

## THE WEDDING

*9 The couple stand before the minister.*

*The minister says to the man*

N, will you give yourself to N to be her husband,  
to live with her according to God's word?  
Will you love her, comfort her,  
honour and protect her,  
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her  
so long as you both shall live?

*The man answers*

**I will.**

*The minister says to the woman*

N, will you give yourself to N, to be his wife,  
to live with him according to God's word?  
Will you love him, comfort him,  
honour and protect him,  
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him  
so long as you both shall live?

*The woman answers*

**I will.**

*10 The minister says to the congregation*

Families and friends,  
you are witnesses to these vows.  
Will you do everything in your power  
to uphold N and N in their marriage?  
**We will.**

*11 The man, facing the woman and taking her hand in his, says*

I, N, in the presence of God,  
take you, N, 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,  
so long as we both shall live.  
All this I vow and promise.

*They loose their hands.*

*The woman, still facing the man and taking his hand in hers, says*

I, N, in the presence of God,  
take you, N, 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,

so long as we both shall live.  
All this I vow and promise.

*12 When rings are to be given, the minister may receive them and may say*

God of steadfast love,  
by your blessing,  
let *these rings* be for N and N  
a symbol of their love and faithfulness  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*13 The giver places the ring on the ring-finger of the other's hand and says*

I give you this ring  
as a symbol of our marriage.  
With all that I am and all that I have  
I honour you; in the name of God. **Amen.**

*After rings have been exchanged, the man and woman may say together*

I receive this ring  
as a symbol of your love and faithfulness  
to the end of our days.

*and/or*

May God enable us to grow in love together.

*14 The minister joins their hands and declares to the people*

Before God and in the presence of us all,  
N and N have joined hands  
and made their solemn vows,  
promising life-long faithfulness to each other.  
In the name of God,  
I declare them to be husband and wife.  
What God has joined together,  
let no one separate.

*The couple may say*

God of tenderness and strength,  
you have brought our paths together  
and led us to this day;  
go with us now as we travel through good times,  
through trouble, and through change.  
Bless our home, our partings and our meetings.  
Make us worthy of one another's best,  
and tender with one another's dreams. **Amen.**

*15 The minister adds a blessing for the couple.*

God the Father lovingly enfold you,  
God the Son grace your home and table,  
God the Holy Spirit crown you with joy and peace.  
The Lord bless you and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*16 The marriage certificates are signed here or at the conclusion of the service.*