**Wedding Ceremony**

**Ladies and Gentlemen: We have come together in the presence of this company to witness and bless the joining together of this man and this woman in the bonds of Matrimony. The covenant of marriage of husband and wife in heart, body and mind is intended for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given by each to the other in prosperity and adversity. Therefore marriage is not to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, deliberately, and in accordance with the purposes for which it was instituted.**

**Into this union ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, now come to be joined.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How Do I Love Thee? (Sonnet 43)  |    |
| by [Elizabeth Barrett Browning](http://www.poets.org/poet.php/prmPID/152)  |
|  |
| How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.I love thee to the depth and breadth and heightMy soul can reach, when feeling out of sightFor the ends of being and ideal grace.I love thee to the level of every day'sMost quiet need, by sun and candle-light.I love thee freely, as men strive for right.I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.I love thee with the passion put to useIn my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.I love thee with a love I seemed to loseWith my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,I shall but love thee better after death. |  |

**And now we will have the vows of marriage:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, will you have this man to be your husband; to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, will you have this woman to be your wife; to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health, and, forsaking all others be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?**

**THE VOWS: (Repeat)**

**I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to be my 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, until we are parted by death. This is my solemn vow.**

**I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to be my 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, until we are parted by death. This is my solemn vow.**

**RINGS**

**This ring I give you, in token and pledge of our constant faith and abiding love.**

**Now that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have given themselves to each other by solemn vows with the joining of hands and hearts, and the exchange of rings, by the powers vested in me by the State of Georgia, I pronounce that they are husband and wife.**

**BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the Lord bless you, and keep you: the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you: the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His peace. Amen.**

**You may kiss the bride.**

**Introduction:**

**Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**