



Sample Wedding Ceremony:

Welcome & Opening:

Welcome family and friends.

It is with profound joy that I, Reverend Jan Porter preside over the Marriage Ceremony of — and —.

Opening Prayer:

Let us bow our heads in Prayer:

God, family and friends, we have come together today to honour this joyful union with — and — as they pledge their love and commitment of matrimonial and spiritual union, affirming loving words spoken on this day in the presence of witnesses. Family, friends and community support this love relationship and by your presence today, affirms your love and support for them. May they always live in love and harmony together in accordance with their divine beingness.

Amen

Words of Assurance:

Marriage is a commitment to life – to the bet that two people can find and bring out in each other. It offers unique opportunities for sharing and growth that no other human relationship can equal.

Within the circle of love, marriage encompasses extensions of all of life's important relationships. A wife and husband grow into being each other's best friend, confidant, lover, teacher, listener and adviser. In times of life's challenges, a deeper and more profound love grows.

As a couple, there evolves a common vision for the future while individual aspirations are nourished.

Marriage naturally deepens and enriches all facets of life. Happiness is fuller; memories are deeper, commitment is stronger and challenges dissipate more rapidly.

Marriage is a compassionate understanding of the other's vulnerabilities, understands and forgives mistakes while nurturing and empowering to ensure that both aspire to their highest potential. It encourages and nurtures new life, new experiences and new ways of expressing love through the seasons of life.

As two individuals come together in love and care for each other in marriage, they create a unique spirit of oneness creating a bond of love that is grown in heart and soul.

Family and friends, I welcome you to this day of celebration. — and — have invited us here today to share in their dedication of love for each other. Your blessings, support and encouragement are important to this union, not only today but in the days and years to come.

It is with profound joy that we pause to affirm the power of love. As we gather to witness the spiritual union of —, — we also celebrate the blessings that we all cherish in all of our intimate relationships. This ceremony invites us all to renew our vows of love and commitment to one another.

Questions of Impediment:

I ask now that if anyone knows any lawful reason why these two people should not be re-joined in Holy Matrimony, please stand now or forever hold your peace.

— and —, you have signified your desire to confirm your Holy state of Matrimony, and no one has shown just cause why you may not. Do either of you know of any lawful impediment why you may not be married, if so, declare it now before God.

Consent:

I now ask you —, is it your desire to affirm your Marriage to this woman who is your beloved, your friend and whose heart you possess?

(Yes)

I now ask —, is it your desire to affirm your Marriage to this man who is your beloved, your friend and whose heart you possess?

(Yes)

*(Bride gives flowers to Maid of Honour, Groom holds Bride's hands.)

The Wedding Address:

Loving God, you have made this man and woman for each other; may your Spirit be with them as they make their promises one to the other as soul mates and companions. We ask for your blessing, support and care in this holy union.

Amen

Declaration of Intent:

— will you have — to continue to be your lawfully wedded wife, to live together in the Holy state of Matrimony? Will you love her, comfort her, honour her and keep her in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others remain loyal as long as you both shall live?

Groom: "I do."

— will you have — to continue to be your lawfully wedded husband, to live together in the Holy state of Matrimony? Will you love him, comfort him, honour him and keep him in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others remain loyal as long as you both shall live?

Bride: "I do."

Exchange of Vows:

(Name), I love you. You are my best friend. Today I give myself once again to you in marriage. I promise to encourage and inspire you, to laugh with you, and comfort you in times of sorrow and struggle. I promise to love you in good times and in bad, when life seems easy and when it seems hard, when our love is simple, and when it is an effort. I promise to cherish you, and to always hold you in highest regard. These things I give to you today, and all the days of our life.

(you can both say the same vows, or say completely different ones.)

Exchange of Rings: (Best Man and Maid of Honour approach, hold rings out front for Ministers blessing)

The circle of a ring symbolizes unity in love. Gold represents that which is precious and valued. As you give these rings to each other, our prayer is that your love will continue in precious unity forever. Wear things

rings as symbols of your love for one another. Let these rings serve not as binding locks, but as keys of your hearts thus bringing you closer together.

Amen

Groom - Take this ring and place it upon — finger and say to her;

“—, this ring is a token of my love. I marry you with this ring, with all that I have and all that I am.”

— - Take this ring and place it upon —’s finger and say to him;

“—, this ring is a token of my love. I marry you with this ring, with all that I have and all that I am.”

(Best Man and Maid of Honour return to their positions.)

As you have exchanged vows with one another, we witness the miracle of faith in love. As you gave and received these rings, we witnessed the miracle of hope.

Closing Prayer:

Let us bow our heads in Prayer:

May the love of God bless you both in your love, now and forever more. From this day forward, your thoughts shall be for each other as a couple’s highest good, with joys and sorrows shared alike. By allowing the flame of love to blend as one, you also accept the individuality of each other in fulfilling your oneness as a couple.

And now unto you – and to all present, may this blessing come upon you, that you be in love, grow in love, stand in love, and to act in love – through the God of love – both now and forevermore.

And so it is.

Amen.

Guest Reading: Sample:

As you continue on your journey together, I ask you to remember this advice: Let your love be stronger than your anger. Learn the wisdom of compromise, for it is better to bend than to break. Believe the best of your beloved rather than the worst. Confide in your partner and ask for help when you need it. Remember that true friendship is the basis for any lasting relationship.

Give your spouse the same courtesies and kindnesses you bestow on your friends. Say "I love you" every day.

Marriage Blessing:

We thank you God, for the love you have sown in our hearts. May it always inspire us, to be kind in word, considerate of feeling, compassionate and supportive of our vulnerabilities and concerned for each other’s needs and wishes. In God we bless this marriage, with peace, harmony and happiness and joy both here and in eternity.

Sharing with you these miracles gives me profound joy as I Reverend Jan Porter by virtue of the powers vested in me and by the Marriage Act do pronounce you married as husband and wife.

—, you may now kiss your bride.

Signing of the Registrar:

(couple follows Minister, return to positions, followed by Best Man and Maid of Honour)

(Couple turn and face audience, hand in hand.)

Introduction of Couple:

Ladies and Gentlemen, Family and friends, It gives me, Reverend Jan Porter, profound pleasure to re-introduce to you, Mr and Mrs —.

Exit Recessional:

(Couple exits inside audience, followed by children then Best Man and Maid of Honour then guests.)