

Suggestions for Suitable Wedding Music

A wedding ceremony at St. Andrew's is a sacred service and, while an overtly religious text is not necessary, the overall tone must be appropriate for an occasion celebrating love, commitment, God's presence in our lives, and respect for all humanity.

The use of popular secular music, while not discouraged, is to be approached thoughtfully, with due consideration to the text and intent of a particular selection. Any choices of music must be approved by the organist.

The following list reflects the strong musical tradition of our congregation and includes pieces played by the current organist. Recordings of many of these pieces can be found online.

No list will ever be all-inclusive. If you have alternate suggestions, please feel free to discuss them with the organist.

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Est'd 1915

Contact Information

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St. Andrew's River Heights United Church Wedding Music



Our Vision

To live as Christ would have us live, in love, with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace, learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit and being transformed by faith.



An Affirming Ministry
of The United Church of Canada

Prelude

The prelude (music played for the 15 minutes prior to the procession) provides an atmosphere in which the arriving guests may prepare for participation in the wedding ceremony. Normally the organist selects this music but couples are certainly free to make suggestions if they wish.

The Procession

Choose something you will be comfortable walking to.

Also, consider the mood you want to establish - a sense of "quiet joy" or one of "exuberant rejoicing".

The following are suggestions for processional music:

- ◇ Trumpet Voluntary Jeremiah Clarke
- ◇ Trumpet Tune Henry Purcell
- ◇ Trumpet Voluntary John Stanley
- ◇ Overture from 'Royal Fireworks Suite' G. F. Handel
- ◇ Minuet from 'Berenice' G. F. Handel
- ◇ Bridal March from 'Lohengrin' Richard Wagner
- ◇ Canon in D Johann Pachelbel
- ◇ Jesu joy of man's desiring J. S. Bach
- ◇ Air (Suite #3) "Air on the G string" J. S. Bach
- ◇ Air from 'Water Music Suite' G. F. Handel
- ◇ St. Anthony Chorale Haydn/Brahms

Vocal Solos

If you wish to have a soloist, he/she would normally sing during the signing of the register and/or early in the service.

During the Signing of the Register

If there is no soloist, the organist will normally play background music for this part of the service. Some suggestions include:

- ◇ Minuet from 'Berenice' G. F. Handel
- ◇ Canon in D Johann Pachelbel
- ◇ Jesu joy of man's desiring J. S. Bach
- ◇ Air (Suite #3) "Air on the G string" G. F. Handel
- ◇ Ave Maria Bach / Gounod
- ◇ Ave Maria Schubert
- ◇ Air from 'Water Music Suite' G. F. Handel

The Recessional

The recessional music celebrates the marriage in an atmosphere of joy and thanksgiving. As with the processional music, you must be comfortable walking to it.

- ◇ Trumpet Voluntary Jeremiah Clarke
- ◇ Trumpet Tune Henry Purcell
- ◇ Trumpet Voluntary John Stanley
- ◇ Arrival of the Queen of Sheba G. F. Handel
- ◇ Hornpipe from 'Water Music Suite' G. F. Handel
- ◇ Sinfonia (Cantata 29) J. S. Bach
- ◇ Toccata from 5th Symphony Charles-Marie Widor
- ◇ Wedding March from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' F. Mendelssohn
- ◇ Hymn to Joy (from Symphony #9) L van Beethoven
- ◇ Tuba Tune C. S. Lang
- ◇ Prelude in Classic Style G. Young
- ◇ Finale from 1st Symphony Louis Vierne

Make an appointment with the organist to review music for your wedding at least 6 weeks in advance.