

Wedding Ceremony - Final Draft

Ceremony Start

[Groomsmen and bridesmaids lined up at the back of the stage, slightly behind the bride, groom, and officiant. The officiant is front end center, but moves slightly behind the bride and groom as the ceremony switches from addressing the guests to addressing the bride and groom]

[Soft music begins]

[Officiant, at stage, to guests]

Welcome. At the request of the couple, I invite you all to turn off your cellphones and put down your cameras during the ceremony. The talented photographers with us today will capture and share these moments – we encourage you to enjoy the celebrations, without the distraction of technology.

[Flower girl enters, tosses petals]

[During flower girl, music changes to something upbeat and fun for Ellie to dance around and have fun with]

[Flower girl stands on bride side, closest to the bride]

[Ring bearer brings rings down the aisle. Musical shift for Jr. optional]

[Ring bearer stands on groom side, closest to the groom]

[Groom and Mom enter, hug, Mom sits]

[Officiant, to guests]

Please stand for the bride

[Bride and Grandpa enter, hug, Grandpa sits]

[Officiant, to guests]

Welcome. Please be seated.

[Officiant, to Bride and Groom]

Today we are gathered here to celebrate the love you both have discovered in each other

Marriage is more than two people standing here and repeating vows. There is an entire lifetime ahead of you and there are skills to be learned and practiced daily.

Part of marriage is finding happiness. Continue to search for the good, the fun, and the beautiful in this life to share with each other.

Part of marriage is being flexible. So, within your marriage cultivate flexibility, patience, and understanding, all while maintaining a sense of humor and joy.

Part of marriage is companionship. Strive to comfort one another and develop the capacity to forgive and heal your differences day by day.

Remember that your love can always prevail in times of turmoil. It will drive you to not only learn and to grow as individuals, but become stronger partners together.

The Vows

[Ring bearer presents the rings; stands between groom and officiant, behind groom]

[Officiant, to Groom]

Jacob, will you have Katelyn to be your wife? Will you love her, comfort and keep her and honor her above all others; remaining true, even in sickness or in health as long as you shall live?

[Groom] I do

[Groom takes the bride's ring and places it on her finger]

[Officiant, to Bride]

Katelyn, will you have Jacob to be your husband? Will you love him, comfort and keep him and honor him above all others; remaining true, even in sickness or in health as long as you shall live?

[Bride] I do

[Bride takes the groom's ring and places it on his finger]

[Officiant, to bride and groom]

Then, by the power vested by me, I now pronounce you husband and wife. *[dramatic pause]* You may now enjoy your first kiss as newlyweds.

[Bride and Groom kiss]

Closing

Today, as you join yourselves in marriage, there is a vast and unknown future stretching out before you. Today you enter as individuals, but you will leave here as husband and wife; your lives blending together and expanding the ties of your family and best friends. You are embarking upon a great adventure, through which all of us here know you will prevail.

[Officiant, to guests]

Jacob and Katelyn present themselves to be married today, cheerfully surrounded by the people they love the most. They, and I, want to thank you for your presence and time here today. The couple thanks you for your encouragement and lifelong support in their decision to be married.

[Announce reception details to guests]