

## Non-Denominational Christian Ceremony 2

Entrance Processional - Father of the bride (or person selected) escorts bride down the aisle and she faces the minister.

The minister says: Who gives this woman to be married? He answers I do, and the minister says thank you. Please be seated.

The minister opens the service with a prayer. Let us pray, Dear Lord in the new testament you say that wherever two or more of us are joined in your Name that you would be there also. We humbly pray that You would join us now as \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ stand before you today to join this couple together in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. Please be with them, bless them, and let this union continue to endure and progress in the love they have for each other. Amen.

The minister continues: Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today to join \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the bonds of Holy Matrimony. Marriage is a most honorable estate created by our Lord signifying unto us the mystical union between a man and a woman, this union also exists between Christ and His Church. So to may this marriage be adorned also by a true and everlasting love that we pray shall continue through eternity.

When Christ performed His miracle at a wedding of Cana in Galilee by turning water into wine, he showed the world His respect for this Holy Sacrament. The Bible commends marriage to be honored by all people.

Bible Reading from Corinthians:

Love endures and is kind.

Love is not envious or jealous.

Love wants not for itself.

Love is not puffed up, nor does it behave wrongly.

Love seeks not for its own.

Love is not easily provoked.

Love is not rude.

Love thinks no evil.

Love does not rejoice in wrong, but rejoices in the truth.

Love bears all things, believes all things, endures all things, and love never fails.

The minister continues:

The Union of husband and wife is one of the heart, mind, and body and is intended by the Lord for their

mutual joy, for the help and comfort given to one another in the times of prosperity and adversity. The union grows as the couple become one in more and more ways on a growing basis as their love for one another expands.

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ life is given to us as individuals and the first lesson we must learn is how to live together with each other as a married couple. Love is given to us by our family and friends, We learn to love by being loved. Learning to love and learning to live together is one of life's greatest challenges. This is the goal of a married life.

But the husband and wife should not confuse the love of worldly measures, for even if worldly success is found, Only love can hold a marriage together. Mankind did not create love, God created love and teaches it to us. The measure of a true love is one given freely and a love that is freely accepted, just as God's love for us is given freely and unconditional. Today is a glorious day that God has made as you reaffirm your love and vows for each other. Both of you are blessed with God's greatest gift of all, an abiding and true love of each other, and the reward of a lifelong companionship that entered your life through the love in your lives. As you travel through this life together remember it was love that got you here, it is love that will continue in your lives, and it is love that will cause this union to endure. I ask that you guard your heart and your love for one another, and hold it tightly in your hearts.

The minister asks the couple to join hands and continues with the Vows.

\_\_\_\_\_ will you have \_\_\_\_\_ as your husband and to agree to live in this marriage as his wife? Do you affirm your love for him, and will you love him, keep him, and honor him in sickness and in health, and forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you shall live?

\_\_\_\_\_ will you have \_\_\_\_\_ as your wife and agree to live in this marriage as her husband? Do you affirm your love for her, and will you love her, keep her, and honor her in sickness and in health, and forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you shall live?

The Minister then asks for the rings. The minister then prays a prayer of blessing over the givers and receivers of each of the rings.

The minister then hands the rings to each. The minister then ask the husband to place the ring on her finger and repeat the following.

I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, with all that I am and all that I have I honor you, and with this ring I thee wed.

The minister then ask the wife to place the ring on his finger and repeat the following.

I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, with all that I am and all that I have I honor you, and with this ring I thee wed.

The minister then gives the charge:

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ as the two of you both now affirm your love for each other and have made a promise to each other to live in this union as husband and wife, I charge that you each remember to cherish each other as special and unique individuals and that you each respect the

thoughts and ideas of one another. And most all be able to forgive each other, and not hold grudges against one another, and I charge that you live each day in love with each other, always being there to give love, comfort, and refuge to each in good times and bad. Amen.

Bible reading :From Mark : That whosoever the Lord has joined together, let not man put as under.

The minister makes the Pronouncement& Announcement:

Since \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ have now exchanged vows and rings, and pledged their love and faith for each other, it is my pleasure and honor to pronounce you Man & Wife. You may kiss the bride.

I am pleased to announce Mr. & Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_.

The Recessional. The bride and groom exit.

The minister makes announcements as to thanking those in attendance, and gives instructions for the reception.