We are gathered here today in the presence of those close and those remembered to celebrate love and one of life’s greatest moments. We are here to witness the joining of Bride and Groom in Matrimony, and to our blessings and best wishes to the words that will unite them. For them, the extraordinary has happened as they fell in love and are finalizing that love with their wedding today.

Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

If there is anyone present who thinks they have a reason why this couple should not be united, remain silent forever! Because these two have chosen each other on this day!

BRIDE and GROOM, marriage is the most important of all earthly relationships. It should be entered into reverently, thoughtfully and with full understanding of its sacred nature. Your marriage must stand by the strength of your love and the power of faith in each other and in God. Just as two threads woven in opposite directions form a beautiful tapestry, so to your two lives when merged together will make a beautiful marriage.

“Love means many things. It means giving. It means sharing. It means forgiving. It means understanding. It means being patient. It means learning. And you must always consider the other side, the other person. You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.”

During his ministry, Jesus was asked the question, “What is the greatest law that mankind must follow?” He answered them saying, “love God with all your hearts and other people as yourself.” I firmly believe that when he said these words he touched upon something we all feel very deeply in our hearts, and that is that love is the greatest gift we can offer one and other, and that is what makes marriage so very special and such a cause of joy and celebration for all of us who have come here today to share in this event and witness Groom and Bride’s love and commitment one to another.

We read in Paul’s first letter to the Church at Corinth that, “…if I understand all mysteries and knowledge, and though I have all faith so that I could move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. Love suffers long and is kind, love does not envy, and love does not parade itself, and is not puffed up. Love rejoices in the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. Love never fails.

**VOWS (face each other and repeat after me)**
I, GROOM take you BRIDE/ to be my wife, my partner in life/ and my one true love/ I will cherish our friendship/ and love you today/, tomorrow/, and forever.
I will trust you and honor you
I will laugh with you and cry with you.
I will love you faithfully
Through the best and the worst,
Through the difficult and the easy.
Whatever may come I will always be there.
As I have given you my hand to hold
So I give you my life to keep
So help me God

I, BRIDE take you GROOM/ to be my Husband/, my partner in life/ and my one true love/. I will cherish our friendship/ and love you today/, tomorrow/, and forever.
I will trust you and honor you
I will laugh with you and cry with you.
I will love you faithfully
Through the best and the worst,
Through the difficult and the easy.
Whatever may come I will always be there.
As I have given you my hand to hold
So I give you my life to keep
So help me God

**Genesis 2:18-24** edited

The Lord God said: "it is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him."

So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man.

When he brought her to the man, the man said: "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman,' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken."

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.

**I Do’s**
GROOM, do you take BRIDE to be your Wife, cherishing her with a husband’s love and devotion? ("I do")

BRIDE, do you take GROOM to be your Husband, cherishing him with a wife’s love and devotion? ("I do")

**Ring Ceremony**
The ring is a symbol of the unbroken circle of love. Love freely given has no beginning and no end, no giver and no receiver for each is the giver and each is the receiver. May these rings always remind you of the vows you have here taken.

Ring Exchange (who has the rings) (repeat after me)
I GROOM/, take you, BRIDE/ to be my Wife/- To have and to hold/, in sickness and in health/, for richer or for poorer/, in joy and sorrow/, and I promise my love to you/. And with this ring, I take you as my Wife/, for as long as we both shall live.

I BRIDE/, take you GROOM/, to be my Husband/. To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer/, in joy and sorrow/, and I promise my love to you/. And with this ring/, I take you as my husband/, for as long as we both shall live.

##  Reading: CHERISH EVERY MOMENT by Leslie A. Neilson

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* Today is the beginning of a dream.
* A day where two souls are woven together.
* Cherish every moment that life offers, and celebrate every small pleasure.
* Express your love at every chance.
* Allow your love to unfold gracefully.
* Show your devotion and dedicate your lives to the enrichment of each other.
* Strive always for honesty and integrity.
* Build upon your marriage daily, and seek to understand each other.
* But above all this...
* Draw upon the love you feel today, and forever etch it in your hearts.

**Wedding Prayer**

Most Gracious God, we give you thanks for your tender love.

We thank you also for consecrating the union of marriage.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon this man and this woman.

Defend them from every enemy, and lead them into all peace.

Bless them in their work, and in their companionship; in their sleeping and in their waking; in their joys and in their sorrows; in their life and in their death.

Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle about their shoulders, and a crown upon their heads.

**Pronouncement of couple as Husband and Wife.**

You have kissed a thousand times, maybe more. But today the feeling is new. No longer simply partners and best friends, you have become husband and wife and can now seal the agreement with a kiss. Today your kiss is a promise.

Groom and Bride, for as much as you have come together today in matrimony, and have vowed your love to each other before God and those here present, and have exchanged rings as a token of those vows, I by the power entrusted to me pronounce that you are husband and wife.

Groom, you may kiss your Wife.

I would like to introduce Mr. and Mrs. Groom and Bride Lastname