

Contemporary Ceremony 2

Friends, we have come today at the invitation of (Bride's name) and (Groom's name) to share in the joy of their wedding. This outward celebration we shall see and hear is an expression of the inner love and devotion they have in their hearts.

Jesus Christ reminds us that at the beginning the Creator made us male and female, and said, "For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and shall cleave to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

God loved us, and created us to love others. Our lives find completion only as we love and are loved in return. Together, we can become what we could never be separately. Marriage is of God.

(Groom's name) And (Bride's name) come today desiring to be united in this sacred relationship. So God, we thank you for the love that (Groom's name) and (Bride's name) have for you. We believe that you have led them to this day and we ask your blessing as they exchange their vows and seal their promises. As they become husband and wife, may they do so not only in our presence, but in Yours, with Your grace surrounding them and Your love within their hearts. We pray through Christ, Amen.

(Groom's name), do you now leave your father and mother to establish your own home with (Bride's name) as her husband, to receive her as your wife, to make a home where she will be loved and cared for as long as God grants her life? If so, answer, "I do."

(Bride's name), do you now leave your father and mother to establish your own home with (Groom's name) as his wife, to receive him as your husband, to make a home where he will be loved and cared for as long as God grants him life? If so, answer, "I do."

(Parents)

Will the parents please stand. Do you promise to encourage (Groom's name) and (Bride's name) in their marriage, to present an example of love and devotion for them to emulate, and to help them build a strong and stable home for themselves and their family? If so, answer "I do."

Who is giving this woman to be married to this man?

he ceremony of marriage in which you come to be united is the first and oldest ceremony in all the world, celebrated in the beginning in the presence of God himself. Marriage is a gift of God, given to comfort the sorrows of life and magnify its joys.

Marriage is the clasping of hands, the blending of hearts, the union of two lives as one. Your marriage must stand, not by the authority of the State, nor by the seal of your wedding certificate, but by the strength of your love and by the power of your faith in each other and in God.

You can have this kind of home if you continue to recognize God as the source of romance and love and affection, for these are His gifts. Build your home on a spiritual foundation.

With God, you will have everything; without Him, you will have nothing.

Now, will you please join hands and, to each other, express your vows of love and devotion.

(Groom's name) will you repeat this vow to (Bride's name), saying after me: I (Groom's name), take you, (Bride's name) to be my 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 until we are separated by death; as God is my witness, I give you my promise.

(Bride's name) will you repeat this vow to (Groom's name), saying after me: I (Bride's name), take you, (Groom's name) to be my 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 until we are separated by death; as God is my witness, I give you my promise.

The word of God in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 tells us what love is like and what love does: "Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous; Love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things endures all things. Love... Never... Fails

Having this kind of love in your hearts, you have chosen to share a ring as the sign and seal of the vows you are making today. Though small in size, a ring is very large in significance. Made of precious metal, it reminds us that love is not cheap, nor common, indeed, love may cost us dearly. Made in a circle, the design tells us that love must never come to an end, we must keep it continuous. As you wear your ring, whether together or apart for a moment, may it be a constant reminder of these glad promises you are making today.

(Groom's name), will you take your ring and place it upon the third finger of (Bride's name)'s left hand, and repeat after me this promise, saying: "With this ring, I seal my promise, to be your faithful and loving husband as God is my witness."

(Bride's name), will you take your ring and place it upon the third finger of (Groom's name)'s left hand, and repeat after me this promise, saying: "With this ring, I seal my promise, to be your faithful and loving wife as God is my witness."

Let us pray,

Our Father, we come today asking your blessing upon these two lives and this home being established. You have made us so that we are incomplete without the other so that we yearn for someone whom we can love and whose love we can receive.

We are thankful for the love we see here, and even more, for the love we feel from you. May we never take your love for granted We pray that Your love will be the shield and stay for (Groom's name) and (Bride's name). When joy comes, may they share it together. When sorrow threatens, may they bear it together. In gladness or in tears, in sunshine or in shadow, may they ever draw closer to each other and nearer to you.

Grant them patience, gentleness, forbearance, and understanding. O Father, protect their home from those forces that would break it apart. We ask for health, long life, for the fulfillment of every good dream. May their love continue through life and finally blend into the life eternal. Through Christ we pray, amen.

You have come before us and before God and have expressed your desire to be husband and wife. You have shown your love and affection by joining hands, have made promises of faith and devotion, each to the other, and have sealed these promises with the symbolic ring.

I therefore, pronounce that you are husband and wife. May the Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face to shine on you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift His countenance on you, and give you peace. Amen.

What God has joined together, let man not separate. You may kiss your bride.

Please turn and face the audience. Friends, may I present to you Mr. and Mrs. _____.