To celebrate marriage

# Opening words for a Wedding ceremony

We have come together today to witness the marriage of ... N ... to ... N ... , to celebrate their happiness and to assure them of our love and support.

In marriage, we bless God who gave us our humanity, who created us,

in felicity and joy.

Blessed be God

who brings us together that our desires

may find ripe fulfilment;

Blessed be God who makes us one

that in our mutual love

we may cherish one another.

In marriage, we bless God

for his faithfulness

and celebrate God’s constancy

in free commitment to a shared life and mutual exchange of promises;

In marriage, we bless God

for his gift of grace in Jesus Christ, that in our frail consistency, relations are refashioned

by his self-giving love; In marriage,

we bless God

who gives us a future and a hope; [who gives us children,]

sets us in community and calls us in society to new beginnings.

Blessed be God for the precious gift of love.

Fleur Houston

**246** Worship from the URC additional resources | To celebrate marriage

Blessed are you, God our Maker; You create joy and gladness, pleasure and delight;

you make this couple companions in love.

# A blessing for a Wedding

Bestow your blessing on ... N ... and ... N ... , that they may know your presence with them in times of joy and in times of sadness.

May their home be filled

with laughter and tenderness.

May they be tender with one another’s dreams and remain faithful and true to one another

for the rest of their lives.

So may this marriage be a sign of blessing in the world around.

You are trusted forever with the intimacies of one another. You won’t hold grudges.

You will love the other even when unlikeable. You will see the small child within.

You will look for the divine potential inside.

How sacred, to be held in the night, by someone who thanks God for you, by someone you feel blessed to hold.

Your marriage is an opportunity, to grow in love and friendship,

to entrust all your faith and loyalties,

and with this understanding you shall flourish,

together, forever.

Fleur Houton

# At a Wedding

Donna Lee

Worship from the URC additional resources | To celebrate marriage **247**

Let the promises of today make you strong

Let the joy of today fill your lives

Let the hope of today give you courage

# A blessing at a Wedding

Let the memory of today live in your hearts.

Go hand in hand into the world, staying true to your dreams,

with love overflowing

And the blessing of Father, Son and Spirit is with you always.

Melanie Frew

Living God, Creator of Humankind,

# A blessing for a marriage

Bless ... N ... and ... N ... as they go on their way together in love and unity of purpose.

Loving Christ, Creator of Compassion,

Bless ... N ... and ... N ... as they develop their skills to that their love will bring wholeness to people.

Refreshing, Resilient Spirit, Creator of Vitality,

Bless and encourage them to engage in lively activity and to seek justice throughout their lives,

to turn disappointments into challenges, to transform darkness into light,

to root their ideals in the ground that they walk.

Go in Grace

with Confidence

and know Peace.

*All* **Amen.**

Geoffrey Duncan

**248** Worship from the URC additional resources | To celebrate marriage