves.

When the fire is burning all around you,
You will never be consumed by the flames.

When the fear of loneliness is looming,
Then remember I am at your side.

When you dwell in the exile of the stranger,
Remember you are precious in my eyes.

You are mine, O my child, I am your Father,
And I love you with a perfect love.

Give me joy in my heart

School hymn

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Give me joy in my heart, I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Keep me praising till the break of day.

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King of kings.
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna to the King.*

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.
Give me peace in my heart, I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.
Keep me resting till the break of day.

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.
Give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep serving.
Keep me serving till the break of day.

Give me light in my heart, keep me shining
Give me light in my heart, I pray.
Give me light in my heart, keep me shining.
Keep me shining till the break of day.

God, in the planning

Same Celtic tune as 'Be Thou my Vision'

God, in the planning and purpose of life,
hallowed the union of husband and wife:
this we embody where love is displayed,
rings are presented and promises made.

Jesus was found, at a similar feast,
taking the roles of both waiter and priest,
turning the worldly towards the divine,
tears into laughter and water to wine.

Therefore we pray that his Spirit preside,
over the wedding of bridegroom and bride,
fulfilling all that they've hoped will come true,
lighting with love all they dream of and do.

Praise then the Maker, the Spirit, the Son,
source of the love through which two are made one.
God's is the glory, the goodness and grace
seen in this marriage and known in this place.

Guide me O thou Great Redeemer

Sung at various rugby and football matches

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,
Hold me with Thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and ever more,
Feed me now and ever more.

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.

I danced in the Morning (Lord of the Dance)

School hymn

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the
earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John –
they came with me and the dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on
high,
and they left me there on a cross to die.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black –
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body, and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance, and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me –
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he

Jerusalem

Well known anthem

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the Countenance Divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among those dark Satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold:
Bring me my arrows of desire:
Bring me my spear: O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

Lord of all hopefulness

School hymn – same tune as 'Be Thou my Vision'

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 kindliness, 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.

Make me a channel of your peace

*Prayer of St. Francis - beautiful words and tune – possibly for
the choir to sing at the signing of the register*

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.

*Oh, 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.

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

Morning has broken

Cheerful song

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 in 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 re-creation of the new day!

O Lord my God

Famous Russian hymn

O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die—I scarce can take it in.
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin:

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home—what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

One More step along the road I go

School hymn

One more step along the road I go,
one more step along the world I go.
From the old things to the new
keep me travelling along with you.

*And it's from the old I travel to the new,
keep me travelling along with you.*

Round the corners of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn.
All the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me.

As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go,
you'll be telling me the way, I know.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough.
Leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you.

You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me.
Ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you.

The love we share

New words written to the tune of 'Danny Boy'

The love we share, the love we come to celebrate,
so rich and full, so healing and so strong,
comes from the love of God our loving Father
within whose care we all of us belong.
A love which breathed creation into being,
a love which hears our deepest hopes and dreams;
a love which now within this marriage making
alights on bride and groom to bless and make them one.

Through future years, may they hold bright the memory
of all the joys on this their wedding day.
And as their love grows stronger yet and deeper
their rings express much more than words can say.
They speak of love that never has an ending,
of love that shines, encircles in embrace,
of love whose heart is always free and open;
our human love reflects the beauty of God's grace.

These vows of love are taken

*New words written to the tune from Holst's the Planets, 'I
vow to thee my country'*

These vows of love are taken, as rings of love received,
we witness here among us a mystery believed:
that in God's holy presence a marriage has begun
and these your precious children have now become as
one.
For the things of earth and heaven draw closer as we
pray,
and in heaven the angels celebrate with us on earth
today.

For all our many blessings we offer thanks and praise,
for gifts of love and fellowship our thankful hearts we
raise.

God's hand has held us safely and brought us to this
day,
God has guided and protected and taught us on the
way.

For the love we learn on earth is the love we'll find in
heaven
and the human love we celebrate is love that God has
given.

Thine be the Glory

*Famous hymn - tune used by BBC World Cup coverage
2006*

Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes
Where Thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won!*

Lo, Jesus meets us,
Risen from the tomb!
Lovingly He greets us,
Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth,
Death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt Thee,
Glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without Thee:
Aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors,
Through Thy deathless love;
Lead us in Thy triumph
To Thy home above.

We gather here

New words written to the tune of 'Jerusalem'

We gather here, we gather now,
drawn by the love we know and share.
We come to celebrate in our joy
the union of this bridal pair.
To them our hearts reach out with love,
on them the light of heaven above
shines down in grace abundant and free
to bless them both eternally.

And we who join to wish them well,
offer them both our love and prayer
that they may walk in fullness of life
the journey they have come to share.
That they may know if storms come near
that they have friends and family here
for we commit ourselves to pray
and love and cherish them each day.

We pledge to one another

*New words written to the tune from Holst's the Planets, 'I
vow to thee my country'*

We pledge to one another, before the Lord above,
entire and whole and perfect, this union of our love —
a love that will be patient, a love that will be wise,
that will not twist with envy, nor lose itself in lies;
a love that will not falter, a love to hold us fast,
and bind us to each other as long as life shall last.

We pray that God will guide us through all the years to
be,
our lives be shaped by courage, hope and serenity.
Through joy and celebration, through loneliness and
pain,
may loyalty, compassion and tenderness remain,
that those who share the blessing of love that cannot
cease
may walk the paths of gentleness into the place of
peace.

Some other possible hymns:

Abba Father
All things Bright and Beautiful
At the name of Jesus
Be still for the presence of the Lord
Blessed assurance
Breath on me Breath of god
Come down o Love divine
Come on and Celebrate
Crown Him with many crowns
Dear Lord and father of Mankind
Father hear the Prayer we offer
Father I place into your hands
Fight the good fight!
Give thanks with a grateful heart
God is working his purpose out
Great is thy Faithfulness
How lovely on the Mountains
Just as I am
Lead us Heavenly Father lead us
Lord for the years
Lord Jesus Christ
Lord the Light of your love
Love Divine
May the mind of Christ my Saviour
My song is love unknown
Now thank we all our God
O for a thousand tongues to sing
O God our help in ages past
O Jesus I have promised
O Love that will not let me go
Praise my Soul the King of heaven
Seek ye first
Such Love
Take my life and let it be
The King of Love my Shepherd is
There is a Redeemer
Thou didst leave thy throne
To God be the Glory
What a Friend we have in Jesus
When I survey the Wondrous Cross
When we walk with the Lord
Will you Come and Follow me
You are the King of Glory
You shall go out with Joy