

# St Andrew's Church Kirk Ella



## **Marriage of Janet Louise Howson with Stephen John Bryson**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 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

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring

Bach

## Welcome and Opening Prayer

**Be thou my vision, O god of my heart;**  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word,  
I ever with thee and thou with me, God;  
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,  
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor world's empty praise,  
Thou my inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun.  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Rob tu mo bhoile, a Comdi cride, Anonymous Irish translated by Eleanor H Hull (1860-1935)*  
10 10 10 10 Dactylic

**Marriage**

**In Christ alone my hope is found,**  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied -  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine -  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

## **Bible Reading – *Ephesians 5.21-33***

<sup>21</sup>Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

<sup>22</sup>Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Saviour. <sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

<sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her <sup>26</sup>to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, <sup>27</sup>and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. <sup>28</sup>In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup>After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—<sup>30</sup>for we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup>“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” <sup>32</sup>This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. (NIV)

## **The Address**

## **Prayers**

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,**  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.

Open thou the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer,  
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  
I will ever give to thee.

*Arglwydd arwain drwy'r anialwch*

William Williams (1717-1791), tr Peter Williams (1727-1796) and William Williams (1717-1791) or John Williams (1754-1828)

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## **Blessing and Signing of the Registers**

**Trumpet Voluntary**

**H Purcell**