

Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Thanksgiving for Marriage

As we gather in the presence of God we give thanks for the years of married life represented here today in the lives of couples and their children. We ask God's forgiveness for anything that has been amiss in our closest relationships, and to rejoice together and to ask for God's blessing.

Marriage is a gift of God in creation and a means of his grace; it is given that a husband and wife may comfort and help each other, living faithfully together in times of need as well as in plenty, in sadness and in joy, in sickness and in health. In marriage a couple belong together and live life in the community; it is a way of life created and made holy by God, that all should honour.

Therefore we pray with all who live together in love that, strengthened and guided by God, they may continue his purpose for their lives together. Amen

Reading 1 John 4:7-12

Hymn The Lord's my Shepherd

Reading Colossians 3:12-17

Talk Stephen Hills

Creed

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

A Prayer for Marriages

You who are married have made a commitment to each other in a special relationship that is celebrated by the church of Christ as the union of a man and a woman, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till parted by death.

Husbands, you have resolved to be faithful to your wives, forsaking all others, so long as you both shall live

Wives, you have resolved to be faithful to your husbands, forsaking all others, so long as you both shall live

May Almighty God give you grace to protect, to trust, to persevere and to bear with each other in love, that he may complete in you the work he has already begun, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A Prayer for the Church, the Bride of Christ

All Heavenly Father, we offer you our souls and bodies, our thoughts and words and deeds, our love for one another and for you. Unite our wills in your will, that we may grow together as brothers and sisters in Christ in love and peace. all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Further Prayers

Cowden Church 19th July 2026

Morning Prayer and
Celebration of Marriage



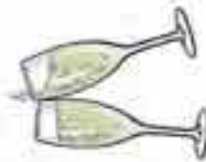
All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Hymn Love Divine

Blessing

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.
All Amen.

Please do join us for refreshments after the service



Welcome and Greeting

God is love, and those who live in love live in God
and God lives in them. (1 John 4.16)

This is the day that the Lord has made.
All Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn To God be the glory

Thanksgiving

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we lift our hearts to you.
We thank you that through Jesus Christ our Lord,
you have made a covenant of grace with your people,
that we might love one another in a way
that reflects your love for all people.
Amen

A Wedding Day

Confession

Lord, in our weakness you are our strength. Lord have mercy
All Lord have mercy

Lord, when we stumble, you raise us up. Christ, have mercy
All Christ have mercy

Lord, when we fail, you give us new life. Lord have mercy
All Lord have mercy

All May the Lord forgive us our sins, unite us in the love which
took Christ to the cross, and bring us in the Spirit to his
wedding feast in heaven.
Amen

