

## Non-Denominational Wedding Ceremony Example:

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### Introduction:

‘This special day in Bride and Groom’s lives, is the joining of 2 very special families. It is also a testament to the fact, that love has no timeline. That love can blossom even after years of not seeing one another. Bride and Groom are so happy to have all of you here today, to witness their love and commitment. And this day, would not be complete without all of you’.

### Tricia (Officiant):

‘Bride and Groom: It is truly one of life’s greatest things, when two souls meet and it leads them to proceed together along a path of marriage. It is indeed one of life’s finest experiences. All of us today, give witness to the love and commitment and fun-that the two of you embody and are about to express. As you take your next step into the journey of husband and wife, it is important for all of us today to support you and for you to feel the love that is held for you today. ‘

‘Bride and Groom, I say to you both:

The little things are the big things. It is never being too old to hold hands. It is remembering to say, ‘I love you’ at least once a day. It is never going to sleep angry. It is at no time taking the other for granted. The courtship should not end with the honeymoon. It should continue through the years. It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives. It is standing together to face the world. It is forming a circle of love that gathers in the whole family. It is doing things for each other, not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice; but in the spirit of joy. It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways. It is not expecting too much from one another. It is always seeking the good in each other.

It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding, and a sense of humor. It is having the capacity to forgive and forget. It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow. It is finding room for the things of the spirit. It is a common search for the good and the beautiful. It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal; dependence is mutual and the obligation is reciprocal. It is not only marrying the right partner; it is being the right partner. Marriage is more than a contract. It is a commitment to take joy deep into the discovery of who you most truly are. It is a commitment to a spiritual journey, to a life of becoming. Marriage is a covenant that says: I love you; I trust you; I will be here for you when you are hurting; and when I am hurting I will not leave. It is not a place where we run from pain, anger or sorrow, but rather a safe sanctuary to risk loving, to risk living, and sharing from the center of oneself.’

**Tricia (Officiant):**

'Groom: Bride is about to become your wife. She will look to you for gentleness, for support, for understanding, for encouragement, and for protection. You must never take bride for granted, and be continually sensitive to her needs. Your life and love will be Bride's greatest source of joy'.

'Groom, will you have Bride to be your lawfully wedded wife? Will you love and cherish her? Will you always uphold her and encourage her? Will you be loyal to her and true? Will you honor her all her days and be respectful of her and promise to always bestow upon her your heart's deepest devotion?'

**Groom:**

'I will'.

**Tricia (officiant):**

'Bride: Groom is about to become your husband. He will look to you for gentleness, for support, for understanding, for encouragement, and for protection. You must never take groom for granted, and be continually sensitive to his needs. Your life and love will be Groom's greatest source of joy'.

'Bride, will you have Groom to be your lawfully wedded husband? Will you love and cherish him? Will you always uphold him and encourage him? Will you be loyal to him and true? Will you honor him all his days and be respectful of him, and promise to always bestow upon him your heart's deepest devotion?'

**Bride:**

'I will'.

**Tricia (Officiant):**

'Groom: please hold Bride's hand'

'These are the hands of your best friend. These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, for a lifetime of happiness. These are the hands that will hold you tight as you struggle through difficult times. These are the hands that will comfort you when you are sick, or console you when you are grieving. These are the hands that will hold you in joy and excitement and hope. These are the hands that will give you support as you both chase down your dreams. Together as a team, everything you wish for can be realized'.

**Tricia (Officiant):**

‘Groom, please repeat after me:

‘Today , I groom, take you, bride, to be my wife. To laugh with you in joy, to grieve with you in sorrow, to grow with you in love, to bring you peace and nurture your spirit’.

**Tricia (Officiant):**

‘Bride as you face Groom: These are the hands of your best friend, strong and vibrant with love. Holding your hand on your special wedding day as he promises to love you all the days of his life. These are the hands that will work alongside yours as together you build your future, as you laugh and cry, as you share your innermost secrets and dreams. These are the hands that will love you and cherish you through the years for a lifetime of happiness. These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes-tears of sorrow, tears of joy, and tears of laughter. These are the hands that will comfort you in illness and hold you when you are frightened or grieving.’

‘Bride, please repeat after me:

‘Today, I Bride, take you Groom, to be my husband. To laugh with you in joy, to grieve with you in sorrow, to grow with you in love, to bring you peace and nurture your spirit’.

**Tricia (Officiant):**

‘May I have the rings?’ (rings are handed to Tricia)

‘Groom and Bride: as you offer these rings, it is a token of your love and devotion to one another. Your two lives are being joined today in one unbroken circle. Wherever you go, may you always return to one another in your togetherness. May you find in one another the love for which all men and women yearn. May you grow in understanding and compassion. May these rings symbolize the touch of the spirit of love that is in both your hearts’.

**Tricia (Officiant):**

‘Groom, please repeat after me :

Bride: I give you this ring as a symbol of my love, and with all that I am and all that I have, I pledge my faithful love. May it be a reminder to you that I hold your heart in my care all the days of my life’.

‘Bride, please repeat after me:

‘Groom, I give you this ring as a symbol of my love, and with all that I am and all that I have, I pledge my faithful love. May it be a reminder to you that I hold your heart in my care all the days of my life’.

**Tricia (Officiant):**

'Now that Groom and Bride have given themselves to each other by solemn vows, with the joining of hands and the giving and receiving of a ring, it is my privilege as an ordained minister and by the state of Michigan to pronounce that they are husband and wife!'

'Groom: you can now kiss the bride !!!' 😊

**Tricia: (Officiant):**

'Ladies and gentlemen: it is my great honor to present to you for the first time as husband and wife: Mr. and Mrs. (        )'!!!!!!

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