

“A New Directory For The Public Worship Of God”

Circa 1900

Wedding Ceremony

Declaration by Minister

We are here met in the sight of God and in the face of this congregation [before these witnesses] to join together this man and this woman in the honourable estate of matrimony.

Marriage is a divine ordinance whose sanctity is to be jealously guarded. It is the foundation of the Christian home with its priceless blessings. It is ordained for the mutual help and comfort of husband and wife, and their edification in the Christian life. The sacredness of the marriage bond is used in Scripture as a fitting symbol of the mystical union between Christ and His Church.

Into this holy estate these two persons now desire to enter, and no reason has been alleged why they may not lawfully be joined together. Let us therefore unite in prayer for God’s blessing on what is now to be done in His name.

Prayer

Oh, lord , we thank you for your manifold goodness; your love towards sinners in Jesus Christ; the gladness of human life; the sympathies which bind us to each other and the love of husband and wife.

Vows

All standing. The congregation should be reminded of this, if needful.

The minister shall say to the bridegroom and Bride:-

In token of the covenant which you are now about to make, take each other by the right hand.

The minister shall say to the bridegrooms:-

Do you, A. B., take C. D., to be your wedded wife, and do you, in the presence of God and before this congregation, promise and covenant to be to him a loving, faithful, and dutiful wife, until God shall separate you by death?

The Bridegroom shall answer-

I do.

The minister shall say to the bride:-

Do you, C. D. take A. B., whom you hold by the hand, to be your wedded husband; and do you, in the presence of God and before this before this congregation, promise and covenant to be him a loving, faithful, and dutiful wife, until God shall separate you by death?

The bride shall answer-

I do.

The Marriage Ring

The Bridegroom and Bride shall loose hands, and the Minister shall say:

As a pledge of the covenant you have made with each other, the marriage ring is now given and received.

The Bridegroom shall place the ring on the third finger of the Bride’s left hand.

Declaration of Marriage

The Minister shall say:-

I declare these two to be husband and wife, In the name of the father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Whom therefore God Hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Blessing

The Minister shall say:-

The Lord sanctify and bless you; the Lord pour the riches of His grace upon you, that you may please Him, and live together in holy love to your lives' end.

The Anthem "The Lord bless you," may then be sung, all standing.

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