

Promise Of Faithfulness Tenderness and Helpfulness

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, the love of this couple, _____ and _____ is profound and enduring. We gather here to witness this love and the vows they will make to each other on this, their wedding day. We join in our support of them as they offer themselves to each other. We celebrate their joy, their love and their expectations.

Invocation

Officiant:

Dear God, thank you for your enduring love and for giving the gift of love to _____ and _____. Today they want to dedicate that love to each other. We are grateful that your loving presence will surround this wedding service and be with us now and always. 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 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: _____ and _____, the covenant which you are about to make with each other is meant to be a beautiful and sacred expression of your love for each other. As you pledge your vows to each other, and as you commit your lives to each other, we ask that you do so in

all seriousness, and yet with a deep sense of joy; with the deep conviction that you are committing yourselves to a dynamic growing relationship of trust, mutual support, and caring love.

The Pledge or Betrothal

Officiant:

As an expression of your willingness to total commit yourself 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 _____ to be your wife, to live with her, respect her, and love her as God intends with the promise of faithfulness, tenderness, and helpfulness, as long as you both shall live?

Groom Responds: I will

Officiant:

To Bride: _____, will you have _____ to be your husband, to live with him, respect him, and love him as God intends with the promise of faithfulness, tenderness, and helpfulness as long as you both shall live?

Bride responds: I will.

Wedding Vows

Officiant: *To Groom:*

As a further sign of your heartfelt desire, I invite you to repeat these words after me.

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

_____, I take you to be my wife, to be faithful to you alone, to share all that is to come, encompassing all sorrows and joys, all hardships and triumphs, all the experiences of life, a permanent commitment made in love, kept in faith, lives in hope, and eternally made new.

Officiant: *To Bride:*

As a further sign of your heartfelt desire, I invite you to repeat these words after me.

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

_____, I take you to be my husband, to be faithful to you alone, to share all that is to come, encompassing all sorrows and joys, all hardships and triumphs, all the experiences of life, a permanent commitment made in love, kept in faith, lives in hope, and eternally made new.

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 circle is the symbol of the sun, earth, and universe. It is the symbol of peace. Let this ring be the symbol of unity and peace in which your two lives are joined in one unbroken circle. Wherever you go, return unto one another and to your togetherness.

Exchange of Rings

To Groom: _____ will you take this ring and place it upon _____'s finger and as you do, repeat to her, 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 I give you myself, with love and affection. Wear it in peace always.

To Bride: _____ will you take this ring and place it upon _____'s finger and as you do, repeat to him, 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 I give you myself, with love and affection. Wear it in peace always.

Wedding Prayer /Blessing

Officiant:

God blesses you with happiness, prosperity and gives you peace. May your love for each other become deeper and more blissful as you carry onward in your sacred journey of married life. May you draw forth, each from the other, the highest and the best. May you be open and receptive to divine inspiration and guidance. May you express poise, patience and understanding with each other. May your lives blend together in harmony and joy and may your days be good and long upon the earth. Amen.

Pronouncement of Husband and Wife

Officiant:

Now that _____ and _____ have pledged their love and faith to each other, sealed their vows in the giving and receiving of rings and have expressed their complete and pure dedication to one another before God and our gathering then it is 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:

May the courage of the early morning's dawning, the strength of the eternal hills, the peace of the evening's ending, and the love of God be in your hearts now and forever. Amen.

Announcement

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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