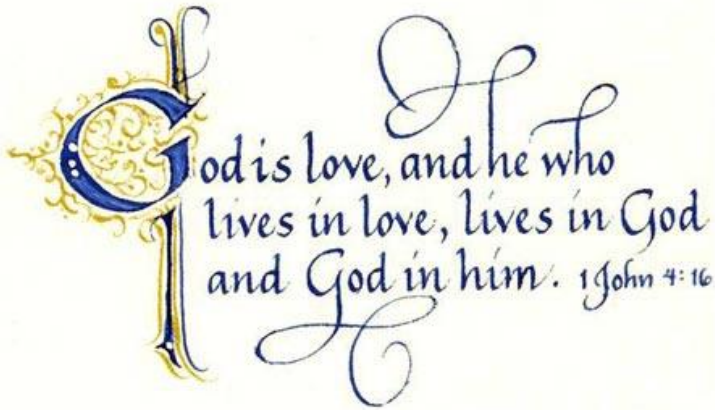


*Thanksgiving for Marriage
and Renewal of Marriage Vows
with Holy Communion*



*Anglican Parish of Macksville
Marriage Week @ Holy Trinity*



Processional Hymn MP 560. Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

THE WELCOME

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you

All: and also with you.

Sentence

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

Prayer of Preparation

God our Father,

you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law; grant to this/these couple/s that, loving one another, they may continue in your love until their lives' end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface

We have come together in the presence of God to give thanks with these couples for their years of married life, to rejoice together and to ask for God's blessing.

As our Lord Jesus Christ was himself a guest at the wedding in Cana of Galilee, so through his Spirit he is with us now.

Marriage is a gift of God in creation and a means of his grace; it is given that a couple 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; it is given that with delight and tenderness they may know each other in love. In marriage, a couple belong together and live life in the community; it is a way of life created and hallowed by God, that all should honour. Therefore, we pray with them that, strengthened and guided by God, they may continue to fulfil his purpose for their life together.

Silence is kept for reflection on the years that have passed and on shared experiences, good and bad.

New Testament Reading	Romans 12:9-16
Gradual Hymn	MP 517. O Perfect Love
Gospel Reading	John 21:15-17
Homily	



RENEWAL OF VOWS

The minister says to the couples

I invite you now to recall the vows that you made at your wedding.

The couple face each other and hold hands. Each, in turn, says to the other:

I, N, took you, N, to be my wife/husband;

The couple continue, saying together:

to have and to hold from that day forward,
for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish,
till death us do part, according to God's holy law,
and this was our solemn vow.

Today, in the presence of our family and friends,
we affirm our continuing commitment to this vow.

The minister says to the congregation

Will you, the family and friends of these couples, continue to support and uphold them in their marriage now and in years to come?

All: We will.

The Rings

Each may touch the wedding ring(s) with the words

I gave you this ring
as a sign of our marriage.
With my body I honour you,
all that I am I give to you,
and all that I have I share with you,

within the love of God,
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Prayers

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit,
 bless, preserve and keep you;
 the Lord mercifully grant you the riches of his grace
 that you may please him both in body and soul,
 and, living together in faith and love,
 may receive the blessings of eternal life.

Amen.

Blessed are you, heavenly Father.

All: You give joy to those joined in holy matrimony.

Blessed are you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All: You have brought new life to mankind.

Blessed are you, Holy Spirit of God.

All: You bring us together in love.

Blessed be Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: One God, to be praised for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we lift up our hearts to you through
 Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him you have made a covenant of grace
 with your people by the outpouring of your Holy Spirit.

We praise you for the gift of marriage in which the love of a couple is
 brought together and reflects your plan of love for the world.

We thank you today for these couples, and for leading them to each other in
 friendship and love, commitment and trust, and for bringing them here for
 the blessing of their marriage.

Living God, by the presence of your Holy Spirit, may they know the risen
 Christ to be with them now, as they celebrate this covenant together.

May their lives be a witness to your saving love in this troubled world.

As you pour out your love, may they grow together in your sight, and each be to the other a companion in joy, a comfort in sorrow and a strength in need.

As you blessed the earthly home at Nazareth with the presence of your Son, may their home be a place of security and peace.

And bring us all at the last to that great marriage banquet of your Son in our home in heaven, where, with all your saints and angels, in the glory of your presence, we will for ever praise you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus said: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you. John 13:34

**We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great
mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under
your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have**

mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All stand.

We are the body of Christ.

All: His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn MP 506. How Great Thou Art

The gifts of the people are brought to the Lord's Table.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God. We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

He was tempted in every way as we are, yet he did not sin.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to walk in the way of his love.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

[Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.]

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

The memorial acclamation.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

We who are many are one body:
for we all share in the one bread.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Prayer after communion

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

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The minister blesses the couples and the congregation, saying

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. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

All: In the name of Christ. Amen



Recessional hymn MP 486. Now Thank We All Our God