

Getting Married in Church

Marriage is a union of two people before God. In the Methodist Church marriage can be between a man and a woman and takes the form of a service held in a Methodist Church, usually close to where the couple are living.

Marriage is a legal ceremony and the Methodist Church marry people *by certificate*. This means the registrar in the local council has authorized persons within the Methodist Church to (usually the local Methodist Minister) to preside at weddings held on Methodist premises.

If you would like to be married in a Methodist Church, you will need to register your intention to marry with the local registrar. The Methodist Minister will meet with you and help you plan your marriage service, taking you through the legal process that you will undertake within the ceremony. Music, readings and other elements of the service can all be included in consultation with the local minister. A Certificate of Marriage is presented to you at the end of the Service.

Can We Have a Blessing in Church?

If you have arranged to be married by a local registrar and would like to have a blessing in church the Methodist Church can offer you a Blessing Service, where members of the church family can also share in the blessing of your union.

Currently the Methodist Church offers blessings for marriage and civil partnerships between a man and a woman.

You are welcome to have refreshments in the church café hall after the Blessing Service (please note we are not allowed alcohol on Methodist premises).

The Methodist Minister will be happy to meet you and discuss whether this type of service is suitable for you.

“Faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13: 13

Marriage and Methodism

Methodist believe in marriage as a union between two people and before God.

Our services for Marriage and Blessings offer you the ceremonies and also the provision of ongoing Christian support and care as you go forward together in life.

If you have been married before, the Methodist Church will honour your request to marry regardless of past relationships. (Your local registrar will advise on the relevant paperwork needed if you have been previously married and divorced)

Our Methodist Minister will meet with you both to discuss the purpose of marriage or a blessing in church. You will then be able to decide which service is most suitable for you and your partner.

“they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Mark 10: 6-9

'It is the will of God that, in marriage, husband and wife should experience a life-long unity of heart, body and mind; comfort and companionship; enrichment and encouragement; tenderness and trust.'

[Methodist Worship Book]

A Blessing of Love

'If you love and must needs have desires, let these be your desires:

To melt and be like a running brook that sings its melody to the night.

To know the pain of too much tenderness.

To be wounded by your own understanding of love; and to bleed willingly and joyfully.

To wake at dawn with a winged heart and give thanks for another day of loving;

[Kahlil Gibran]

www.methodoistchurchmacclesfield.org.uk

Weddings & Blessings in Church



Overview of the services we could offer you

**Macclesfield
Methodist Church**

'Serving our community in faith'

The Methodist Church 