

WEDDINGS.....Elliott #933
CELEBRATION 20 Feb 77 wedding written by two
of the Episcopalians using my service + The
MARRIAGE Book of Common Prayer. He, lawyer;
she, fifth-grade PS teacher.
of
JOYCE and ROLF

1. CALL TO WORSHIP AND REJOICE -

Rev. Elliott:

Dearly Beloved we are assembled together on this day in the presence of God and each other to celebrate the marriage of Joyce and Rolf, and to pray for God's blessings upon them.

Marriage is an honorable estate instituted by God, regulated by His commandments, blessed by Our Lord, and signifying His union with His Church. Remember that Christ adorned and beautified marriage by His first miracle at Cana in Galilee.

Joyce and Rolf, God has called upon you to love one another and to find happiness together, to comfort one another in sickness trouble or sorrow, to accept one another as you are, to provide the necessities of life for each other, and to live together as heirs of the grace of life.

Marriage is a joyous adventure requiring honesty and industry from each of you. You are well advised in seeking God's blessings here before these friends and throughout your lives. I encourage you to continue to pray for each other and for all of the spiritual and temporal benefits which you require. Your lives will be enriched by remembering that Christ is the outstanding example of a transcendent love which has enlightened mankind for centuries past.

Prayer

O living Lord whose goodness and mercy endures to all generations, teaching us to have faith, hope and love, and that love is the greatest commandment of all, unite us all in this holy festival of love, and especially these, your two children.

Let us recall that the love of which we speak is ever patient, ever kind, knows no jealousy, has no pride, is never selfish, never irritated, never gladdened by the misfortune of others, always delighted by the truth and goodness in others, and eager to believe the best. Bless Joyce and Rolf specially; and may we all carry with us from this day forward the renewal of Your blessing.

2. READINGS -

Rev. Elliott: Remember Christ's teachings:

Genesis 1: 26-28 (Old Test. p. 1)

Matthew 6: 25-33 (New Test., pp. 5-6)

John 2: 1-11 (New Test., p. 80)

These readings teach us the place which God has given man in this world, the way in which we are counseled to live, and the significance attributed to marriage as a symbol of the unity between a living God and His people.

Joyce and Rolf, the Holy Scriptures set forth before you the love of Christ for humanity, as an example for your devotion to each other. As His children you know that a union embodying His ideals is to be entered into reverently, advisedly, soberly and in the fear of God in whose name you are now to vow your mutual vows.

3. VOWS -

Rev. Elliott: Will you, Rolf, take Joyce to be your wedded wife, to live together according to God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her in sickness and in health, forsaking all others?

Rolf: I WILL - - - - - [text on 3x5 at end]

Will you, Joyce, take Rolf to be your wedded husband, to live together according to God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him in sickness and in health, forsaking all others?

Joyce: I WILL - - - - -

Rev. Elliott to Rolf: What sign do you give to symbolize this covenant?

Rolf: (Receives ring from best man and says: "This ring", and gives ring to Rev. Elliott).

Blessing of the Ring: Bless O Lord this ring that he who gives it and she who wears it may abide in Thy peace and continue in Thy favor throughout their lives and through Jesus Christ Our Lord, Amen. (Minister returns ring to Rolf who gives it to Joyce).

Rolf: With this ring I thee wed receiving you as my wife, and giving myself to love you faithfully all through our life.

Rev. Elliott to Joyce: What sign do you give, Joyce, to symbolize this covenant?

Joyce: (Receives ring from maid of honor and says: "This ring", and gives ring to Rev. Elliott).

Blessing of the Ring: Bless O Lord this ring that she who gives it and he who wears it may abide in Thy peace and continue in Thy favor throughout their lives and through Jesus Christ Our Lord, Amen. (Minister returns ring to Joyce who gives it to Rolf).

Joyce: With this ring I thee wed receiving you as my husband and I give myself to love you faithfully all through our life.

4. THE FIRST BLESSING -

Bless O Lord these your children who stand ready to be united this day in Your love and grace. Bestow Your parental benediction upon them giving them Your grace to fulfill with pure and steadfast affection the vow and covenant between them. Grant them together that loving and serving You in peace and righteousness and with one heart and mind all the days of their life, they may be abundantly enriched with all the tokens of Your grace.

5. PRONOUNCEMENT-

Inasmuch as Joyce and Rolf have consented together to join in holy matrimony and have witnessed the same before God and their friends, and have given and pledged their troth each to the other, and have witnessed the same by giving and receiving rings, by the authority committed to me as a Minister of the Church of Jesus Christ, I pronounce that they are man and wife according to the ordinance of God and the Law of the State of New York.

6. THE SECOND BLESSING -

God bless, preserve and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favor look upon you and fill you with spiritual benediction and graces so that you may so live together in this life that you may have life everlasting in the world to come. Bless this new home that it may be a haven of peace and joy; and dear God, Creator of all mankind and the well-spring of life, bestow upon these, Thy children, if it be Thy will, the gift and heritage of their own children brought up in Thy faith and to the honor and glory of Thy name through Jesus Christ Our Lord, Amen.

7. RECESSIONAL -

OUR THANKS TO OUR DEAR FRIENDS FOR JOINING US TODAY.

I will; pledging my love and fidelity to you before God and our friends. I will take time out from this hectic world to provide an environment you can trust and enjoy so that our lives together will confirm the real meaning of
love.