

Sample Wedding Music – Traditional Favorites

Starred items (*) appear at multiple places on the list

Seating of the Mothers/Quiet Processionals (bridesmaids or bride)

Bach: Air on the G-string [printed in programs as “Air (from Orchestral Suite No. 3)”]

Bach: Arioso in F major (from BWV 156)

Bach: Jesu, joy of man’s desiring (from BWV 147)

Bach: Sheep may safely graze (from BWV 208)

Handel: Aria in F major (from *Water Music Suite*)

Pachelbel: Canon in D major

Schubert: Ave Maria (vocal solo or organ solo)

Vaughan Williams: Prelude on “Rhosymedre”

Vivaldi: Largo in D major (from Concerto in D major, “La Pastorella”)

Loud Processionals (bridesmaids or bride)

Campra: Rigaudon

*Charpentier: Prélude (from Te Deum in D major) [played at a slow, stately tempo]

Clarke: Trumpet Voluntary in D major

Mouret: Rondeau, from *Sinfonies de Fanfares* [generally known as the “Masterpiece Theatre” theme]

*Purcell: Trumpet Tune in D major [played at a slow, stately tempo]

Other Processionals

Pachelbel: Canon in D major (begun quietly with gradual crescendo; played loudly for bride’s entrance)

Processionals especially suited for the Bride’s Entrance

Campra: Rigaudon

Clarke: Trumpet Voluntary in D major

*Purcell: Trumpet Tune in D major [played at a slow, stately tempo]

Wagner: Bridal Chorus (from *Lohengrin*) [traditional bridal processionals]

Recessionals and Postludes

Bach: Now thank we all our God (from BWV 79)

Bull: Rondo in G major

*Charpentier: Prélude (from Te Deum in D major) [played at a quick tempo]

Handel: Arrival of the Queen of Sheba [printed in programs as “Sinfonia (from *Solomon*)”]

Handel: Hornpipe in D major (from *Water Music Suite*)

Lemmings: Fanfare in D major

Marcello: Psalm XIX

Mendelssohn: Wedding March (from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*) [traditional recessionals]

*Purcell: Trumpet Tune in D major [played at a quick tempo]

Widor: Toccata (from Organ Symphony No. 5)

Young: Prelude in Classic Style

Sample Wedding Music – Additional Selections

Seating of the Mothers/Quiet Processionals (bridesmaids or bride)

Buxtehude: Nun bitten wir, den Heiligen Geist, BuxWV 208

Handel: Minuet (from *Berenice*)

Karg-Elert: O God, thou faithful God, Op. 65, No. 50

Rheinberger: Cantilena (from Organ Sonata No. 11)

Loud Processionals (bridesmaids or bride)

Mendelssohn: Con moto maestoso (from Organ Sonata No. 3) [opening section only]

Karg-Elert: Now thank we all our God, Op. 65, No. 59

Recessionals and Postludes

Bach: In dir ist Freude, BWV 615

Bach: Prelude in G major, BWV 541 (inclusion of the Fugue is possible, but usually too long for weddings)

Handel: Finale (from Organ Concerto in F major, Op. 4, No. 5)

Mendelssohn: Allegro assai vivace (from Organ Sonata No. 1)

Mendelssohn: Allegro maestoso e vivace (from Organ Sonata No. 2)

Mendelssohn: Allegro maestoso e vivace (from Organ Sonata No. 4)

Vierne: Finale (from Organ Symphony No. 1)

Walton: Crown Imperial

Weaver: Toccata