

Non Religious 6

(Sealed Love)

Welcome

Welcome family and friends! We are assembled here to today because (Bride) & (Groom) chose all of us to celebrate their wedding with them we are here to witness their dreams unfold and to support our beautiful bride and groom as they begin their wedding day as two individuals and become one in marriage. We are here to celebrate with them and for them, to rejoice with them and shed tears of joy for them. We are here to celebrate the beginning of their new journey as husband and wife.

(Optional: We can insert here a special story, a favorite poem, how you met, anything personal you would like to add to your ceremony)

Opening:

Today is the day our bride and groom will end their solitary journey and begin a new journey, a new commitment, a new bond, the melting together of the two lives into one. Love is a mysterious process. It is a physical and emotional undertaking. Edmond O'Neill says it best

On Marriage, By Edmund O'Neill

Marriage is a commitment to life - to the best that two people can find and bring out in each other. It offers opportunities for sharing and growth that no other human relationship can equal, a joining that is promised for a lifetime. Within the circle of its love, marriage encompasses all of life's most important relationships. A wife and a husband are each other's best friend, confidant, lover, teacher, listener, and critic. There may come times when one partner is heartbroken or ailing, and the love of the other may resemble the tender caring of a parent for a child. Marriage deepens and enriches every facet of life. Happiness is fuller; memories are fresher; commitment is stronger; even anger is felt more strongly, and passes away more quickly. Marriage understands and forgives the mistakes life is unable to avoid. It encourages and nurtures new life, new experiences, and new ways of expressing love through the seasons of life. When two people pledge to love and care for each other in marriage they create a spirit unique to themselves, which binds them closer than any spoken or written words. Marriage is a promise, a potential, made in the hearts of two people who love, which takes a lifetime to fulfill.

Address:

(Bride & Groom)

Today is a joyous occasion, but marriage is not always like this. Just as you both have ups & down's, and high and low's so does a marriage. You will have times of great joy and also times of sorrow. When you have those difficult days that are the time you both have to dig deep within yourselves. You will find days when you may

say hurtful things to each other or are less than tolerant of each other, but you must always be able to forgive and go on. Take these opportunities to deepen your love, and your commitment to each other; this is the maturing of your relationship. This journey you have begun today will take you too many places in your relationship, may twists and turns, happy occasions and sad occasions. Planned and unplanned events will cross your paths. Embrace those changes, they are giving you the opportunity to take your journey together, and deepen your love more than you could ever imagine. As you stand together today and proclaim your love publically to each other and the world remember what those words stand for. You are promising to love each other through the turmoil's of life. You both have been given a beautiful gift of love. Remember to remember Love. Love is what brought you together and love will prevail.

Reading:

"Marriage Means Being In Love for the Rest of Your Life" by Chris Ardis

Marriage is love walking hand in hand together. It's laughing with each other about silly little things, and learning to discuss big things with care and tenderness. In marriage, love is trusting each other when you're apart. It's getting over disappointments and hurts, knowing that these are present in all relationships. It's the realization that there is no one else in this world that you'd rather be with than the one you're married to. It's thinking of new things to do together; It's growing old together. Marriage is being in love for the rest of your life.

Declaration of Intent:

Bride & Groom in just a few moments you are going to say your vows to one another. I would first like to remind you that marriage is a precious gift, A lifelong dedication to love and a daily challenge to love one another more fully and more freely. That will be the foundation of your relationship. With that understanding I ask you to face each other and join hands

Vows:

Option 1 : Repeat after Vows

_____, repeat after me: I, _____, take you _____, to be my wedded wife, To have and to hold from this day forward, For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, In sickness and in health, to love and to cherish as long as we both shall live.

_____, repeat after me: I, _____, take you _____, to be my wedded husband, To have and to hold from this day forward, For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, In sickness and in health, To love and to cherish as long as we both shall live.

Option 2: Respond "I Do" Vows:

Groom Do you take bride to be your wedded wife? (I DO)

Do you promise to be a tender faithful husband? (I Do)

Do you promise to Love, Honor and cherish her in sickness and in Health, for richer or poorer, for better or for worse as long as you both shall live? (I Do)

Bride Do You take Groom to be your wedded husband? (I DO)

Do you promise to be a tender faithful wife? (I Do)

Do you promise to Love, Honor and cherish him in sickness and in Health, for richer or poorer, for better or for worse as long as you both shall live? (I Do)

Option 3: *Your own vows*

Rings:

Rings are a precious metal; they are also made precious by us wearing them. Your wedding rings are special they enhance who you are. They mark the beginning of your long journey together. Your wedding ring is a circle a symbol of love never ending. It is the seal of the vows you have just taken to love each other with end.

_____ please place the ring on Brides left hand and repeat after me:

A: I give you this ring as a symbol of my vows, I promise to love you today tomorrow always

B: I give you this ring that I am bound to you always through my love, with my soul and all of my heart

C: I give you this ring as a sign of my love that I have chosen you above all else with this ring I thee wed

Pronouncement:

'Love'

A word that promises so many happy tomorrows, That gives meaning to everyday moments of sharing .That strengthens and supports in difficult time..That makes a commitment that never ends. Today is the beginning of a whole new life together A life of special moments, shared with love. Today is the beginning of countless bright tomorrows..Filled with all the special dreams you are dreaming of. May the happiness you have found together be yours throughout a lifetime of love."

Bride & Groom you have heard the words about love and marriage. You have declared your commitment to each other before us today and you expressed your love by the giving and receiving of rings. I now pronounce you husband and wife.

Kiss:

You may seal your vows with a kiss

You may kiss your beautiful bride

Sealed Love:

Family and Friends before we end this beautiful ceremony today our Bride & Groom have a gift for each other:

Marriage is a lifelong journey. You will travel roads of happiness and roads of sorrow. You will travel roads that take you into the known and unknown. You will share good times and bad. You will have bumps in the

road and easy carefree travel. Your journey will bring tears of joy and tears of sadness. You will grow and mature together as you travel down this road of life. These challenges of marriage will bring you closer together than you could ever imagine. It will take a commitment of patience, understanding and unselfish love. Today you will give each other your first gift. This gift is not to be opened today but sealed today just as you have sealed your relationship by exchanging of rings and publically stating your vows of commitment to each other. In this chest of love we will place this bottle of sparkling wine, the same type of sparkling wine you will later today toast and celebrate your marriage with. We will also place in this chest the letter you have each written to each other expressing your hopes and dreams for the future. And lastly we will place in this chest a copy of your ceremony as it was officiated here today. I ask you at this time to lock the chest and place it in your home where it will be a quiet reminder of this day your wedding day. On your (25th) wedding anniversary together open this chest, pour a glass of the aged sparkling wine, read your letters of love and together read your vows just as you did here today, your wedding day. Reflect on how much you have grown and matured, how much deeper your love is for each other and most importantly have a toast with your sparkling wine celebrating that you have traveled that road and made it hand in hand together.

Introduction:

Family & Friends may I introduce to you for the first time as a married couple: Mr. & Mrs. _____!