THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The vows that you make are at the heart of your wedding day and have been spoken by millions of couples over the centuries. They can not be

re-written or changed in any way for legal reasons – they are the words of commitment to a shared life that define you as 'married'.

Page 2



The marriage vows are spoken before God and in front of your family and friends. Along with the vows, you will make 'Declarations', which confirm that you will always love and care for each other in a way that will please God.

The lifetime commitment of these promises and statements are represented when you give the rings to each other, as a symbol of unending love. This completes the marriage, meaning you can now sign the official marriage paperwork at that point in the service.

When the vows are said, you turn to each other, take each other's right hand and say:

'l, (name), take you, (name)

to be my wife/husband,

to have and to hold

from this 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.

In the presence of God I make this vow.'

From The Marriage Service, Common Worship

These vows are unique to church weddings. By making these promises in church, you invite a loving and profoundly caring God to help you keep them.

Your Vicar may offer sessions at the church, the vicarage, or sometimes another venue to help you prepare for the day. This is a good chance to think about your vows and the difference they will make.

You can see your own names added in to the wedding service if you use our Ceremony Planner, which will also build in your preferences for

hymns and readings.

Can we write our own vows?

Page 4

The official vows cover all those things we hope for from a good marriage and are legally binding, so they can not be changed. However, there may be some special, additional things you and your partner want to say to each other in this setting.

Some couples have done this by writing something as an additional reading, or using poetry or an extract from a book to say those things in a personal way. The vicar can advise you on how your ideas could work well as part of the service.

Page 5

Also in this section



Hymns

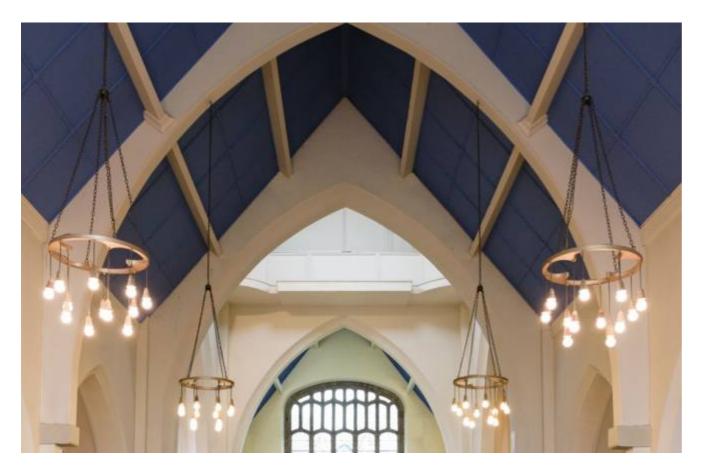
am only resounding going of propin and all am only resounding going of propin and all are only resounding going of propin and all ave the gift of propin and all all mysteries^p and can all mysteries^p that can i have a faith^r the I am but have not lowe, I are but have not lowe, I are but have sto the poor thing. 3If I give body to the flames, i 13:5 x\$ 1Co 10:24 y\$ Mt 5:22 z]ob 14:16,17; Pr 10:12; 17:9; uPe 4:8 know 13 Pr 10:12; 17:9; 1Pe 4:8 **13:6** a2Th 2:12 b2In 4; 3Jn 3,4 **13:7** cvet 8,13 **13:7** dvet 2 evet hop surrender to Login pothing 101 but , body to the flames, '' but , ve, I gain nothing. 4Love is patient, ' love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. w 5It is not rude, it is not self-seek ing x it is not easily angered y it keens 13:9 fver 12; \$ 1Co 8:2 13:10 8Php 3:12 ing, × it is not easily angered, / it keeps no record of Wrongs, ^z Love does not delight in evila but rejeices with the truth b in evil^a but rejoices with the truth, b 7It (13:12 ijob 20:14) always protoets obvious truets obvious 13:11 hPs 131:2 always protects, always trusts, always lip 3.2 ki 8Love never fails. But where there are hopes, always perseveres.c by they will be stilled; where Eph 4:2-5; Col 1:4,5; See v. 28; 14:1,5, note) is

Bible readings



Page 6

Choices for your wedding ceremony



Countdown to your church wedding



Ceremony planner

Page 7



The rehearsal



Professional photography

Page 8



Walking down the aisle



Reading of banns

Page 9



Additional readings



Other music

Page 10



Prayers



Wedding ceremony words

Page 11



Wedding blessings



Filming

Page 12