

St Andrew's Church Kirk Ella



Marriage of Janet Louise Howson with Stephen John Bryson

Saturday 9th May 2015

Ceremony 1 pm

For roughly a thousand years the people of Kirk Ella have met together in this building to celebrate the beginning of a new marriage or the birth of a child or the loss of someone dearly loved. We're celebrating today and joining in with a grand tradition that stretches back through ten centuries.

At a traditional English church wedding we don't do everything exactly the same as the way that they do in Hollywood. We can't usually rely on the weather and so we're always inside rather than in a beautiful rose garden with the ocean gently stirring beside the lawn. We sometimes welcome the bridesmaids first; or if we're being more traditional the bride comes first followed by her bridesmaids.

As the service begins you will find that we are either marrying the couple immediately; and then talking about what we have done afterwards; or we talk first and then come to the formal part of the ceremony after a few minutes.

When we come to the formal and legal part of the service it's worth knowing what's going to happen. This may be your first ever church wedding; what they do in films is not exactly what we do around here.

What's the overall shape of the ceremony? What's going to happen?

A church wedding has three parts:

- 1. Consent to marry:** The minister will ask Stephen and Janet if they each give their consent to marry the other. You will hear them say "I will" rather than "I do."
- 2. Vows:** We will then witness the vows that Stephen and Janet make to each other. This form of words has been used for many centuries.
- 3. The exchange of rings:** We will see them each give and receive a ring as a permanent public reminder of their vows.

Enjoy the ceremony. Join with us in praying for the couple. Pray that the hands and hearts that come together today in marriage will gladly stay together for the rest of their lives. Thank you.

Order of Service

Minuet II

Handel

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down:
Fix in us your humble dwelling,
All your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, you are all compassion,
Boundless love that makes us whole;
Visit us with your salvation,
Enter every trembling soul.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all your grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more your temple leave.
You we would be always blessing,
Serve you as your hosts above,
Pray, and praise you without ceasing,
Glory in your perfect love.

Finish then your new creation:
Pure and sinless let us be;
Let us see your great salvation,
Perfect in eternity:
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
There to cast our crowns before you,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Marriage

There is a higher throne

than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from every tongue
will one day come.

Before the Son we'll stand,
made faultless through the Lamb;
believing hearts find promised grace:
Salvation comes.

*Hear heaven's voices sing,
their thunderous anthem rings
through emerald courts and sapphire skies,
their praises rise.*

*All glory, wisdom, power,
strength, thanks and honour are
to God, our King who reigns on high
forever more.*

And there we'll find our home,
our life before the throne;
we'll honour Him in perfect song
where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye,
as thirst and hunger die;
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King:
we'll reign with Him

Bible Reading – Genesis 2.20b-25

²²But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³The man said,

“This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called ‘woman,’
for she was taken out of man.”

²⁴For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

²⁵The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame. (NIV)

The Address

'Jesus is Lord' - the cry that echoes through creation;
Resplendent power, eternal Word, our Rock.
The Son of God, the King whose glory fills the heavens,
Yet bids us come to taste this living Bread.

Jesus is Lord - whose voice sustains the stars and planets,
Yet in His wisdom laid aside His crown.
Jesus the Man, who washed our feet, who bore our suffering,
Became a curse to bring salvation's plan.

Jesus is Lord - the tomb is gloriously empty!
Not even death could crush this King of love!
The price is paid, the chains are loosed, and we're forgiven,
And we can run into the arms of God.

'Jesus is Lord' - a shout of joy, a cry of anguish,
As He returns, and every knee bows low.
Then every eye and every heart will see His glory,
The Judge of all will take His children home.

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty
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Prayers

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 nought without Thee: aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above.

Edmond Budry (1854-1932)
tr. R.Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)

Blessing and Signing of the Registers

Trumpet Voluntary

H Purcell