

Thereto I Pledge You My Faith Wedding Ceremony

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, to unite this man _____ and this woman _____ in holy matrimony. This is truly an occasion for joy and celebration but let us remember that marriage is not to be entered into lightly or in jest and only after much consideration.

Invocation

Officiant: Let us pray,

Almighty God, thank you for being present among us now. We ask for your blessing as you hear these vows of commitment and we pray you grant _____ and _____ the strength to fulfill them throughout their lifetime together. Amen.

Presentation of the Bride (or Bride and Groom)

Officiant: Who presents this woman to be married to this man?

Or Officiant: Who presents these individuals to be married?

The parent(s) or designated person(s) responds: I do Or, in unison: 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 Bride and Groom

Officiant:

I charge you both, as you stand in the presence of God, to remember that love and loyalty alone will avail as the foundations of a happy and enduring home. If the solemn vows which you are about to make be kept permanently, your life will be full of peace and joy, and the home which you are establishing will abide through every change.

Betrothal

Officiant:

Having freely and prayerfully chosen each other as partners for life, and in an expression of your total commitment to one another, I invite you to face each other and join hands.

Bride and Groom face each other holding hands.

Officiant:

To Groom: _____, will you have this woman to be your wife, to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love her, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others to be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

Groom Responds: I will.

Officiant:

To Bride: _____, will you have this man to be your husband, to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love him, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others to be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

Bride responds: I will.

Wedding Vows

Officiant: Now that you have declared your intentions, I invite you to share your vows with one another.

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 wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, 'til death do us part: according to God's holy ordinance, and thereto I pledge you my faith.

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 wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, 'til death do us part: according to God's holy ordinance, and thereto I pledge you my faith.

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:

Bless O Lord these rings, grant that _____ and _____ may wear them with deep abiding faith in each other.

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.

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.

Wedding Prayer / Blessing

Officiant:

Most gracious God, thou hast kindled in these hearts the fire of a divine love. Wilt thou keep it aflame upon the altar of their souls. Wilt thou make the inward aspirations of their hearts the outward reality of their home. Wilt thou make that home a place of light and truth, a place of beauty, a place of joy and happiness all the days of their lives. Amen.

Pronouncement:

Officiant:

Inasmuch as you, _____ , and you _____ , have thus consented in holy matrimony and have witnessed the same before God, then, by the authority vested in me by the State of _____ I now pronounce you husband and wife . Therefore what God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.

You may kiss the bride.

Benediction

Officiant:

May God be always close to you and keep you. May you walk the paths of peace, today and always. May you always stay in love with each other. Let all you do be done in love. Go in peace. Amen.

Announcement as Newlyweds

Bride and Groom turn to face the guests as the officiant presents the couple.

Officiant:

It is with great honor I 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.

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