

Marriage Ceremony---Same Sex

Friends, we are gathered here at this hour to witness and to celebrate the coming together of two separate lives. We have come to join _____ and _____ in marriage, to be with them and rejoice with them in the making of this important commitment. The essence of this commitment is the taking of another person in his/her entirety, as lover, companion, and friend. It is therefore a decision which is not to be entered into lightly, but rather undertaken with great consideration and respect for both the other person and oneself.

Love is one of the highest experiences that we human beings can have, and it can add depth of meaning to our lives. The day-to-day companionship – the pleasure in doing things together, or in doing separate things but in delighting to exchange experiences – is a continuous and central part of what two people who love each other can share.

While marriage is the intimate sharing of two lives, it can yet enhance the differences and individuality of each partner. We must give ourselves in love, but we must not give ourselves away. A good and balanced relationship is one in which neither person is overpowered or absorbed by the other. Thus it is out of the tension between separateness and union that love is born and reborn.

We are here today, the, to celebrate the love which _____ and _____ have for each other, and to give social recognition to their decision to accept each other totally and permanently. Into this state of marriage these two persons come now to be united.

_____, will you have this man/woman to be your wedded spouse to have and to hold from this day forth?

“I will.”

(Please repeat)

I have chosen you _____ / from all of the world / to be my wedded spouse / to share my life / openly with you / and tenderly care for you / through all the experiences / of our lives.

_____, will you have this man/woman to be your wedded spouse to have and to hold from this day forth?

“I will.”

(Please repeat)

I have chosen you _____ / from all of the world / to be my wedded spouse / to share my life / openly with you / and tenderly care for you / through all the experiences / of our lives.

_____ **What pledge do you offer in token of these vows?**

“I offer this ring.”

As you place this ring, symbol of your commitment in marriage, on the third finger of _____’s left hand, please repeat....

With this ring I wed you / and pledge my faithful love.

_____ **What pledge do you offer in token of these vows?**

“I offer this ring.”

As you place this ring, symbol of your commitment in marriage, on the third finger of _____’s left hand, please repeat....

With this ring I wed you / and pledge my faithful love.

Foreasmuch as _____ and _____ have consented together in marriage, they have vowed to be loyal and loving toward each other, formalizing in our presence the existence of the bond between them, I do by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, pronounce that they are now married. May they continue to love one another forever.

_____, you may kiss your spouse.
