

# Many Blessings Standard Ceremony #1

## Welcoming:

Welcome! What a joy it is to come together today to celebrate the love of Bride and Groom, to share in this ceremony of their commitment to each other in marriage. They are grateful you could be here with them on this very special day.

**Who gives this bride in marriage?** optional

## Prayer - optional

Let us begin by acknowledging the presence of God and the love that draws us all together with a time of prayer.

Dear God

In stillness and in trust we recognize your presence. We know your love drew these two together, Bride and Groom, that they may live the adventure of life as one. We also know that your love drew each of us together so that we might add our love and blessings to this marriage. We affirm that you are with us now as always guiding us, upholding us and blessing us with abundance of health, success and faith. Amen

## Thoughts on Marriage:

It is Divine love that has brought these two souls together in this adventure called life. Bride and Groom, are entering into this commitment fully aware of the purpose of marriage.

May we each take this occasion to remember there are no categories of love. The love that is real is the love that lies at the heart of every relationship. This love does not change with form nor circumstance. This relationship between Bride and Groom, creates the stage where love can be expressed.

And to you Bride and Groom, you are reminded that the purpose of marriage reminds you to respond in love. To offer gentleness, to forgive, to nurture, and to support and encourage each other. The commitment of sharing love with each other is an invitation to knowing you are a friend to each other. Friends share their secret hopes, their dreams and aspirations. Friends encourage each other to explore and enjoy life.

## Vows:

Bride and Groom, would like to publicly share a vow of commitment with each other in your presence.

Groom do you choose Bride as your wife?

Do you pledge to share your life with her openly, to tell the truth to her in love?

Do you promise to honor and tenderly care for her, to cherish and encourage her own fulfillment as an individual, and to love and respect her through all the changes of your lives?

If so, please answer, "I do."

**Bride**, do you choose **Groom** as your husband?

Do you pledge to share your life with him openly, to tell the truth to him in love?

Do you promise to honor and tenderly care for him, to cherish and encourage his own fulfillment as an individual, and to love and respect him through all the changes of your lives?

If so, please answer, "I do."

### **Blessing of the Rings:**

You have chosen to exchange rings as a symbol of your love. These rings come in the shape of a circle - reminding you love is a continuous journey: there is no beginning and no end to love. The substance from which these rings are made of symbolized purity - this is a new beginning in your with one another. Exchanging rings reminds you that you no longer live for your self-alone, but for each other as well.

Please repeat after me

I **Groom** join with you **Bride**,  
in marriage, as my partner in life.

I commit to be with you...

as your support, and friend..

to love, respect and to cherish you  
throughout life's journey.

Wear this ring as a symbol of my love.

I **Bride**, join with you **Groom**,  
in marriage, as my partner in life.

I commit to be with you...

as your support, and friend..

to love, respect and to cherish you  
throughout life's journey.

Wear this ring as a symbol of my love.

### **CLOSING PRAYER - OPTIONAL**

Let us join now in a prayer and blessing for the marriage  
of **Bride** and **Groom**:

Spirit of Love and Life: out of this whole world, two souls have found each other.  
Their destinies shall now be woven into one design, and their challenges and  
their joys shall not be known apart.

**Bride** and **Groom**, may your home be a place of happiness for all who enter it;  
a place where the old and the young are renewed in each other's company, a  
place for growing and a place for sharing, a place for music and a place for  
laughter, a place for prayer and a place for love.

May those who are nearest to you be constantly enriched by the beauty and the  
bounty of your love for one another, may your work be a joy of your life that  
serves the world, and may your days be good and long upon the Earth. Amen.

**Pronouncement:**

By the power vested in me by the State of Pennsylvania, it is with great joy that I now pronounce you to be husband and wife

**Kiss**

**Introduction of Couple:**

**Bride and Groom**, you have declared before all of us that you will now live your lives together in marriage. You have made special promises to each other, which have been symbolized by the joining of hands, taking of vows and giving and receiving of rings. Now that the ceremony is over and the experience of daily living is about to begin, go and meet it gladly.

And now it is my pleasure of presenting to you, for the first time in public as husband and wife: Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_