

Bible Readings

Because marriage is a gift from God and the Christian marriage service is also a statement of faith, we ground the celebration and the promises of marriage in God's holy word. Unless approved by the presiding pastor, the readings in your service should be from the Bible.

Generally there are two or three Bible readings. You may choose to have a person or persons significant to you read the scriptural passages, or the pastor may read them.

The texts you choose for your wedding will reveal something about your relationship. The list below are suggested passages. Please keep in mind the following in choosing your passages: What drew you to select these passages? How does this passage speak to your shared commitment and your hopes for the future? How does the passage speak of God's blessings and God's activity in marriage? Does it reveal a vision for your married life? Be sure to share with the pastor why you have chosen the texts you have.

Genesis 1:26-28
Genesis 2:18-24
Genesis 24:48-51, 58-67
Proverbs 3:3-6
Song of Solomon 2:10-13
Song of Solomon 8:6-7
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
Isaiah 63:7-9
Jeremiah 31:31-34

Old Testament

*Woman and man created in the image of God
Companionship rather than loneliness
The marriage of Isaac and Rebekah
Loyalty and faithfulness written on the heart
The voice of the beloved
Many waters cannot quench love
A threefold cord is not quickly broken
God's steadfast love lifts up the people
The new covenant of the people of God*

Psalms

Psalm 33
Psalm 67
Psalm 100
Psalm 117
Psalm 121
Psalm 127
Psalm 128
Psalm 150

*May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord
May God be merciful to us and bless us
We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture
The steadfast love of the Lord
The Lord keeps watch over you
Unless the Lord builds the house
Blessed are those who walk in the Lord's ways
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord*

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39
Romans 12:1-2, 9-18
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Ephesians 3:14-19

Ephesians 5:1-2, 21-33
Philippians 2:1-11
Philippians 4:4-9
Colossians 3:12-17

1 John 3:18-24
1 John 4:7-16
Revelation 19:1, 5-9

Matthew 5:1-10
Matthew 5:14-16
Matthew 7:21, 24-29
Matthew 19:4-6
Matthew 22:35-40
Mark 10:6-9
John 2:1-11
John 15:9-17

New Testament

If God is for us, who is against us
A living sacrifice and genuine love
The greatest gift is love
The breadth, length, height and depth of Christ's love
Walk in love as Christ loved us
Your attitude should be the same as Christ Jesus
Rejoice in the Lord always
Clothed in compassion, kindness, meekness and patience
Let us love in truth and action
Let us love one another for love is of God
Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the lamb

Gospels

The beatitudes
You are the light, let your light shine
A wise person builds upon the rock
What God has united must not be divided
Love, the greatest commandment
They are no longer two but one
The wedding at Cana
Love one another as I have loved you