

## GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

While the people gather, instrumental or vocal music may be offered. During the entrance of the wedding party, there may be instrumental music, or a hymn, a psalm, a canticle, or an anthem.

The pastor and groomsmen usually enter from the side after seating the Bride's Mother.

The order of entrance down the main aisle is typically:

1. Seating Guests
2. Seating Grandparents
3. Seating Groom's Parents
4. Seating Bride's Mother
5. Bridesmaids
6. Maid of Honor
7. Flower Girl and Ring Bearer
8. Bride

## PROCESSIONAL

Pastor: We welcome you all for this joyous occasion.

We ask that you turn off cell phones and other electronic devices at this time. There is no flash photography or unauthorized videotaping during the ceremony. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

GREETINGS:

Rev. McCombe

Dearly beloved, we are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man, GROOM, and this woman, BRIDE, in holy matrimony, which is an honorable estate, instituted of God, and signifying unto us the mystical union that exists between Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence in Cana of Galilee. It is therefore not to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God. Into this holy estate these two persons come now to be joined.

DECLARATION OF INTENTION

Rev. McCombe

I require and charge you both, as you stand in the presence of God, before whom the secrets of all hearts are disclosed, that, having duly considered the holy covenant you are about to make, you do now declare before this company your pledge of faith, each to the other. Be well assured that if these solemn vows are kept inviolate, as God's word demands, and if steadfastly you endeavor to do the will of your heavenly Father, God will bless your marriage, will grant you fulfillment in it, and will establish your home in peace.

GROOM, will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony? will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

GROOM: I will.

BRIDE, will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony? will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and be faithful to him so long as you both shall live?

BRIDE: I will.

PRESENTATION

Rev. McCombe

who presents this woman to be married to this man?

Presenter/s : I do

The presenter may then be seated.

**READING I Corinthians 13**

The couple moves to the altar with maid/matron of honor and best man. The bride gives her flowers to her maid/matron of honor.

#### EXCHANGE OF VOWS

Rev. McCombe

The woman and man face each other, joining hands. The pastor may prompt them, line by line.

Man to woman

I, GROOM, take you, BRIDE, 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, till death do us part.

woman to man

I, BRIDE, take you, GROOM, 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, till death do us part.

BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS

Rev. McCombe

The pastor, taking the rings, may say:

The wedding ring is the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, signifying to all the uniting of this man and woman in holy matrimony, through the Church of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The pastor may bless the giving of rings:

Bless, O Lord, the giving of these rings, that they who wear them may abide in thy peace, and continue in thy favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The common custom is for the husband to give the wife her ring before the wife gives the husband his ring. while placing the ring on the third finger of the recipient's left hand, the giver may say (prompted, line by line, by the pastor):

In token and pledge of our constant faith and abiding love, with this ring I thee wed, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE

Rev. McCombe

The wife and husband join hands. The pastor may place a hand on or wrap a stole around their joined hands.

Forasmuch as BRIDE and GROOM have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith each to the other, and have declared the same by joining hands and by giving and receiving rings; I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Those whom God hath joined together, let no one put asunder. Amen.

## CANDLELIGHTING (Organ music)

Rev. McCombe: We will now share in the candlelighting ceremony.

(Bride and groom light candles and the unity candle)

## BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE

Rev. McCombe

The husband and wife may kneel, as the pastor prays:

O eternal God, creator, and preserver of us all, giver of all spiritual grace, the author of everlasting life: Send thy blessing upon BRIDE and GROOM, whom we bless in thy name; that they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together and live according to thy laws. Look graciously upon them, that they may love, honor, and cherish each other, and so live together in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and a place of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

## DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Rev. McCombe

God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord graciously look with his favor upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and love that you may so live together in this life that in the world to come you may have life everlasting. Amen.

GOING FORTH

NUPTIAL KISS    The Pastor to groom: “You may kiss the bride.”

The honor attendant gives the bride her flowers and adjusts her train.

INTRODUCTION

Rev. McCombe

Pastor to congregation:

By the authority vested in me, I have the honor of introducing for the first time

RECESSIONAL

ORGAN POSTLUDE