

Loyal Heart MINISTRIES

www.loyalheartministries.com

Wedding Ceremony 2:00 PM

Prelude (piano)

Seating of the honorary bridesmaids (piano)

Song 1 - 1:50pm

Seating of grandmothers

Chiming of the Hour (organ) 2:00pm

Seating of the Mothers "*Amazing Grace*" (piano)

Greeting & Welcome -

Minister: We come together today to affirm the union in marriage of _____ . Our presence together is not for the sole purpose of observation, but also for the promise of dedication. We dedicate ourselves today to support this couple in the commitment they make before us and God. We assemble to uniformly proclaim our belief that marriage is ordained by God. We unite our hearts to worship God by affirming the solemn vows that we are blessed to witness _____ will make in just a few moments. We worship our Lord by giving thanks in our hearts as songs are voiced for His praise, Prayers are prayed for His guidance, and vows are rendered for His work in uniting this couple.

This couple prayed much for wisdom from God in order to make this a service of worship. They both wanted to share a testimony of their salvation. They recognize that the greatest moment in their lives is not today, but the day when each gave their hearts to Jesus. It is because of that moment and their submissive obedience to the call of God upon their lives, that God put them together for His service. [Read Testimonies Here]

So as we admire the beauty of this pageantry, let us also admire the wonder of God's gift of marriage. As our eyes explore the symmetry of the ceremony, let our hearts adore the supremacy of our Savior, who alone can make hearts pure and ready for such a step of faith.

Loyal Heart MINISTRIES

As the processional is now inaugurated let us rejoice and make ourselves ready for the marriage supper of the Lamb that will soon take place as the saints of God assemble at the altar of Heaven and triumphantly process to the throne of God.

Processional "*More Precious Than Silver/I Stand in Awe/To God Be The Glory*"
(organ)

Divine Ordinance of Marriage

Minister: Family and Friends we are here assembled in the presence of God to celebrate the union of _____. We celebrate that God has brought them together to this place and this time for the purpose of declaring their love and life commitment to each other. We celebrate the way we know God is going to bless their home and family as they commit themselves to Him. We celebrate that God has given us the gift of marriage, that we may glorify Him by living as demonstration of His love for us.

_____ your union is not only a connection of your lives it is also a continuation of the call of God upon your lives. It is a call to take up the torch of faithfulness that the two of you have witnessed all these years in your parents and run the next lap of faith, so that the generation to follow will see in you the love of God. _____, God gave _____ a father who loves the Lord Jesus and invests his life in serving the Lord. She knows what it is to have a man of God in the home and it is now your call to be that man of God in her home. _____, God gave _____ a mother that invested much in him and lived godly in Christ Jesus. He knows what it is to have a woman of God in the home. It is now your call to be that woman of God in his home.

It is a call to obedience. _____ you are called to obey God's Word by sacrificially giving of yourself to _____ that she may continue to mature as a woman of God. _____ you are called to obey God's word by submissively surrendering yourself to be a constant encourager of _____ pursuit to build a godly home and develop himself as a man who walks with God.

A Wedding Ceremony is a time of worship filled with symbols, pictures that remind us of the love that Christ has for us. It is not only a time to admire the beauty of its pageantry, but a time to adore the Lord whom instituted marriage as a privilege of grace. The symbols that have come to be common in our marriage ceremonies are considerable in the manner they draw attention to our Lord.

Loyal Heart MINISTRIES

As the attendants marched down the aisle we got a picture of the call of God for all to come to the wedding feast. It is symbol that all who come can take part of that union with God through Jesus Christ. The Bible says all who call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. The aisles filled with those coming to honor the union of _____ remind us of the grace offer for us to come and join the eternal union of the body of Christ by His saving grace.

As we turned just moments ago awaiting the entrance _____ the bride, it was a reminder of the entrance that all those in Christ eagerly await. The entrance of the Lord Jesus. The Bible says that the Lord will descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God and all believers will meet Him in the air and be with him for all eternity. It is the next great anticipated event in the church. When the doors were opened and _____ stepped into this room, we got a little glimpse of the glory of God that will surround our Lord when He makes His grand entrance to call His bride the church home for eternity.

The bible teaches that marriage is a permanent relationship of one man and one woman freely and totally committed to each other as companions for life. Our society has reduced marriage to probationary period with the option of negotiating a breakup if partners habitually disagree. The Bible, from the inception of marriage, demonstrates God's plan for permanency in this relationship. In the book of Genesis, the book of beginnings we read that none of God's creation was suitable to be man's companion and helper. So out of mans side, God created woman.

It has been said that God took woman from man's side as a picture of God's designed order with in the home. From his side showed that the woman is to compliment and support her husband in the call of God upon his life.

_____ as the spiritual leader of your home you are commissioned by God to seek his face and lead _____ in the way of righteousness.

_____ you are commissioned to follow the leadership of your husband as a wife committed to God's plan for the family.

God took the woman from under his arm demonstrating that it is the man's responsibility to protect his wife and provide an environment of security for her to fulfill her responsibilities before the Lord. _____, God has great plans for your life. He desires for you to live godly in Christ Jesus and demonstrate the virtues of a woman passionate first and foremost about following Christ. _____ it is your responsibility to create a home environment that allows _____ to flourish in her passionate pursuit of God's glory.

Loyal Heart MINISTRIES

God took woman from near the heart of man. _____, you are to love _____ as Christ loved the church. _____ you are to love _____ with an unyielding devotion. Jesus said that the world would know that we are His disciples by the manner in which we love one another. Your love for one another in home, as two followers of Christ, will be reflected in the way you talk to and about each other in public. That public display of love, which stems from a godly love relationship at home, will serve as a voluminous witness to the world that your marriage belongs to Jesus.

That OT book of beginnings has another command of God for this day. It is the command that the man is to leave his parents and become one with his wife, and that nothing: no tragedy, no sorrow, no sin, nothing is to separate this union that is ordained by God and sealed by His grace.

Giving of the Bride _____

A father placing his daughter in the hands of her husband is a picture of Jesus presenting His bride, the church, to the heavenly Father. On that day when we march into heaven Jesus will say Father, here is the bride. I have given my life for her, I have loved her, protected her, cared for her and I now present her to you. It is a father's responsibility to protect the purity of his daughter in order that the formal presentation on this day is one that is honoring to the Lord. _____ instilled in _____, very early in life, the value of living as a godly young woman. He answered God's call to be a protector of his daughter.

That protection comes from the father building a godly home in which there is an environment that encourages godliness; it comes from a father demonstrating love to his wife in a manner that establishes a benchmark by which his daughter knows how a man of God is to treat a woman of God.

_____ as _____ is now placed on your arm it is no small exchange. When you asked _____ for his blessing on your relationship with _____ you promised to love her, protect her, and care for her. You promised to honor her. For _____ to place _____ in your hands is a demonstration of the utmost trust. It is like a King handing over the promise of his throne. By doing so he is saying, I trust you with what I have invested my life; I have confidence that you will be faithful to pour your love on her as I have. It is an act of _____ saying before God and this congregation, "I believe you will care for her as I cared for her." It is the

Loyal Heart MINISTRIES

transfer of responsibility from _____ to you. You now hold the responsibility for _____ growth in godliness; you now hold the responsibility for creating an environment in your home that encourages godliness. As _____ is presented to you, so now you commit to _____ to uphold the sacred trust he is placing in your care.

Minister: _____ who gives _____ to be joined in marriage to _____?

_____: Her Mother and I

[Couple Ascends Stairs to Platform]

Song 2 -

Exchange of Vows

_____, I charge you both as you stand in the presence of these witnesses and God to remember that love and faithful loyalty to the Word of God alone will prevail as the foundation for a happy and enduring home. And if these vows which you are about to make, be kept faithfully, and if steadfastly you endeavor to do the will of your heavenly Father, your life will be full of joy and the home which you are establishing will abide in peace. The passionate pursuit of faithfulness to God's Word must be established early in your life together as the guiding determinate by which all you do is measured. It is a joy to see the two of you already working through the scriptures to determine what His will is for your every step.

In Ephesians 5 the Apostle Paul establishes guidelines for husband and wife to follow in order to build a godly home. In that text we learn the role of the wife and the role of the husband. Both the role of the husband and the role of the wife are a reflection of the relationship that exists between Christ and the church.

Just as the church willingly comes under the leadership of Christ, the wife willingly follows the leadership of her husband. God has given the wife a role of support in the home. She is to voluntarily allow her husband to be the spiritual leader of the home. It does not mean that the wife is a silent partner or a mindless follower, but that her husband has an excellent reputation because of her devotion to Christ. _____ I am confident that your reputation

Loyal Heart MINISTRIES

will never be damaged, but only increased by _____ godly lifestyle. A godly wife will by no means conduct herself in a manner that would reflect poorly on her spiritual leader or her Lord.

In like fashion as Christ loved the church, so too must the husband love the wife. Sacrificing all that she may be pure. Giving of his time that she may experience his love. This love is not only a sacrificial love, it is also a cleansing love. The husband loves his wife by demonstrating the purifying work of Christ. He is commissioned to guard the home from immorality, ungodliness, and impurities that can harm his and his wife's walk with Christ. The husband loves his wife by demonstrating the compassion of Christ. He supplies her emotional and spiritual needs. _____ no greater statement will _____ ever make of you than to say, "_____ is my spiritual leader; he pastor's our home." _____, I am confident that your home will be a place where you continue to grow in Christ under the leadership of a husband who will Pastor his family. The husband loves his wife by displaying the limitless nature of Christ's love for us. To leave your parents and cleave to your wife is God's call that the commitment you now enter is unbreakable in the site of God.

The indestructible foundation of marriage is faith in Christ as Savior and Lord of your lives. When human and natural affections fail you, His love will sustain you. I encourage you both to pray together, daily, as is already your practice. Commit your home, marriage, and life to the Lord. No other human tie is more honoring to God than the faithful union of a man of God and a woman of God.

One of the common misconceptions of our day is that two do not equal a family. There will be some well intending by biblically deficient folks that will come along and ask, "Now, when are you going to start your family." The answer is, "we are a family." It is important for you to know that when a couple unites in marriage a family has been made, a home has been established. The home is built on love, which is best portrayed in I Cor. 13, "Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love faith hope abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

Marriage is a companionship, which involves mutual commitment and responsibility. You will share alike in the responsibilities and joys of life. _____ there will never be an issue that you can say, "that is _____ problem." _____ there will never be a struggle _____ faces that you can say, "you are on your own to figure this one

Loyal Heart MINISTRIES

out." God has already allowed you two to face some challenges that come with a young couple in the ministry. You have exemplified maturity beyond your years, because you remained faithful to God's Word, and asked only how you could honor Him in the decision to be made. You are becoming one, just as the body of Christ is one. When companions share a sorrow the sorrow is halved, when they share joy, the joy is doubled.

You are exhorted to dedicate your home to your creator. Take his Word, the Bible, for your guide. We are commanded to saturate our homes and lives with Scripture and this task you must give diligent attention to. Give loyal devotion to His church, live your lives as His willing servants.

[JOIN HANDS AND TAKE THE FOLLOWING VOWS]

Minister to Groom: _____ do you take _____ to be your wife, to live together in God's will, as husband and wife? Do you promise to love her as Christ loves the church, comfort her as the Holy Spirit comforts you, and give to her as the Father gave His Son? Do you commit to honor and keep her in sickness and in health, denying all others, be hers alone as long as you both shall live?

Groom: I DO

Minister to Bride: _____ do you take _____ to be your husband, to live together in God's will as husband and wife? Do you promise to encourage him, commit to love him, comfort him and care for him with tenderness and compassion, denying all others, be his alone as long as you both shall live?

Bride: I DO

Presentation of Rings

[The bride will hand her flowers to the maid of honor. The engagement ring will be left at home or transferred to the right hand prior to the processional. The minister will receive the ring from the Best Man.]

Minister: The wedding ring is a symbol of marriage in at least two ways: the purity of the gold symbolizes the purity of your love for each other, and unending circle symbolizes the unending vows you have just taken, which may

Loyal Heart MINISTRIES

be broken honorably in the sight of God only by death. As a token of your vows you will give and receive the rings.

[Minister places ring in grooms hand; Groom places ring on brides finger]

Minister: _____ will you give this ring to _____ and repeat after me.

“_____, I give you this ring, as a symbol of my love, and promise to fulfill, the vow I made to you. I pledge my life to you in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”

[Minister receives ring from the Maid of Honor and places it in brides hand.

Bride places it on Grooms finger]

Minister: _____ will you give this ring to _____ and repeat after me. “_____, I give you this ring, as a symbol of my love, and promise to fulfill, the vow I made to you. I pledge my life to you in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”

Prayer

Song

Pronunciation of Marriage

Minister: Since they have made these commitments before God and this assembly, by the authority of God I declare that _____ are husband and wife. _____ you are no longer two independent persons but one. What God has united let no one separate. YOU MAY KISS YOUR BRIDE

Presentation of the Couple

[Couple will turn and face the congregation]

Minister: It is my privilege to present for the very first time

Mr. & Mrs. _____

Recessional