

*Officiant: Reverend Andrew Rowland - Vicar*

## *Pastoral Introduction*

*Please read this before the service begins.*

A wedding is one of life's great moments, a time of solemn commitment as well as good wishes, feasting and joy.

St John tells us how Jesus shared in such an occasion at Cana, and gave there a sign of new beginnings as he turned water into wine.

Marriage is intended by God to be a creative relationship, as his blessing enables husband and wife to love and support each other in good times and in bad, and to share in the care and upbringing of children. For Christians, marriage is also an invitation to share life together in the spirit of Jesus Christ. It is based upon a solemn, public and life-long covenant between a man and a woman, declared and celebrated in the presence of God and before witnesses.

On this their wedding day the bride and bridegroom face each other, make their promises and receive God's blessing. You are witnesses of the marriage, and express your support by your presence and your prayers. Your support does not end today: the couple will value continued encouragement in the days and years ahead of them.

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

*1 Corinthians 13.4-7*

**Please switch your mobile phones off.**

**Please refrain from flash photography as it is obtrusive and detracts from this service of divine worship. Thank you for your co-operation.**

*Processional:*  
***The Wedding Bridal March (Lohengrin) - Wagner***

***Introduction***

**The Welcome**

*The minister welcomes the people using these or other appropriate words*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

*This sentence may be used*

God is love, and those who live in love live in God  
and God lives in them. *1 John 4.16*

*This prayer may be said*

**God of wonder and of joy:  
grace comes from you,  
and you alone are the source of life and love.  
Without you, we cannot please you;  
without your love, our deeds are worth nothing.  
Send your Holy Spirit,  
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,  
that we may worship you now  
with thankful hearts  
and serve you always with willing minds;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*A hymn is sung.*

## **Preface**

## **The Declarations**

Will you, the families and friends of *N* and *N*,  
support and uphold them in their marriage  
now and in the years to come?

**We will.**

## **The Collect**

*The minister invites the people to pray, silence is kept and the minister says the Collect*

God our Father,  
from the beginning  
you have blessed creation with abundant life.  
Pour out your blessings upon *N* and *N*,  
that they may be joined in mutual love and companionship,  
in holiness and commitment to each other.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## **Readings**

*At least one reading from the New Testament of the Bible is used.*

## **Sermon**

## *The Marriage*

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The couple stands before the minister.*

## **The Vows**

*The bride and bridegroom exchange vows.*

## **The Giving of Rings**

*The minister addresses the people*

## **The Blessing of the Marriage**

## Registration of the Marriage

*A musician or soloist may perform, a hymn may be sung or the church organist play.*

### Prayers

*The response to Lord of Life and love is*  
**hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer. **Please choose a version.***

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom  
the power and the glory  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*A hymn is sung.*

### The Dismissal

*Recessional:*

***Wedding March from A Midsummer's Night Dream - Mendelssohn***

*There is no formal collection at a wedding service, but we would appreciate any offering that you can make in your generosity. Your church needs funds and help for its work, which is funded almost entirely by the local congregation, here at West Moors. We welcome you to our regular services of worship on Sundays and during the week.*

**Confetti is welcomed outside church BUT NOT plastic or metallic.**