

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to NAME and NAME's wedding ceremony. I am certain they both are so happy you are here with them today. I am Jennifer Kelly, Houghton County Clerk and Register of Deeds.

Ask them if they are ready to begin?

We are all gathered together on this day to witness and celebrate the marriage of NAME and NAME. We come together not to mark the state of a relationship, but to acknowledge and strengthen a bond that already exists. This ceremony is a public affirmation of that bond and as their dearest family and friends, it is our honor and privilege to stand witness to this event.

NAME and NAME, this day is made possible not only because of your love for each other, but through the grace and support of your family and friends. It is our hope that your fulfillment and joy in each other will increase with each passing year.

Marriage is a commitment in life, where two people can find and bring out the very best in each other. It offers opportunities for sharing and growth that no other human relationship can equal, a physical and emotional joining that has the promise of a lifetime of pure happiness.

OPENING PRAYER: Please bow your heads if you wish.

Lord, we thank you for gathering everyone here today. We ask that you help NAME and NAME to remember the strong love that they share for the rest of their lifetimes. To work that love into practical things so that nothing or no one can divide them. May their love always inspire them to be kind in their words, considerate of the other's feelings, and concerned for the other's needs and wishes. Increase their faith and trust in You. Bless their marriage with peace and happiness and make their Love fruitful for your glory and their job, both here and in eternity.

Amen.

NAME and NAME, while the commitment begins with the two of you, its effect radiates outward. Your relationship touches your family and friends and ultimately all of society. When this commitment is seriously made and continuously fulfilled, it leads to the richest and most rewarding of human relationships.

Your relationship will take more than love. It will take trust, to know in your hearts that you want only the best for each other. Dedication, to stay open to one another, to learn and grow, even when it is difficult to do so. And faith, to go forward together without knowing what the future holds for you both.

While love is our natural state of being, these other qualities are not as easy to come by. They are not a destination, but a journey. Marriage is a give and take between two personalities, a joining of two hearts.

Seeing that no moment is without meaning, we ask that you take this marriage as a beginning of your lives together. Today signifies the creation of your new beautiful home and a new family for you both and your dogs. May you be fulfilled by each other's love and friendship. May you both be overjoyed by the promises you are about to make and the life together you will create.

Remember that in every marriage, there are good times and bad. Times of joy and times of sorrow. Marriage is a journey-a time of adventure and excitement enhanced by the love, trust, dedication and faith you share in one another.

May the promises you make to one another today, be lived out to the end of your lives. Tomorrow can bring you the greatest of joys, but today is the day it all begins for this wonderful couple in front of us.

FOR YOUR I DO'S-I ask you both to respond "We will"

NAME and NAME, do you promise to care for each other in the joys and sorrows of life, come what they may, and to share the responsibility for growth and enrichment of your life together?

We will.

FOR YOUR VOWS:

NAME, please repeat after me:

I NAME, take you NAME, to be my wife

I promise to be by your side always-in sickness and in health, in joy and in sorrow, as well as through the good times and the bad.

I promise to love you always

I promise to comfort you when things go wrong

I will encourage you to achieve all of your goals

I will laugh with you and cry with you and grow in mind and spirit

I will always be open and honest with you and cherish you for as long as we both shall live

NAME, if you will repeat after me:

I NAME, take you NAME, to be my Husband

I promise to be by your side always-in sickness and in health, in joy and in sorrow, as well as through the good times and the bad.

I promise to love you always

I promise to comfort you when things go wrong

I will encourage you to achieve all of your goals

I will laugh with you and cry with you and grow in mind and spirit

I will always be open and honest with you and cherish you for as long as we both shall live

EXCHANGING OF WEDDING RINGS:

Having love in your hearts, you have chosen to seal your vows by exchanging rings. From the earliest of times, the circle has been a sign of completeness. May your wedding rings that you have chosen to wear have neither a beginning nor end, much like your love for one another. These rings are a symbol of the words that you speak to each other today. May your rings be a treasured adornment, and may the love they symbolize, be your most precious possession besides having each other. And, as you wear these wedding rings, may they be constant reminders of the love you have for each other always.

Who has the rings?

NAME, take NAME's ring, and place it on her ring finger and repeat after me:

NAME, I give you this ring as a symbol of my love and faithfulness to you.

NAME, take NAME's ring, and place it on his ring finger and repeat after me:

NAME, I give you this ring as a symbol of my love and faithfulness to you.

NAME and NAME from this moment forward, you will never be alone. You will carry with you the love for each other, giving you a completeness and a forever love. May your life together be full of love and excitement and a lot of laughter. May you strive to enrich each other in every possible way.

DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE:

Since NAME and NAME have pledged their love for one another, to love, honor, and cherish one another in the presence of their family and friends it is By the authority vested in me under the laws of the State of Michigan, that I now proudly pronounce you husband and wife.

NAME, you may now kiss your beautiful bride!

After the kiss

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is indeed my privilege and honor to be the first to introduce you to Mr. and Mrs. NAME and NAME LAST NAME!