

The Order of Service for a Wedding

Detailed below is how you should layout your order of service (if you're having one). It follows the flow of the service in church and helps people to know what is going to happen and when. The order of service is a good memento and is often kept by guests to remind them of the wedding day.

There are two options. Option 1 proceeds without a break between The Declarations and The Marriage. By "the declarations" we mean checking there is no legal impediment to the marriage and the bride and groom giving their consent – saying "I will". The term "Marriage" refers to the point in the service where the vows and ring(s) are exchanged. Option 2 allows for a reading or a piece of music after The Declarations and before The Marriage. Option 2 often makes the service feel less "hurried" and gives people a chance to anticipate the marriage. Option 1 might be a good idea if you don't like the idea of a pause to anticipate! For Brides, being given-away is optional. If the bride is going to be given away it comes as the final element of The Declarations but doesn't feature as an entity in the Order of Service.

Please note, **no readings** should follow the second hymn, because during the second hymn the bride and groom walk up to the altar for a time of prayer, (here they would be behind anyone reading from the lectern!).

Layout of order of service.

Inside front cover, page 1.

(Where): The Church of St Oswald, Lower Peover or St Lawrence, Over Peover

(What): The marriage of

 Bride's full name

 And

 Groom's full name

(When): Date and time

Page 2. (Heading) Order of Service

Processional music: (name of composer and piece)

First hymn (full text of hymn or hymn number if using hymn books)

Option 1.

 (Heading) The marriage

 Reading(s) (title and name of person reading)

Address by Revd Dr Jane Lloyd
(continue with the second hymn)

Option 2.

(Heading) The Declarations

Reading or piece of music of address

(Heading) The marriage

Reading(s) (title and name of person reading)

Address by Revd Dr Jane Lloyd

Second hymn (full text of hymn or hymn number if using hymn books)

(Heading) Prayers and Blessing

Third hymn (full text of hymn or hymn number if using hymn books)

(Heading) Signing of the Register

Note any music being sung/played during the signing of the register.

Recessional music: (name of composer and piece)