We are gathered here today to celebrate one of life’s greatest moments, the joining of two hearts. In this ceremony today we will witness the joining of Groom and Bride in marriage.

Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

Today we have come together to witness the joining of these two lives For them, out of the routine of ordinary lives, the extraordinary has happened. They met each other, fell in love and are finalizing it with their wedding today.

If there is any one present who thinks they have a reason that this couple should not wed, remain silent forever, because they are choosing each other on this day.

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.

**Wedding prayer**
God and father, bless this marriage, as Groom and Bride begin their journey down the road of life together. May they respect each other’s likes and dislikes, opinions and beliefs, hopes and dreams, and fears, even though they may not always understand them. May they rest in the knowledge that no matter what happens by holding on to each other things will work out for the best. Most of all, dear god, help them to keep the torch of love burning with the fire that they now share in their hearts. Amen

**Exhortation 1**
Romance is fun, but true love is something far more, and it is their desire to love each other for life that we are celebrating here today.

A good marriage must be created.

In marriage it is the little things that are big things
It is never being too old to hold hands
it is remembering to say “I love you” once a day
it is never going to sleep angry
it is standing together and facing the world
It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.
It is having the capacity to forgive and forget
it is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow
it is a common search for the good and the beautiful
it is not only marrying the right person, it is being the right partner.

**Exhortation 2**
Groom and Bride I would ask that you always treat yourself and each other with respect, and remind yourselves often of what brought you together today.
Give the highest priority to the tenderness, gentleness and kindness that your marriage deserves. When frustration and difficulty assail your marriage – as they do to every relationship at one time or another – focus on what still seems right between you, not only the part that seems wrong. This way, when clouds hide the sun in your lives, and for a moment you lose sight of it, you can remember that the sun is still there. And if each of you takes responsibility for the quality of your life together, it will be marked by abundance and happiness.

***Reading #1: Let it be a dance*** *Let it be a dance we do.
May I have this dance with you?
Through the good times
And the bad times, too.
Let it be a dance.

Let a dancing song be heard.
Play the music. Sing the words.
Fill the sky with sailing birds.
Let it be a dance.

Learn to follow, learn to lead,
Feel the rhythm, fill the need.
To reap the harvest, plant the seed.
And let it be a dance.

Morning star comes out at night,
Without the dark there is no light.
If nothing's wrong, then nothing's right.
Let it be a dance.*

**I do’s**
Groom, do you take Bride to be your wife? (I do)
Do you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect her, forsaking all others and holding unto her forever more? (I do)

Bride, do you take Groom to be your husband? (I do)
Do you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect him, forsaking all others and holding unto him forever more? (I do)

**Reading #2**

***Yes, I'll Marry You - Pam Ayres*** *Yes, I'll marry you, my dear, and here's the reason why; So I can push you out of bed when the baby starts to cry, and if we hear a knocking and it's creepy and it's late, I hand you the torch you see, and you investigate.

Yes I'll marry you, my dear, you may not apprehend it, but when the tumble-drier breaks it's you that has to mend it. You have to face the neighbor should our Labrador attack him, and if a drunkard chats me up it's you that has to whack him.

Yes, I'll marry you, my dear, you're virile and you're lean, my bedrooms on the messy side and you help keep it clean. That tasty little dinner which you served by candlelight, it was so delicious - you can cook every night!

It's you who has to work the drill and put up the curtain track, and when i am in a mood it's you who gets the flak. I do see great advantages, but none of them for you, and so before you see the light, I do, I do, I do.*

**Exchange of Wedding Vows**

**Officiant:** Groom, please repeat after me:

I Groom offer you Bride

my solemn vow/ to be your faithful partner

in sickness and in health,

in good times and in bad,

and in joy as well as in sorrow.

I promise to love you unconditionally,

to support you in your goals,

to honor and respect you,

and to cherish you

for as long as we both shall live.

**Officiant:** Bride, please repeat after me:

I Bride offer you Groom

my solemn vow/ to be your faithful partner

in sickness and in health,

in good times and in bad,

and in joy as well as in sorrow.

I promise to love you unconditionally,

to support you in your goals,

to honor and respect you,

and to cherish you

for as long as we both shall live

**Reading (Officiant)** 1Corinthians 13
Love is patient; love is kind
and envies no one.
Love is never boastful, nor conceited, nor rude;
never selfish, not quick to take offense.
There is nothing love cannot face;
there is no limit to its faith,
its hope, and endurance.
In a word, there are three things
that last forever: faith, hope, and love;
but the greatest of them all is love.

**Exchange of Wedding Rings**

The wedding ring is a symbol of eternity. It is an outward sign of an inward and spiritual bond which unites two hearts in endless love. For love freely given and freely received has no beginning and no end, for each is the giver, and each is the receiver.

And now Groom, as a token of your love and of your deep desire to be forever united in heart and soul you may place the ring you’ve chosen on Bride’s ring finger. As you do, repeat after me:

Groom: With this ring/ I thee wed/, as a symbol of my love/ and faithfulness to you.

And now Bride you may place the ring you’ve chosen on Groom’s rings finger and as you do, repeat after me:

Bride: With this ring/ I thee wed/, as a symbol of my love/ and faithfulness to you.

**Reading #3**

***The One*** *When the one whose hand you're holding
Is the one who holds your heart
When the one whose eyes you gaze into
Gives your hopes and dreams their start,
When the one you think of first and last
Is the one who holds you tight,
And the things you plan together
Make the whole world seem just right,
When the one whom you believe in
puts their faith and trust in you,
You've found the one and only love
You'll share your whole life through.*

**Pronouncement**In as much as you, Groom, and you Bride, have consented together in the union of matrimony and have pledged your faith each to the other in the presence of God and this company, by the authority vested in me as a minister, and in the name of the father, the son and the holy spirit, I now pronounce you Husband and Wife!

Groom, you may kiss your wife.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I now present Mrs. Bride and Mr. Groom Lastname!