

# SELECTING MUSIC FOR YOUR WEDDING

These are just some selections from our music library. Arcata Strings tries to encapsulate both slow, expressive pieces and traditional, upbeat marches. The repertoire lists below are most of the standard pieces that are used in weddings today. If you want something more avant garde, please ask. We may have it in our repertoire or are willing to arrange it for your special occasion.

## PRELUDE MUSIC

Music that is performed before the ceremony is usually contemplative and intimate to allow guests to sit quietly before the commencement of the nuptials. We play repertoire that is light and expressive and not too slow or minor in its setting. Here are some selections:

Arioso (Bach)  
Traumerei (Schumann)  
Wachet Auf (Bach)  
Sheep May Safely Graze (Bach)  
Panis Angelicus (Franck)  
Aria (Handel)  
Minuet (Gluck)  
“Aria” from Xerxes (Handel)  
Largo from “Winter” from the Four Seasons (Vivaldi)  
Ashokan Farewell  
Serenade (Haydn)  
Nocturne (Borodin)  
Adagio Cantabile (Beethoven)  
Leibesfreud/Love is Joy (Kreisler)  
Flower Duet from *Lakme* (Delibes)

## PROCESSIONAL FOR BRIDAL PARTY

Music that is selected for anyone that is processing in exception to the bride. Number of selections varies in regards to size of bridal party and preference of who processes. For example, some weddings choose to have a grandparent procession or mother candle lighting procession in addition to the bridesmaids, groomsmen, ring bearer and flower girl. Arcata Strings can help lend advice to create the right pacing for whomever is in the bridal

party procession. This music tends to have a less “stately” march-like sound so that the Bride’s Procession is better highlighted. Here are some selections:

Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring (Bach)  
Canon in D (Pachelbel)  
Hornpipe (Handel)  
Sheep May Safely Graze (Bach)  
Serenade (Haydn)

## PROCESSIONAL FOR BRIDE

Music for the Bridal Procession should be the most pronounced in the ceremony. Picking a march or a piece that has full instrumentation is suggested. The pieces that are used in the bride’s procession can also be an option for the recessional as well.

Trumpet Voluntary (Clarke)  
Trumpet Tune (Purcell)  
Bridal Chorus (Wagner)  
Alleluiah from “Exultate Jubilate” (Mozart)  
Ode to Joy (Beethoven)  
La Rejouissance (Handel)  
March from “Marriage of Figaro” (Mozart)  
Rondeau (Mouret)  
Entrance to the “Queen of Sheba” (Handel)  
Hornpipe (Handel)  
Wedding March (Mendelssohn)

## INTERCESSIONAL (DURING THE CEREMONY)

Music during the ceremony is optional. Selections can be played for a unity candle lighting, sand ceremony, rose dedication or any other sequence that music would be a welcomed addition. Arcata Strings also can accompany any vocalist or soloist during the ceremony if music is provided. Here are some selections:

Air in D (Bach)  
Meditation from “Thais” (Massenet)  
The Lord’s Prayer  
Ave Maria (Bach-Gounod)  
Ave Maria (Schubert)  
Arioso (Bach)  
Traumerei (Schumann)

## RECESSIONAL FOR BRIDE AND GROOM

Music for the Recessional should be upbeat and quick in tempo. This helps reflect the joy and celebration of the newly married couple. The pieces that are used in the bride's procession can also be an option for the recessional as well. Here are some selections:

La Rejouissance (Handel)

Rondeau (Mouret)

Wedding March (Mendelssohn)

Allelujah from "Exultate Jubilate" (Mozart)

Spring from the "Four Seasons" Violin Concertos (Vivaldi)

Autumn from the "Four Seasons" Violin Concertos (Vivaldi)

Entrance to the "Queen of Sheba" (Handel)

Hornpipe (Handel)

Ode to Joy (Beethoven)

## POSTLUDE MUSIC

Music for the Postlude should be fun and reflect the individual style of the bride and groom. They can be classical or more contemporary in nature. A couple pieces are played as guests leave the ceremony space. Here are some selections:

Brandenburg #3 (Bach) movements one and two

Brandenburg #5 (Bach) movement one

Sleeping Beauty Waltz/Once Upon a Dream (Tchaikovsky)

The Entertainer (Joplin)

When I'm 64 (Beatles)

Here Comes the Sun (Beatles)