

## Traditional Wedding Ceremony

PRELUDE: (MUSIC)

PROCESSIONAL:

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER:

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here in the sight of God, and in the presence of family and friends to join together this man and this woman in Holy Matrimony, which is commended of St. Paul to be an honorable estate, instituted of God and therefore is not to be entered into unadvisedly or carelessly, but reverently, joyfully and in the love of God. Into this holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined.

PRESENTATION OF THE BRIDE:

Minister says, "Who gives this bride to this Groom in marriage?" Father says, "I do" (He then takes the Brides right hand and places it in the groom's left hand, and retires to his place. Father sits with Mother)

BIBLE PRINCIPLES OF MARRIAGE:

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.

(Your Reading or from 1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

(Groom)\_\_\_\_\_ and (Bride)\_\_\_\_\_ come today desiring to be united in this sacred relationship.

MINISTER PRAYER:

Minister says, "Let us Pray"

O' Almighty God you have created us all in the image of Love, the image of Yourself. Bless now these two who stand before you. Guide them in your wisdom, shine your light upon them, that as they journey through this life together they will walk as bearers of your Truth. Amen

(At this point, the bride may wish to give her bouquet of flowers to her attendant or place them on the table next to her.)

JOINING OF HANDS:

Minister will say, " Please join hands"

MARRIAGE VOWS:

Minister; "I ask you each now, to repeat the marriage vows." I (Groom/Bride) take you (Bride/Groom) for my wedded (wife/husband), To love and cherish, For better or worse, for richer or poorer, In sickness and in health. From this day forward

**BLESSING OF THE RINGS:**

(At this point the Minister will ask that the rings be placed in his hands) or ( he will turn to where the rings have been set, placing them in his hands for Blessing)

**MINISTER:**

Bless, O Lord The Giving of these rings that they who wear them, may live in your peace and your favor all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**BLESSING IN ENGLISH:**

May the Lord Bless these rings which you give to each other as your sign of Love, Devotion and ever lasting peace. Amen

**EXCHANGE OF RINGS:**

(Groom/Bride) as you place this ring on (Bride/Groom)'s finger I ask that you repeat these words This ring is my sacred gift to you, A symbol of my Love, A sign that from this day forward and always, My Love will surround you, With this ring I thee wed.

**(MUSIC)**

**CLOSING PRAYERS:**

"Oh, eternal God Creator and preserver, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life; Send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy Name; that they, living faithfully together, may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them as symbolized by these rings as a token and pledge, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together and live according to thy laws." Amen

**PRONOUNCEMENT: Minister:**

"For as much as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have consented together in holy matrimony and have witnessed the same before God and those present, and have pledged their faithfulness, each to the other, and have declared their love by giving and receiving Rings and by joining hands, I now, by the authority committed unto me as a minister and a priest, declare that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are husband and wife according to the ordinance of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

Those Whom God Has joined together, let no one put asunder.

**BENEDICTION:**

"May the Peace and the Unconditional Love of God surround you and remain with you now and forevermore. Amen"

"You may seal you vows with a kiss."

(Then the couple shall turn so as to face the guests,)

MINISTER SAYS: "Allow me to present Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_.

RECESSIONAL

(MUSIC)