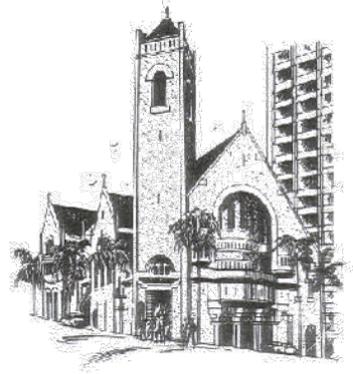




Saint Andrew's Uniting Church, Corner Creek and Ann Streets, Brisbane

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# Marriage Service under the 'Rites of the Uniting Church in Australia'



The Marriage Service under the rites of the Uniting Church in Australia provides many opportunities for those gathered to participate in the worship. Within the Uniting Church there is flexibility within the service; however, there are a number of essential inclusions for a marriage to be solemnised under the rites of the Uniting Church in Australia.

## ESSENTIAL INCLUSIONS

### Declaration of Purpose

The Declaration of Purpose is a brief summary of the Christian understanding of marriage, and is addressed not only to the couple being married but also to all who are present to witness their marriage.

### Scripture Readings

The Scripture readings provide an opportunity to once more express a Christian understanding of marriage and love. If requested, an additional reading from a source other than scripture can be included, this can be discussed with the minister.

### Preaching of the Word

This is an opportunity for the minister to personalise the Marriage Service, and to give witness to the Church's understanding of marriage.





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## VOWS

There are two options for vows. These cannot be changed, however personal additions following the official vows can be negotiated.

### OPTION A

I, N, in the presence of God  
take you, N, to be my marriage partner/husband/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 and to cherish,  
as long as we both shall live.  
This is my solemn vow.

### OPTION B

I, N, in the presence of God,  
take you, N, to be my marriage partner/husband/wife All that I am I give to you,  
and all that I have I share with you.  
Whatever the future holds,  
I will love you and stand by you as long  
as we both shall live.  
This is my solemn vow.

### Proclamation of Marriage

This is the moment the minister proclaims that in the presence of those gathered the couple has made their solemn vows and the marriage is confirmed.

### Blessing of the Marriage

A blessing is pronounced over the newly married couple.





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## **OPTIONAL INCLUSIONS**

Following is the complete order of service. The essential inclusions are identified with the symbol '▶'. This provides an opportunity to see the flow of the marriage service.

### **Greeting**

### **Sentences of Scripture**

### **Hymn/Song**

### **Prayer**

#### **▶ Declaration of Purpose**

#### **▶ Scripture Readings**

#### **▶ Preaching of the Word**

### **Declaration of Intent**

### **Affirmation by the Families**

### **Affirmation by the People**

### **Prayer**

#### **▶ The Vows**

### **Giving of Ring/s**

#### **▶ Proclamation of Marriage**

#### **▶ Blessing of Marriage**

### **[signing of the registers]**

If wedding candles are included in the service, the liturgy for the candles would occur following the Proclamation of Marriage.

Similarly, if Communion is celebrated this would occur after the Proclamation of Marriage or Wedding Candle Liturgy.

The registers are signed at the end of the service.

