

Wedding Bells Are Ringing

Creative Custom Ceremonies For All Occasions



Traditional: 'Non-Denominational Wedding'

Gathering Words

Dearly beloved, we are gathered together here today in the sight of God and this company, to join together <Bride> and <Groom> in Holy Matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted by God, and revered as the most profound and tender of all human relationships. Marriage is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, deliberately, and in accordance with the purposes for which it was instituted by God. Into this holy estate of marriage these two persons come now to be joined.

Blessing No. 1

<Groom> and <Bride>, may your marriage bring you all the exquisite excitements that a marriage should bring, and may life grant you also patience, tolerance, and understanding. May you always need one another - not so much to fill your emptiness, as to help you to know your fullness. May you always keep hold of one another, but not out of weakness. May you always want one another, but not out of lack. May you forever entice, but not compel, one another. When you embrace one another, do not out encircle one another. May you succeed in all important ways with one another, and not fail in the little graces. May you look for things to praise, often say, "I love you!", and take no notice of small faults. If you have quarrels that push you apart, may you both hope to have good enough sense to take the first step back. May you enter into the mystery, which is the awareness of one another's presence - no more physical than spiritual, warm and near when you are side-by-side, and warm and near when you are in separate rooms or even distant cities. May you have happiness, and may you find it making one another happy. May you have love, and may you find it loving one another.

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Charge

Love is the reason that this day was chosen by you both to begin your lives together, and love is the reason why you both will give with all your hearts for the good of one another. Love is the reason that together you will become one - one in hope, one in believing in life, and one in sharing the coming years. Everyday you live, learn how to receive love with as much understanding as you give it. Find things within your self, and then share them with each other. Have an open heart and a sincere mind. Be constant and consistent with your love. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us.

Consent

To enter into the holy estate of marriage with someone is to affirm your commitment to create a lifelong partnership based on love. Knowing this, I ask these questions of you...

Do you <Groom> take <Bride> to be your wedded wife? Do you promise to love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health, for better or worse, and forsaking all others, be faithful to her so long as you both shall live? If so, please answer: "I do".

Do you <Bride> take <Groom> to be your wedded husband? Do you promise to love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health, for better or worse, and forsaking all others, be faithful to him so long as you both shall live? If so, please answer: "I do".

Exchange of Vows

Then, if you would, please turn to face one another and join hands as you prepare to exchange your wedding vows.

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<Groom>, if you will, please repeat after me:

I <Groom Full>, take you, <Bride Full>, to be my wife. From this day forward you shall not walk alone. My heart will be your shelter and my arms will be your home.

<Bride>, if you will, please repeat after me:

I <Bride Full>, take you, <Groom Full>, to be my husband. From this day forward you shall not walk alone. My heart will be your shelter and my arms will be your home.

Exchange of Rings

What tokens of love and respect do you offer one another on this day?

(Rings are presented to the Bride and Groom)

The ring is a continuous circle, unbroken precious metal. It represents two hearts joined in eternal love. The ring by its shape is a symbol of the never ending love that exists between you. Let it be a sign to the world of the love and devotion that you have for one another.

<Groom>, as you place the ring on <Bride>'s finger and pledge your love and your life to her, will you please repeat after me:

<Bride>, I give you this ring as a sign from my heart that I have chosen you above all others to share my life with. With this ring, I thee wed.

<Bride>, as you please place the ring on <Groom>'s finger and pledge your love and your life to him, will you please repeat after me:

<Groom>, I give you this ring as a sign from my heart that I have chosen you above all others to share my life with. With this ring, I thee wed.

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Prayer

We now turn to God, the Eternal Father, creator, redeemer, and lover of our souls, as the first act of this couple in their newly formed union. Let us pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom,
And the power and the glory for ever and ever.
Amen

Blessing No. 2

There is nothing more lovely in life than the union of two people who have grown together in love. May the love that you have found continue to grow in meaning and strength, and may it forever reflect a common devotion to all that is compassionate and life giving. May you become ever closer to one another with a love that grows deeper and richer with each passing day. May you be blessed with knowledge of the ever-flowing presence of love in the world, and may the flow of your love touch us all with its grace and courage.

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Pronouncement

And now, inasmuch as you, <Groom>, and you, <Bride>, have consented to be joined together in holy wedlock, and having witnessed the same before God and this company; having given and pledged your vows, each to the other, and having declared the same by the giving and receiving of rings, I hereby pronounce you husband and wife.

Congratulations, you may kiss your bride!

Presentation

It is with great pleasure and honor that I now present to you, for the very first time, Mr. and Mrs. <Bride> and <Groom Full>.

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