



Order of Service

for the wedding of

Charlotte Louise Croney

and

Samuel Brendon Heather

at

St Mary's Church, Iwerne Minster
11am on Saturday 29th August 2020

On this their wedding day the bride and bridegroom face each other, make their promise's 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. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, 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.

1 Corinthians 13.4-7

Music on entry of the Bride:
Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

The Welcome

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.

God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God
lives in them.

**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.**

The Introduction

We have come together in the presence of God, to witness the marriage of Charlotte and Sam, to ask his blessing on them, and to share in their joy. Our Lord Jesus Christ was himself a guest at a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and through his Spirit he is with us now.

The Bible teaches us that marriage is a gift of God in creation and a means of his grace, a holy mystery in which man and woman become one flesh. It is God's purpose that, as husband and wife give themselves to each other in love throughout their lives, they shall be united in that love as Christ is united with his Church.

Marriage is given, that husband and wife may comfort and help each other, living faithfully together in need and in plenty, in sorrow and in joy. It is given, that with delight and tenderness they may know each other in love, and, through the joy of their bodily union, may strengthen the union of their hearts and lives. It is given as the foundation of family life in which children may be born and nurtured in accordance with God's will, to his praise and glory.

In marriage husband and wife belong to one another, and they begin a new life together in the community. It is a way of life that all should honour; and it must not be undertaken carelessly, lightly, or selfishly, but reverently, responsibly, and after serious thought.

This is the way of life, created and hallowed by God, that Charlotte and Sam are now to begin. They will each give their consent to the other; they will join hands and exchange solemn vows, and in token of this they will each give and receive a ring.

Therefore, on this their wedding day we pray with them, that, strengthened and guided by God, they may fulfil his purpose for the whole of their earthly life together.

The Declarations

The minister says to the congregation

First, I am required to ask anyone present who knows a reason why these persons may not lawfully marry, to declare it now.

The minister says to the Bride and Bridegroom

The vows you are about to take are to be made in the presence of God, who is judge of all and knows all the secrets of our hearts.

Therefore, if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now.

The minister says to the Bridegroom

Sam, will you take Charlotte to be your wife?

Will you love her, comfort her, honour and protect her, and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

He answers

I will take Charlotte to be my wife.

I will love her, comfort her, honour and protect her and forsaking all others and be faithful to her as long as we both shall live.

The minister says to the Bride

Charlotte, will you take Sam to be your husband?

Will you love him, comfort him, honour and protect him, and, forsaking all others and be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

She answers

I will take Sam to be my husband.

I will you love him, comfort him, honour and protect him, and, forsaking all others and be faithful to him as long as we both shall live.

The minister says to the congregation

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

We will!

The Collect

God our Father,
from the beginning
you have blessed creation with abundant life.
Pour out your blessings upon Charlotte and Sam,
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.

First reading: Jeremiah 31:31-33

Sermon: Rev'd David W John

The Vows

Charlotte and Sam, I now invite you to join hands and make
your vows in the presence of God and his people.

The bride and bridegroom face each other.

The bridegroom takes the bride's right hand in his.

The Bridegroom says

I, Sam, take you, Charlotte,
to be my wife,
to have and to hold
from this day forward;
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love, to cherish and obey
till death us do part;
according to God's holy law.
In the presence of God I make this vow.

The bride takes the bridegroom's right hand in hers.

The Bride says

I, Charlotte, take you, Sam,
to be my husband,
to have and to hold
from this day forward;
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love, to cherish and obey,
till death us do part;
according to God's holy law.
In the presence of God I make this vow.

The Giving of Rings

The minister receives the ring(s), and says this prayer

Heavenly Father, by your blessing
let these rings be to Charlotte and Sam
a symbol of unending love and faithfulness,
to remind them of the vow and covenant
which they have made this day
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Bridegroom says

Charlotte, I give you this ring
as a sign of our marriage.
With my body I honour you,
all that I am I give to you,
and all that I have I share with you,
within the love of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Bride says

Sam, I give you this ring
as a sign of our marriage.
With my body I honour you,
all that I am I give to you,
and all that I have I share with you,
within the love of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Proclamation

In the presence of God, and before this congregation, Charlotte and Sam have given their consent and made their marriage vows to each other. They have declared their marriage by the joining of hands and by the giving and receiving of rings. I therefore proclaim that they are husband and wife. Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

Second reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:11-12

The Blessing of the Marriage

Blessed are you, O Lord our God,
for you have created joy and gladness,
pleasure and delight, love, peace and fellowship.
Pour out the abundance of your blessing
upon *Charlotte and Sam* in their new life together.
Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts
and a crown upon their heads.
Bless them in their work and in their companionship,
awake and asleep, in joy and in sorrow, in life and in death.
Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that banquet where your
saints feast for ever in your heavenly home. We ask this
through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

God the Father,
God the Son,
God the Holy Spirit,
bless, preserve and keep you;
the Lord mercifully grant you the riches of his grace,
that you may please him both in body and soul,
and, living together in faith and love,
may receive the blessings of eternal life.

Amen.

Registration of the Marriage

Music:

Mighty to Save

The Prayers

Faithful God,
holy and eternal,
source of life and spring of love,
we thank and praise you for bringing *Charlotte and Sam* to
this day,
fill them with wisdom and hope
that they may delight in your gift of marriage
and enrich one another in love and faithfulness;
May their marriage be life-giving and life-long,
enriched by your presence and strengthened by your grace;
may they bring comfort and confidence to each other
in faithfulness and trust.
Lord of life and love:
hear our prayer.

May the hospitality of their home
bring refreshment and joy to all around them;
may their love overflow to neighbours in need
and embrace those in distress.

May they reach old age in the company of friends
and come at last to your eternal kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord of life and love:

hear our prayer.

May they discern in your word
order and purpose for their lives;
and may the power of your Holy Spirit
lead them in truth and defend them in adversity.

Lord of life and love:

hear our prayer.

May their family be healthy
see their children grow in body, mind and spirit
and come at last to the end of their lives
with hearts content and in joyful anticipation of heaven.

Lord of life and love:

hear our prayer.

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

Final reading: Isaiah 55:12

The Dismissal

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and
the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Music to leave:

Baba Yetu (the Lord's prayer in Swahili)