

Welcome

The Minister welcomes the people and continues:

Bless God,
and acknowledge him in the presence of all the living
for the good things he has done for you.
Bless and sing praise to his name.
With fitting honour declare to all people
the deeds of God.

Tobit 12:6

Hymn or song

Prayer

God of love,
on this day of joy
we come to praise you.
When two people find love together
you are with them
and in their faces we see your delight.
When love is expressed in promises
we see a faithfulness like yours.
When the future beckons with hope
we are restored and renewed.
Bless our celebration today
with your presence and promise,
that all of us may be touched by grace
and strengthened with joy,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Statement

... A ... and ... B ... have been married in law.
They have made solemn vows
and have contracted to live together
as husband and wife
until death parts them.
Now they come before God,
in the presence of the Church,
to ask for a blessing for their marriage.
We rejoice in the love they share
and gladly pray for the blessing of God upon them.
In marriage,
a man and woman love each other.

The promises

The husband says to his wife:

**... B ... , you are my wife.
I promise to be faithful to you,
to love and honour you,
to comfort and protect you,
as long as we both shall live.
This is my solemn promise.**

If there is only one ring, the Minister prays:

Eternal God,
whose love, like a circle, never ends,
we pray that this ring
may be a sign of unending faithfulness.
Give ... A ... and ... B ... a love that lasts,
joy in one another,
and years of peace together.
And may your presence,
the perfect Trinity of love,
be always with them.

All **Amen.**

The prayer of blessing

God our Creator,
you make us in your image,
and bless us with the gift of love.
In the longing of our bodies,
the passion of love's touch
and the strong bonds of affection,
your love and blessing are already known.

We thank you that we have seen this day,
and witnessed such joy together.
May we carry your blessing with us
to our homes, our friends, our families.
May the places where we live, and the places where we work,
the people we love, and the people we serve,
be blessed by your presence and by holy joy.
May your name be blessed,
among us and through all the world,
this day and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn or song

Blessing

God our Maker gives joy to bride and groom!
Christ our Saviour gives life to the world!
The Holy Spirit brings us together in love!
The blessing of God,
the Trinity of love,
be with you today and always.

All **Amen.**