

On behalf of Groom and Bride and their families, I would like to welcome each of you here today. Each one of you has been asked here today because your love, and support have made them who they are today and they felt it was important that you be here today to witness and to celebrate this new chapter in their lives.

Marriage is a beautiful relationship between two people. It is a union founded on love. Love is a friendship that has caught fire. It is quiet understanding, mutual confidence, sharing and forgiving. It is loyalty through good and bad. Love is content with the present. It hopes for the future and it doesn't brood over the past. If you have love in your life it can make up for a great many things you lack. If you do not have love in your life, no matter what else there is, it is not enough.

Groom, I now ask you, do you take Bride to be your wife? Do you promise to live together in marriage, to love, honor and cherish her, remaining faithful to her always?

Bride, do you take Groom to be your husband? Do you promise to live together in marriage, to love, honor and cherish him, remaining faithful to him always?

Groom and Bride have chosen the tradition of handfasting which symbolizes the binding of two people in love – literally tying the knot. The handfasting cord is made from two strands, one representing Bride and one representing Groom.

Now, please join hands so that they may be bound. Remember then as your hands are bound, that these ties are not the ones that bind, but are rather cords that signify the uniting of two lives into one. You will be bound by your love as represented by your clasped hands from now until the end of your days.

(Cords are wrapped around hands and knotted)

I'd like for you to think about the hands that you are each holding.

These are the hands of your best friend
Holding your hands on your wedding day
Promising to love you and to work together as you build your future.
These are the hands that will give you
Strength when you need strength
Tenderness when you need tenderness
And love when you need love.
These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes

Tears of sorrow

But also tears of joy.

These are the hands that years from now will still be searching for your hands,
Still seeking the love, encouragement and support that each of you receives from
the other

Treasure these hands that you see before you this day. May they always reach out
with love, gentleness, and respect. May they build a loving relationship that last a
lifetime, may they always be held by one another. May these hands heal, protect,
shelter, and guide.

Groom, please look at Bride and repeat these words:

Bride, you are the love of my life, and my best friend.
I promise to love you in good times and in difficult times
I promise to encourage you, and to laugh with you,
I promise to stand by you and cherish you all the days of my life

Bride, please repeat these vows to Groom:

Groom, you are the love of my life, and my best friend.
I promise to love you in good times and in difficult times
I promise to encourage you, and to laugh with you,
I promise to stand by you and cherish you all the days of my life

Now, I will remove the cords, but remember the knot as a lasting symbol of your
vows, binding and commitment.

(Cords are removed.)

Wedding rings are unbroken circles, symbols of eternity, with neither beginning
nor end. They are to remind you not only of the endless love you profess for one
another on this day, but of the precious gift of trust, honesty and commitment that
you place in one another for all of your tomorrows. From this day forward you will
wear these rings as a sign that no matter where you go and whatever you do, there
is someone in this world who loves you more than anything else, who is always by
your side.

Groom, Please place her ring on Bride's ring finger and repeat to her after me:

Bride, I give you this ring As a symbol of my love. And so that you will always remember That I have chosen you To be the one to share my life.

Bride, please place his ring on Groom's ring finger and repeat after me:

Groom, I give you this ring as a symbol of my love. And as a reminder That I have chosen you To be the one To share my life.

Marriage is love walking hand in hand together. It's laughing with each other about silly little things with care and tenderness. It's thinking of new things to do together; It's growing old together. It's the realization that there is no one else in the world that you'd rather be with than the one you are how married to. Marriage means being in love for the rest of your life.

Pronouncement and Kiss: And so, having spoken your vows to one another and sealed your vows with the giving and receiving of these rings, it is my privilege to pronounce you husband and wife. Groom, you may kiss your bride!

Ladies and gentlemen, I now present to you Mrs. And Mrs. Groom and Bride Last Name!