



Reverend Pamela L. Brehm, RHy, CtH

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Home

Ceremonies

Packages

Testimonials and Photos

Contact Us

Wedding Ceremony #4

Convocation

We are gathered today to unite Mary and John in marriage. This celebration is but an outward sign of an inward union of heart, mind and spirit. This is a celebration of the joining of two souls already attuned to each other. When such a true bond already exists between a man and a woman, it is fitting that an outer acknowledgment be made. We are here to bear witness to the entry into the closer relationship of husband and wife of these beloved friends who are already one in spirit.

Expression of Intent to Marry

Mary and John, is it true that you come of your own free will and accord? **[Yes, it is true.]**

The Exchange of Vows

Please join hands, and Mary repeat after me:

I, Mary, take you, John, 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.
What 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.

John repeat after me:

I, John, take you, Mary, 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.
What 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.

The Blessing and Exchange of Rings

Traditionally, the marking of the passage to status of husband and wife is marked by the exchange of rings. These rings are 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. God bless these rings and may they always remind you of the vows you have taken.

Mary, please take John's ring and place it on his finger as you repeat after me:

With this ring, I thee wed.

John, please take Mary's ring and place it on her finger as you repeat after me:

With this ring, I thee wed.

The Pronouncement of Marriage

As you have heard, Mary and John have made their wedding vows and exchanged rings as a covenant of their new relationship. We now declare they are husband and wife in the name of God, for all time. Blessings to you both!

Blessing

Give to one another new experiences of joy. Challenge one another so that you may grow. May the love you hold for each other, now sealed in marriage, continue to mature with the passing years. May you never take each other for granted, but always experience the wonder of your union. Be slow to anger, quick to forgive, leaving no tracks of resentment behind each day. May your love consist not only in gazing into each other's eyes, but in looking outward in the same direction. May your life together be a source of strength and inspiration to yourselves, your families, your friends, and to all those whose lives you touch.

Congratulations, you may kiss to seal your vows.

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