

Magnificent Beauty Of Nature Outdoor Wedding Ceremony With Tree Planting Unifying Ritual

Greeting

The Wedding Minister/Officiant faces the guests. The Bride and her Attendants stand to the right of the Officiant. The Groom and his Attendants stand to the left of the Officiant. The Bride and Groom stand facing the Officiant/Minister.

Officiant:

Dearly beloved, We gather here today, in the presence of God, the creator of the magnificent beauty of the nature that surrounds us now as we are here to unite this man _____ , and this woman _____ , in holy matrimony. This is an occasion for joy and celebration but let us not forget that marriage is not to be entered into lightly or in jest and only after much consideration.

Invocation

Officiant:

God of everlasting and abiding Divine Love we express our gratitude for the powerful heart-to-heart connection between _____ and _____ . We ask that you grant them the ability to tap into their innate sacredness and that they are guided by your love to take part in the flow of unlimited blessings upon their marriage and their lives together.

Presentation of the Bride or Bride and Groom

Officiant:

Who presents this woman to be married to this man?

The parent(s) or designated person(s) responds: I do. Or We do

If the Bride has not already handed her bouquet to her Maid/Matron of honor, she will do so now, and her father gives her hand to the groom, he usually kisses his daughter and shakes the Grooms hand then he takes his seat. This Presentation of the Bride is optional and can be adapted to the situation or can be left out completely.

Charge To The Bride and Groom

Officiant:

_____ and _____, I charge you with the following in order that you may keep your solemn vows that you make here today; you must always respect one another in all facets of your life together and each of you are required to listen carefully to one another and commit to being helpful to one another. It is only through mutual respect and sharing of each other's inner selves that a strong and vibrant marriage continues to thrive for a lifetime.

The Pledge or Betrothal / Declaration Of Intent

Officiant:

Please turn to each other and hold hands.

Bride and Groom face each other holding hands.

Officiant: To Groom:

_____, is it your wish to let your pledge be known to all these witnesses gathered here today that you will take this woman _____ to be your wife in the divine sanctity of marriage. And will you honor, respect her and be true to her above all others?

Groom Responds: I will

Officiant: To Bride:

_____, is it your wish to let your pledge be known to all these witnesses gathered here today that you will take this man _____ to be your husband in the divine sanctity of marriage. And will you honor, respect him and be true to him above all others?

Bride Responds: I will

Wedding Vows

Officiant: To Groom: Repeat after me.

The following can be broken down line by line instead of said all at once.

I take you _____ to be my wife from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come; both in times of light and times of darkness, I will steadfastly stand by you. I promise to be faithful and vow to love you with all my heart and soul.

Groom Repeats:

I take you _____ to be my wife from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come; both in times of light and times of darkness, I will steadfastly stand by you. I promise to be faithful and vow to love you with all my heart and soul.

Officiant: To Bride: Repeat after me.

The following can be broken down line by line instead of said all at once.

I take you _____ to be my husband from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come; both in times of light and times of darkness, I will steadfastly stand by you. I promise to be faithful and vow to love you with all my heart and soul.

Bride Repeats:

I take you _____ to be my husband from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come; both in times of light and times of darkness, I will steadfastly stand by you. I promise to be faithful and vow to love you with all my heart and soul.

Blessing of the Rings

Officiant: To the Best Man or Ringbearer:

May we now have the rings?

The designated person gives the rings to the Officiant. Or in a smaller/simpler ceremony without a Best Man or Ringbearer the Officiant will already have the rings.

Officiant:

The wedding ring is a symbol of eternity. It is an outward sign of a commitment and spiritual bond which unites two hearts in endless love.

Exchange Of Rings

Officiant: To Groom:

_____ will you take this ring and place it upon _____'s finger, and as you do, repeat after me, these words:

The following can be broken down line by line instead of said all at once.

Officiant: With this ring, I thee wed and with it I bestow upon thee my pledge of faithfulness and enduring love.

Groom Repeats:

With this ring, I thee wed and with it I bestow upon thee my pledge of faithfulness and enduring love.

Officiant: To Bride:

_____ will you take this ring and place it upon _____'s finger, and as you do, repeat after me, these words:

The following can be broken down line by line instead of said all at once.

Officiant: With this ring, I thee wed and with it I bestow upon thee my pledge of faithfulness and enduring love.

Bride Repeats:

With this ring, I thee wed and with it I bestow upon thee my pledge of faithfulness and enduring love.

Unifying Ritual – Tree Planting Ceremony

Officiant:

In a special expression of their unifying commitment to their newly formed marriage, _____ and _____ will now engage in a tree planting ceremony.

(Bride and Groom begin adding the soil to the potted sapling)

Officiant continues:

As _____ and _____ symbolically plant the tree, Let us reflect on the mystical words of Saint Teresa of Avila: In a state of grace, the soul is like a well of limpid water, from which flow only streams of clearest crystal. Its works are pleasing both to God and man, rising from the River of Life, beside which it is rooted like a tree.

Officiant Continues:

(After the soil is added the Bride and Groom complete the tree planting by using the watering can to water the newly potted sapling)

The marriage of _____ and _____ shall be like the trees of the forest; firmly rooted while reaching towards the light... skyward to the heavens, whispering to God their praises of gratitude for the gift of divine love and grace. Together their bond stands firm, yet bends and yields to gusts and gales in order to keep from breaking as their love endures all things. The roots grow deeper and the tree grows stronger; so shall it be with their love.

Wedding Prayer / Blessing

Officiant:

A Wedding Prayer by the poet Robert Louis Stevenson. Lord, behold our family here assembled. We thank you for this place in which we dwell, for the love that unites us, for the peace accorded us this day, for the hope with which we expect the morrow, for the health, the work, the food, and the bright skies that make our lives delightful; for our friends in all parts of the earth. Amen.

Pronouncement As Husband And Wife

Officiant:

And now by the solemn powers vested in me by this glorious state. I declare that you are now husband & wife. Congratulations! You may kiss the bride!

Benediction

Officiant:

May the sun bring you new energy by day. May the moon gently restore you by night. May the rain wash away your worries. May you live the days of your lives in peace, love, and happiness.

Announcement As Newlyweds

Officiant:

Honored Guests, I now present to you Mr. and Mrs. _____!.

The Maid/Matron of Honor hands the bouquet to the Bride. The Bride and Groom walk down the aisle first, followed by their attendants.