

# The wedding ceremony

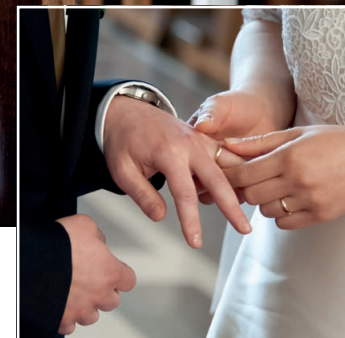
## Getting to know the New Apostolic Church

The New Apostolic Church is an international Christian church. The basis of its teachings is Holy Scripture. In 1863 it emerged from the Catholic Apostolic Church and is led by Apostles, just like the early Christian congregations.

The core of the New Apostolic doctrine is the return of Christ to take home those who have been prepared for this event. The New Apostolic Church places great value on the personal responsibility of its members. The individual is accountable to God for his conduct. The gospel of Christ and the system of values resulting from the Ten Commandments provide clear orientation for this.

The New Apostolic Church is fully independent and politically neutral. It is financed by the voluntary contributions of its members.

At present, over ten million Christians around the world profess the New Apostolic faith.



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# Welcome!

**Dear honoured guest, we extend a warm welcome to you—also on behalf of the bridal couple.**

Today you will experience a wedding in the New Apostolic Church. Perhaps this is your first time with us as a guest.

For this reason we would like to briefly introduce you to the New Apostolic Church and explain to you the significance of the wedding blessing as well as the sequence of the wedding ceremony.

We wish you a blessed festive day. You are always warmly welcome to join us.

## What is the significance of the wedding blessing?

Marriage is based upon a promise of fidelity which a husband and wife give to one another. It is a legally binding covenant before the law.

The Church blessing holds great significance for the new life the couple will share. The marriage into which they have entered is thus placed under the blessing of God. In the address before the wedding blessing, the couple is given advice for a blessed matrimony. They are then asked whether they intend to stand by one another in mutual fidelity in all circumstances and pursue their way of life together. Both parties then vow this before God and the congregation. They then receive the blessing of the triune God through the minister.

Love for God and one another are important prerequisites for ensuring that the blessing unfolds in such a way as to provide both parties with the strength to live together in harmony and to master difficult situations with the help of God.

## Divine service

### Sequence

- Congregational hymn or musical contribution
- Invocation of the triune God
- Prayer of the minister at the altar
- Reading of the Bible text
- Musical selection
- Sermon
- Musical selection
- Address to the bridal couple
- Bridal couple give their vow
- Dispensation of the wedding blessing
- Closing prayer and benediction

### General information

We thank you for not filming or taking photographs during the divine service, which includes the wedding ceremony. There will be an opportunity to do so when the congregation comes to congratulate the couple and afterward.

We happily invite you to our divine services. You can find the divine service times of the congregation nearest you at [www.nak.org](http://www.nak.org).