

Your Lives Together In Jesus Christ 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 are gathered here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man, _____ and this woman, _____, in holy matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God. It is therefore not to be entered into unadvisedly but reverently and after much consideration. Into this holy estate these two persons come now to be joined.

Invocation

Officiant:

Let us pray,

Almighty and Ever blessed God, we beseech thee to be present and bless this couple as they may be truly joined in the honorable state of marriage as thou hast brought them together by thy providence, sanctify them by thy Spirit, giving them a new frame of heart for their new relationship, and grant unto them now in the hour of their union and throughout their wedded life, thy heavenly guidance; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Presentation of the Bride or of the 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 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, and if steadfastly you seek to do the will of your Heavenly Father, your life will be full of peace and joy, and the home which you are establishing will abide through every change.

The Pledge or 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 please join hands as you prepare to take your vows.

Bride and Groom face each other holding hands.

Officiant: *To Groom:*

_____, will you have _____ to be your wife, to live together in the covenant of faith, hope, and love according to the intention of God for your lives together in Jesus Christ? Will you stand by her faithfully and love, honor and cherish her as long as you both shall live?

Groom Responds: I will.

Officiant: *To Bride:*

_____ will you have _____ to be your husband, to live together in the covenant of faith, hope, and love according to the intention of God for your lives together in Jesus Christ? Will you stand by him faithfully and love, honor and cherish him as long as you both shall live?

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 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: and together we will love and serve as Christ commands as long as we both shall live.

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: and together we will love and serve as Christ commands as long as we both shall live.

Blessing and Exchange of 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:

Heavenly Father, bless these rings. Grant that _____ and _____ may wear them with deep faith in each other. May they do your will and always live together in peace, love and abiding joy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen!

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.

I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, and with all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you, in the name of God.

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.

I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, and with all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you, in the name of God.

Wedding Prayer

Officiant:

God of love, bless the marriage of _____ and _____.
Surround their relationship and their home with an ever-growing love. May they always be aware of Your presence and Your care in their lives. And now, _____ and _____, may the grace of Christ attend you, the love of God surround you, and the Holy Spirit keep you. Amen.

Pronouncement as Husband and Wife

Officiant:

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

You May Kiss The Bride!

Benediction

Officiant:

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

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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