

Divine Science Community Center

Wedding Ceremony for

_____ And _____
_____ On _____

Will the mother of the bride and the mother of the groom, please come forth to light the candles which signifies the families of

And

My friends, we are gathered here today to witness and to celebrate the drawing together of two separate lives as they pledge their vows before God. Today, this man and this woman are to be joined together in marriage. They have asked you to be present here today to give them your love and blessing and good will as they enter into this holiest of all human contracts. It is always a privilege to be with those we love at such an important time in their lives.

May I ask at this time, who gives this woman to this man in marriage? I do.

Today's celebration of human affection is the outward sign of a sacred and inward commitment which religious societies may consecrate and states may legalize, but which neither can create. Only you can marry yourselves. Furthermore, you will, in a sense, remarry each other every day of your lives by a mutual commitment to love each other, to work toward creating an atmosphere of care and consideration and respect for one another.

On this day of your marriage, you two stand somewhat apart from all other human beings. You stand within the charmed circle of your love, and this is as it should be. Love makes burdens lighter, because you divide them. It makes joys more intense, because you share them. It makes you stronger, so you can reach out toward those goals and ideals and become involved with life in ways you dared not risk alone. It enables you, trusting each other, to trust life and not be afraid. Love permits you not only to accept and give affections to one another, but together, to have affection and consideration for others.

Please face each other and join hands.

do you take

to be your wife, and to promise to love her, to cherish her, to always see in her the light of her inner beauty, and to do your best to be a loving husband.

Groom: I do.

Do you take

to be your husband, and promise to love him, to cherish him, to always see in him the light of his inner beauty, and to do your best to be a loving wife.

Bride: I Do.

May we have the symbol of this union? Dear friends the circle is the symbol of eternal love. The ring is an outward visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. Unbroken in circumference, it signifies a love that has no end. The gold is of pure metal that will not tarnish, rust or deteriorate and therefore is a symbol of a love that will not decay with the passing of time.

, in offering this ring, which marks your desire to enter into all the days of your life together with , place the ring on the third finger of her left hand and repeat after me:

"With this ring I thee wed. - From this day forward –

I pledge my faithfulness, respect, and abiding love –

I walk beside you in Faith - in Peace, and in Love."

May we have the other symbol of this union?

, in offering this ring, which marks your desire to enter into all the days of your life together with _____, place the ring on the third finger of his left and repeat after me:

"With this ring I thee wed, From this day forward,

I pledge my faithfulness, respect, and abiding love - I walk beside you in Faith, in Peace, and in Love."

May your marriage bring you all the exquisite excitements 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.

A mountain needs a valley to be complete; the valley does not make the mountain less, but more, and the valley is more a valley because it has a mountain towering over it. So let it be with you. May you need one another, but not out of weakness. May you want one another, but not out of lack. May you embrace one another, but not encircle one another. May you succeed in all the important ways with one another, and not fail in the little graces. May you look for things to praise, often saying, "I love you." And take no notice of small faults.

If you have quarrels that push you apart, may both of you hope to have good sense enough 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.

Now

and, please each take a candle and light the center candle which symbolizes the union of these two families by this marriage today.

Will the child, please step forward. you are a very important part of today's celebration. Today's ceremony is more than two people joining their lives together; it is about a new family being formed and being bonded together.

and

have selected a family medallion which has three circles intertwined, which represents the commitment of their love and the unifying by this marriage as a family. Please place the medallion around

, s neck.

Please join hands. A strong family relationship takes a commitment from each to love, nurture, respect and be understanding of one another. It requires listening to the inner heart and mind, and seeing the good. By joining hands you have formed a circle of strength and are now linked by your love and commitment to each other. Your love is like the roots of a tree, giving it the strength to weather all storms, and to nurture, enabling the tree to blossom into its fullness, and stand tall in this beautiful world.

Friends will you please close your eyes for a moment and send to

And, your private gift of your own personal blessing.

Let us pray: Almighty God, we ask your blessings on these your beloved children. We know that your love inspires them, gives them blessings, and brings them health and prosperity. We affirm Thy power to guide them in all their ways.

You each have the blessings and love of God every day of your lives, and you have the blessings and love of all those here assembled as well. And for this we say, Thank You God. Amen. You may be seated.

Now by the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of _____, and through the power of the Holy Spirit who performs every true marriage, I pronounce you husband and wife.

It is my special privilege to be the first to address you as husband and wife, and to present to you your first gift as a married couple. In the language of flowers, the red rose is a symbol of love. My gift to you is a gift of love.

Please exchange your roses. In this exchange, you have now given to each other your first gift as husband and wife, which, of course, is the gift of love. It will be my hope that wherever you make your home, there will be a specially appointed place for red roses. Also, that on succeeding anniversaries you celebrate, at least in part, by each of you taking, to the appointed place, a red rose as a restatement of your love, as a re-commitment to the holy vows that you have made this day before God and these people.

As you know, in every marriage, it is occasionally difficult to find words to resolve some

of the issues that are going to arise. If and when such issues might come to your marriage, if either of you will remember to bring to the appointed place a red rose, the other will see it and understand its statement of love and accept it. Because enough love makes everything all right.

, you may kiss the Bride.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I introduce Mr. and Mrs. _