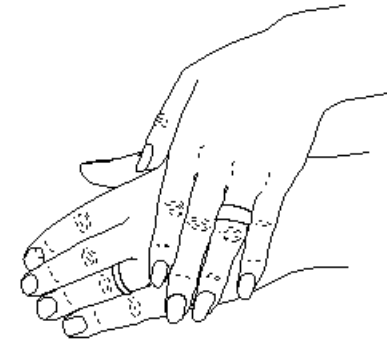


**The Making and Blessing of the
Covenant of Marriage
Order of Service**



Jane & John

**St George's Church, Stalybridge
29th February 2000**

Before the Service

Three candles are brought into Church and placed on the altar by X, Y & Z.

Entrance of the Bride

Music: *Bridal Chorus* Wagner

Played by Dr Chris Anderson

Introduction

- ♥ Welcome: Revd Ian Stubbs, Vicar of St George's
- ♥ Jane and John light two of the candles to represent their individual lives & journeys
- ♥ A Christian understanding of marriage
- ♥ The Declarations
- ♥ A Marriage Prayer
- ♥ Reading by A N Other from 1 Corinthians 13
- ♥ Reflection: Ian

I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
But I am the dance and I still go on.

Chorus

They cut me down and I leapt up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Chorus

The Registration of the Marriage

During which music will be played

**Please stand to face Jane and John as
they leave the church**

Organ music: *Wedding March* Mendelssohn

The Prayers, Lord's Prayer & Final Blessing

HYMN:

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the
earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Chorus

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came to me and the dance went on.

Chorus

I danced on the Sabbath when I cured the lame,
The holy people said it was a shame;
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;
And they left me there on a cross to die.

Chorus

Hymn:

A new commandment I give unto you:
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all know that you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another.

By this shall all know that you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing. (repeat)

I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner,
Abide in me: I will be with you (repeat)

True love is patient, not arrogant nor boastful;
Love bears all things, love is eternal (repeat)

The Marriage

- ♥ Joining hands and making vows
- ♥ The Giving of Rings

♥ The Proclamation that John & Jane are husband and wife

♥ The Blessing of their Marriage—*all stand*

Blessed are you, heavenly Father.

All You give joy to bridegroom and bride.

Blessed are you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All You bring life to the world.

Blessed are you, Holy Spirit of God.

All You bind us together in love.

Blessed are you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All Amen.

♥ John & Jane light the single Unity Candle to represent their marriage and joint life together

Ian: The Peace of the Lord be always with you

All: And also with you

After the words of the Peace Jane and John will kiss each other and then greet those around them

HYMN:

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising
give me joy in my heart, I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
keep me praising till the break of day.

chorus: Sing hosanna ! Sing hosanna !
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings!
Sing hosanna ! Sing hosanna !
Sing hosanna to the King !

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
give me peace in my heart, I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
keep me resting till the break of day.

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
keep me serving till the break of day.

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
keep me burning till the break of day
keep me burning till the break of day.