Musical resources for wedding services



Listed here are suggested hymns, songs and other music for weddings ceremonies in church, with sources. Please refer to the 'coding and abbreviations' at the end of the list for explanation of the listings.

Hymns and songs

(Many general hymns of praise are also suitable for weddings.)

	AMNS	CAHON	CFE	CH4	CH5	СР	н&Р	HTC	L	MP	NEH	R&S	SG	SOF	SP	TS
As man and woman we were made				700			364					466			131	
At Cana's wedding, long ago (DNTG 21)						341										
Come down, O Love divine	156	114	125	489	294	175	281	231	303	89	137	294	663	1202		71
Crown with love, Lord, this glad day	450															
Faith, hope and love															56	
Fill your hearts with joy and gladness		172		103				30	703	147			80	717		
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising	459	201	190		570	433	492	S 11	722	167		523		728		
God beyond glory				699												
God, in the planning and purpose		213							414				698			
God is love (Here in Christ we gather)	465		214		520	441	757		242		513	473				
God is love, let heaven adore him	365	217		123	3	442	36		811	187	364	95				
God of mercy, God of grace	179	227			695	449		293			366	575	5			
God of tender mercy			220						419							
Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost/Holy Spirit, gracious guest	154	245		627	312	182	301	474		198	367	310	556			
Great God, we praise your mighty love								299								
Great is thy faithfulness		249		153	80	453	66	260		200	636	96	39	147	276	138
Happy are they, they that love God	176	262			649	456	711	473			369					
Happy the home that welcomes you							366	300								
In heavenly love abiding		323		551		478	678	458		331		590		238		782
Jesus, Lord, we pray	475					342	365	302	413							
Jesus, stand among us at the meeting of our lives		361			424					381		565		303		
Jesus, the Lord of love and life								294								
Let there be love shared among us		386	358		525					411		477		329		317
Let's praise the Creator				697												
Lord and lover of creation															132	
Lord, for the years		409		159	81	81		328	942	428	619	603	602	892	289	327
Lord, hear us as we pray (DNTG 22)																
Lord Jesus Christ, invited guest and saviour								297							133	
Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us	391	411	383		429	505	617	417	772	435	297	373	670	357		
Lord, make us servants of your peace				527											290	
Lord of all hopefulness	394	413	386	166	618	507	552	101	969	882	239	531	509	902		

	AMNS	CAHON	CFE	CH4	CH5	СР	н&Р	нтс	L	MP	NEH	R&S	SG	SOF	SP	TS
Lord of all loving			387						417							
Lord of creation, giver of gladness					542											
Love divine, all loves excelling	131	428	398	519	634	516	267	217	801	449	408	663	179	377		343
Love is his word		429	399		432			481	803				180		219	
Love is the touch of intangible joy				115											292	
Make me a channel of your peace		437	478	528	503	519	776	S 19	898	456		629	691	381		348
Maker of all, whose word is life															134	
May God bless you, hold and keep you									411							
May the God of peace go with us				786												
May the grace of Christ our Saviour	181	446			524	520	762	370			298		579			
Not for tongues of heaven's angels (DNTG 20)									919						135	
Now thank we all our God	205	474	512	182	361	530	566	33	945	486	413	72	54	405		
O God, whose loving hand											319					
O perfect Love, all human thought transcending	280	533	546		544	343	370		415	517	320					
O praise ye the Lord/Sing praise to the Lord	203	534	547		708	543		354	406	518	427	49	96	445		
O worship the King all glorious above	101	551	559	127	34	546	28	24	683	528	433	47	90	456		425
On this day of happiness																410
Praise, my soul, the King of heaven	192	565	602	160	366	555	13	38	807	560	436	104	93	466		433
Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore him	195	567	605	139	709	556	15	583	704	920	437	116	92			
Put peace into each other's hands		575		659	507							635	479		251	1489
Surprised by joy no song can tell									418			468				
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord	422	631	684	286	712	362	86	42	880	631	186	740	62	520		471
The grace of life is theirs				698		344	373									
The King of love my shepherd is	126	649	699	462	20	589	69	44	804	649	457	552	205	533		984
The Lord's my shepherd	426	654	706/ 913	14	21	594	70	591	806	660	459	679	207	537		486
The Lord's my shepherd (Townend)										1008			206	1030	314	988
The love of God comes close										940		107	186		223	1533
Through all the changing scenes of life	209	686	740		372	604	73	46		702	467	685	654	1566		1561
To God be the glory!		695	745	512	373	609	463	584	719	708		289	71	559		526
We come, dear Lord, to celebrate				696												
When I needed a neighbour	433	736	800	544	499				888					1604		
When love is found									416							
Where love and loving-kindness dwell	528				531											
Wherever you go I will go		744														
Your love, O God				695												

Choral anthems and vocal music

Title	Composer	Voices	E/M/D	Book source	Single sheet publisher
UNISON/TWO PART/ HIGH VOICES				L	
A Gaelic Blessing	Rutter	SSA/U	E/M	EAC2 (SSA), BC (U)	RSCM
A new commandment	Archer	SS	Е	SYCC2	
A Wedding Blessing/A Hymn to Love	Brown	SS	E	MEA	
Alleluia of the Angels	Walker	U/2 part + cantor#	E	ATNJ	
Be known to us, Lord Jesus	Bonighton	SS cong	E	SYCC2	
Because the Lord is my shepherd	Walker	U/SAB#	E	WYP, CFE, L, SG	OCP
Brother James' Air	Bain arr Archer	U + descant	E	BC	RSCM
Faith, hope and love ('Ubi caritas' verses)	Dean	U/SATB#	E	HG, RE	
Faith, hope and love	Pachelbel arr Ogden	2 part	E	SBS1	RSCM
Faith, hope and love ('Ubi caritas' verses)	Walker	U/SATB + descant#	E	OOD	ОСР
Gathered in the love of Christ	Pachelbel arr Haugen	U/2 part#	E	MHS	GIA
God is love	Plainsong	U	E	VFLS2	
How blest are they that fear the Lord	Oliver	2 part	М	HP	
I give you a new commandment	Aston	2 part	E	BC, NOEAB	RSCM
I will sing a song of love	Bell	U	E	VFLS1	
In the heart where love is abiding	Plainsong arr Barnard	U	E	SBSE	RSCM
Love divine	Goodall	SSAA	M	TSM	Faber
Love is God's only law	Moore	U	E	SYCC2	
Love one another	S.S.Wesley	2 part	E	BC	RSCM
Love will find out the way	Goodall	2 part	E/M	SFL2	RSCM
Not for tongues of heaven's angels	Cutts arr Iliff	SATB/U	E	SBSE	
O blessed are those who fear the Lord	Inwood	U	E	CFES, VE	
O God, whose loving hand	Self	2 part	E		RSCM
On Love	MacMillan	U	D		B&H
Psalm 23	How	U/SSS	M		Weinberger
Psalm 23	Mawby	U	M		RSCM
Rest your love	Ogden	U	E	PS2	WLP
Set me as a seal	Walker	2 part	E	IFIH	ОСР
Song of Ruth	Ogden	2 part	E		WLP
The Father's Love	Lole	SS	M	EAC2	RSCM
The Lord bless you and keep you	Rutter	2 part	E	EAC2	OUP
The Lord is my shepherd	Kelly	S	M		Encore
The Lord is my shepherd	Schubert	SSAA	M/D	ESM	
The Servant Song	Gillard arr Ogden	2 part	E	SFL1	
Ubi caritas	Lole	SS	E		Encore
When I needed a neighbour	Carter arr Barnard	2 part	E	AGP	
When I needed a neighbour	Carter arr Burt	2 part	E/M	SFL1	
Where there is love	Haas	U#	E	LMOL	ОСР

THREE / FOUR PARTS					
A Gaelic Blessing	Rutter	SATB	E/M		RSCM
A new commandment	Parshall	SATB unacc	M	WFC	
A Wedding Prayer	Roe	SATB unacc	М	NAB3	
Arise, my love	Martinson	SATB unacc	М	WFC	
As the apple tree	R.Walker	SATB	M		Novello
As truly as God is our Father	Mathias	SATB	M/D	ETAS	OUP
Beloved, let us love	Aston	SATB unacc	M/D		RSCM
Blessed be the God and Father	S.S.Wesley	SATB	М	NCAB, FAB1, SC	RSCM
Crown my heart	Whitbourn	SATB	М		Encore
Fire of love	Rizza	SATB + solo S, T/B#	E/M	FOLO	Mayhew
Gaelic Blessing	Rutter	SATB	E		RSCM
God be in my head	Carter	SATB	E/M	ACA	OUP
God be in my head	Rutter	SATB unacc	E/M	FSB7, JRA, NCAB, WFC	OUP
Greater love	Ireland	SATB	М	AC4	S&B
Here comes the bride!	Wagner arr Barry	SATB	E	WFC	
How do I love thee	Moore	SATB	М	WFC	
I beheld her, beautiful as a dove	Willan	SATB unacc	М	WFC	
I give to you a new commandment	Nardone	SATB	E/M	SBS1	RSCM
I give you a new commandment	Shepherd	TTBB unacc	E		CMS
I sat down under his shadow	Bairstow	SATB unacc	M	NSAC2	OUP
If ye love me	Tallis	SATB unacc	E	FAB1, TA, NCAB, NOEAB, NSAC1, OBTA; SL (AATB)	RSCM
In faith, in hope	Walker	SATB#	E	IFIH	OCP
In the heart where love is abiding	Barnard	SATB	E	AWTE, BC, SBSE	RSCM
Irish Blessing	Chilcott	SATB/SSA	E	OBFA, BCA	OUP
Jesus, stand among us	Kendrick arr Tambling	SATB	E	WSCC1	
Love	Chilcott	SATB + solo S&T unacc	М	WFC	
Love bade me welcome	Seivewright	SATB	M/D		Banks
Love divine	Ledger	SATB	E		Dean
Love divine	Lloyd	SAMen	E	SWP	
Love divine	Willcocks	SATB	E	NOEAB	
Love from God	Lole	SATB	E/M		Encore
Love of love	P.Moore	SATB	E/M		Encore
Many waters cannot quench love	Bell	SATB	E		GIA
My love be ours	Dean	SATB + descant#	Е	HG	ОСР
My beloved is mine	Lole	SATB unacc	М		Encore
My beloved spake	Purcell	SATB	М		Novello
My beloved spake	Hadley	SATB	M/D	NNAB	Curwen
My eyes for beauty pine	Howells	SATB	E	NOEAB	OUP
My lovely one	Finzi	SATB	М	WFC	B&H

O perfect love	Barnby	SATB	E	MTH1	
O voice of the beloved!	lves	SATB	М	SBS2	RSCM
Set me as a seal	Bertalot	SATB unacc	D	TNA	
Set me as a seal	Walton	SATB unacc	M/D	AC4, WFC	OUP
Song of Ruth	Ogden	SATB	E	,	WLP
The Lord bless thee and keep thee	Mawby	SATB unacc	М	TNA	
The Lord bless you and keep you	Rutter	SATB	M	EAC1, JRA, WFC; OBFA (SAMen)	OUP
The Lord is my shepherd	Berkeley	SATB	D	MTP	Chester
The Lord is my shepherd	Carter	SATB	М	ACA	OUP
The Lord is my shepherd	Chilcott	SAMen	E	OBFA	
The Lord is my shepherd	Goodall	SATB	E		Faber
The Lord is my shepherd	Rutter	SATB	M		OUP
The Lord is my shepherd	Stanford	SATB	M/D	MTP	Novello
They are happy	Joubert	SATB	D	NNAB	Novello
This marriage	Whitacre	SATB	М	ECW	Hal Leonard/Music Sales
Though I speak with the tongues of men	Bairstow	SATB	М	NCAB, WFC	OUP
Thy perfect love	Rutter	SATB	E	NOEAB	OUP
Ubi caritas	Hurd	SATB#	E	MUC	ОСР
Ubi caritas	Ives	SATB unacc		SC	RSCM
Ubi caritas	Mawby	SATB	E		Mayhew
Wedding Canticle	Rutter	SATB + flute, guitar/piano	М		OUP
FIVE OR MORE PARTS	<u>- </u>		-	-	
Blessing	Allwood	SATBB unacc	E/M	NSAC2	
Christ's Love Song	Allain	SSS + SSATB + SSATB	M/D		Novello
Come to the wedding	Whitbourn	SSATBB + solo T unacc	М		Encore
Deep peace	Carter	SSATB	E/M	ACA	OUP
God be in my head	Lloyd	SATTB unacc	М		Encore
God be in my head	Radcliffe	SSAATTBB unacc	М	EAC1	
God be in my head	Wilby	SSATB	E	NOEAB	OUP
hope, faith, life, love (from Three Songs of Faith)	Whitacre	SSAATTBB unacc	M/D		Walton
Love one another	Carter	SSAATTBB	M/D		OUP
Now abideth faith, hope and love	Howells	SSATBB	D		Novello
Song (I gaze upon you)	G.Jackson	SSAATTBB unacc	M/D	WFC	OUP
Surge propera amica mea	Guerrero	SSAATB unacc	М		Mapa Mundi
Ubi caritas	Berkeley	SSATB unacc	D		Chester
Ubi caritas (from Four Motets)	Duruflé	SAATTBB unacc	М		Durand
Ubi caritas	Lauridsen	SSAATTBB unacc	M/D		Faber
Walk softly	Chilcott	SAATBB	М	BCA	OUP
When I needed a neighbour	Carter arr Rose	SATB + SATB	E/M	MTH1	

Music from Taizé

God can only give faithful love (Psalm 103) TSFP There can be no greater love (Psalm 145) TSFP Tui amoris ignem TSFP Ubi caritas Deus ibi est TSFP

Organ music

Traditional wedding pieces and numerous arrangements of popular classics are available in anthologies such as:

The Essential Book of Wedding Music (Mayhew; also available in manuals-only edition)

Incidental Music for Weddings (Ramsey)

Music for the Bride (Mayhew)

Organist's Wedding Album (2 volumes, Cramer)

The Organ Wedding Album (Bärenreiter)

The Oxford Book of Wedding Music (OUP, also available in manuals-only edition)

Wedding Album (Novello, also available in manuals-only edition)

Wedding Album (Fentone)

Wedding Bouquet (Novello)

Wedding Music (Kalmus)

Festive music for organ and trumpet is available in *The Classical Wedding* (Hope) and *Wedding Music for Trumpet and Organ* (Mayhew, also available in manuals-only edition)

ADDITIONAL SUG	GESTIONS		
BEFORE OR DURI	NG THE SIGNING OF THE REGISTER		
Callahan	Partita on 'Slane'	(Concordia)	E/M-M
Guilmant	Verset in F Op.19 No.5	In Complete Works Vol.1 (Belwin or from Schott archive)	E/M
Haydn	Eight Pieces for Musical Clocks	(Novello)	E/M*
Ireland	Villanella and/or Menuetto-Impromptu	In The Organ Works of John Ireland (Novello)	М
J.C.Kellner	Präludium in C	In Orgelmusik um J.S.Bach Vol.1 (Breitkopf)	E/M
Rutter	Toccata in Seven	In A Second Easy Album (OUP)	E/M
Satie	Gymnopédie I	(MSM)	Е
Stanford	Epithalamium, in Six Occasional Preludes Bk.2	(Stainer & Bell)	М
Tambling	Slane, in 100 Hymn Preludes	(Mayhew)	E
Walford Davies	Interlude in C	(Ramsey)	М

Walton	Touch her soft lips, from Henry V	In A Walton Organ Album (OUP)	E/M
Walton	Scherzetto, from <i>Three Dances from Richard III</i>	In A Walton Organ Album (OUP)	E/M
Willan	Prelude on 'Slane'	(Peters)	E/M
		Voluntaries by Stanley, Greene, Boyce, Wesley and Walond are also suitable.	E/M*
AT THE ENTRANCE	OF THE BRIDE		
Bliss	Fanfares	From Royal Fanfares and Interludes (Novello)	E/M
Choveaux	March (last 26 bars) from Three Pieces	(Bosworth)	М
Ives	Intrada, in The Modern Organist	(Banks)	E/M
Saint-Saëns	Chorale-Fanfare from <i>Third Symphony</i>	(Fitzjohn)	E/M
Walton	Crown Imperial (extract from page 3 or 11)	(OUP)	М
RECESSIONAL			
Bach	Chorale Prelude 'In dir ist Freude' BWV 615	From the Orgelbüchlein (Many editions)	М
Boëllmann	Minuet Gothique, from Suite Gothique (Many editions)	Also in Oxford Book of Ceremonial Music (OUP)	E/M
Dubois	Laus Deo	From <i>Messe de Mariage</i> (Leduc) or <i>Wedding Mass</i> (Masters)	М
Elgar	Imperial March	(Novello)	М
Fletcher	Festival Toccata	In Wedding Bouquet (Novello), Oxford Book of Ceremonial Music (OUP)	М
Guilmant	Grand choeur triomphale in A Op.47 No.2	From <i>The Practical Organist</i> (<i>Complete Works</i> Vol.5; Belwin) or from Schott archive	M/D
Hollins	A Trumpet Minuet	(Novello, Willemsen)	М
Hopkins	Postlude on 'Love divine'	In Canterbury Organ Album (Novello)	М
Karg-Elert	Nun danket alle Gott: Marche triomphale	(Many editions)	М
Lefébure-Wély	Sortie in E flat	(Harmonia)	М
W.Lloyd Webber	Festal March, in <i>Aria</i>	(Mayhew)	E/M
Willan	Festival, in Two Pieces	(Egan)	М

Coding and abbreviations

indicates a setting suitable for music groups

E/M/D indicates the level of difficulty for an average choir or organist (Easy/Medium/Difficult)

indicates organ music for manuals only

(*) indicates organ music which has a printed pedal part but which can be played on manuals only

AC1–4 Anthems for Choirs (OUP), books 1 and 4: SATB, books 2 and 3: SA

ACA Andrew Carter Anthems (OUP), 10 anthems for SATB choirs

AGP All God's People (RSCM), a festival service for young voices on the theme of diversity

AMNS Hymns Ancient & Modern, New Standard Edition (Canterbury Press)

AOAN Anthems Old and New (Mayhew), volume 1: 100 settings for smaller choirs, SAMen

ATNJ At the Name of Jesus (OCP), service music and songs by Christopher Walker

AWTE Ash Wednesday to Easter for Choirs (OUP), over 50 anthems, mostly SATB, with organ

BC The Bronze Collection (RSCM), 34 songs and anthems at Bronze standard in the Voice for Life scheme

BCA Bob Chilcott Anthems (OUP), 10 anthems for SATB choirs

CAHON Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New (Mayhew 2000, orange cover); numbers in italics are also in Hymns Old and New, New Anglican Edition (Mayhew

1996, green cover)

CFE Celebration Hymnal for Everyone (McCrimmon); numbers above 856 from 2005 supplement and 2008 combined edition

CFES Celebration Hymnal for Everyone: Supplement (McCrimmon), a supplement to CFE with hymns, psalms and liturgical settings

CH4 Church Hymnary: Fourth Edition (Canterbury Press; numbers also apply to Hymns of Glory, Songs of Praise)

CH5 Church Hymnal: Fifth Edition (OUP), the latest version of the Church of Ireland's hymnbook

CP Common Praise (Canterbury Press)

DNTG Draw Near to God (Canterbury Press), 30 hymns by Timothy Dudley-Smith for pastoral services

EAC1-2 English Anthem Collection (RSCM), twentieth century anthems, book 1: SATB, book 2: SA

ENA Eleven New Anthems (Mayhew), unison and 2 part anthems

ESM European Sacred Music (OUP), 50 motets and anthems, edited by John Rutter

ETAS Epiphany to All Saints (OUP), 50 anthems and liturgical pieces for SATB choirs from 12th century to present day

FAB1 Favourite Anthem Book (Mayhew), volume 1, SATB

FOLO Fire of Love (Mayhew), 14 songs and chants by Margaret Rizza

HG Holy Gifts (OCP/St Thomas More), songs and service music by Stephen Dean

H&P Hymns & Psalms (Methodist Publishing House)

HP High Praise (Novello), 28 anthems for upper voices, edited by Barry Rose

HTC Hymns for Today's Church (Hodder & Stoughton/Jubilate)

IFIH In Faith, In Hope (OCP), songs and choral pieces by Christopher Walker

JRA John Rutter Anthems (OUP), 11 anthems for SATB choirs

L Laudate (Decani Music)

LMOL Lead me, O Lord (OCP), collection of pieces by contemporary Catholic composers

MEA More Easy Anthems (RSCM), 13 anthems for unison or small SAB/SATB choirs

MHS Marty Haugen Songbook (Decani), songs and service music by Marty Haugen

MP Complete Mission Praise (2009 edition; numbers are consistent with all previous versions)

MTH1/2 More Than Hymns (Novello), hymn anthems for mixed voice choirs

MTP More Than Psalms (Novello), 24 anthems on texts from the Psalms for mixed voices

MUC Ubi Caritas (OCP), liturgical music and songs based on plainsong melody by Bob Hurd

NAB3 New Anthem Book (Mayhew), volume 3: 25 anthems for SATB choirs

NCAB New Church Anthem Book (OUP), 100 anthems from the Renaissance to the present

NEH New English Hymnal (Canterbury Press; numbers above 600 in italics from the supplement, New English Praise)
NEP New English Praise (Canterbury Press), a supplement to NEH containing hymns, psalms and liturgical settings

NNAB The New Novello Anthem Book (Novello), 41 classic and modern anthems
NOEAB New Oxford Easy Anthem Book (OUP), 63 easy anthems for the church's year

NSAC1/2 The Novello Short Anthem Collections (Novello), two volumes each with 22 anthems for smaller SATB choirs

OBFA Oxford Book of Flexible Anthems (OUP), 60 easy anthems for 2, 3 or 4-part choirs
OBTA Oxford Book of Tudor Anthems (OUP), 34 anthems from the sixteenth century

OEAB Oxford Easy Anthem Book (OUP), 50 anthems, 1 to 4 parts

OOD Out of Darkness (OCP), songs and service music by Christopher Walker, mainly for Easter

R&S Rejoice and Sing (OUP)

RE Resurrexit (Decani), songs and liturgical music primarily for Lent, Holy Week and Easter
SBS1 Sunday by Sunday Collection 1 (RSCM), 30 photocopiable anthems for all seasons of the year

SBSE Season by Season (RSCM), 100 simple hymns and anthems for particular occasions in the church year

SC The Silver Collection (RSCM), 30 anthems at Silver standard in the Voice for Life scheme

SFL1 Songs for Life 1 (RSCM), songbook for children and adult beginners SFL2 Songs for Life 2 (RSCM), songs in unison, 2 part and 3 part, SAMen

SG Sing Glory (Mayhew/Jubilate)

SL Sing Low (Novello), 30 anthems for lower voices, edited by Barry Rose

SOF Songs of Fellowship (Kingsway), volumes 1, 2, 3 and 4

SP Sing Praise (RSCM/Canterbury Press), 330 hymns and songs to supplement mainstream hymn books

SWP Sing We Praise (Mayhew), 12 anthems for choirs short of men

SYCC2-4 Songs for the Young Church Choir 2-4 (Mayhew), 3 volumes for children's choirs, unison/2 part

TA A Tallis Anthology (OUP), 17 anthems and motets

TEA Twelve Easy Anthems (RSCM), anthems in unison, 2 or 3 parts

TNA Ten New Anthems for Mixed Voices (Mayhew), pieces by Archer, Rawsthorne, Bertalot, and others

TS The Source (Mayhew), volumes 1, 2, 3 and 4

TSFP Songs and Prayers from Taizé (GIA), vocal and instrumental editions available
TSM Thirty Sacred Masterworks (Faber), anthems for upper voice choir, unison to 4 part

VE Veni Emmanuel (Decani), liturgical music, songs and psalm settings primarily for Advent and Christmastide
VFLS1/2 Voice for Life Songbook (RSCM), 2 volumes of songs and anthems for choirs at beginner or intermediate levels

WFC Weddings for Choirs (OUP), 40 pieces, sacred and secular, for SATB choirs on themes of love and praise
WSCC1-2 Worship Songs for the Church Choir (Mayhew), 20 arrangements for SATB by Tambling in each volume
WYP We are Your People (OCP/Thomas More), songs and liturgical music by contemporary Catholic composers