

Introduction

Today is a celebration.

A celebration of love, of commitment, of friendship, of family, and of two people who are in it for forever.

You don't have to have a ceremony to have a marriage.

And when you think about it, the whole thing is kind of weird, right?

You're standing in front of a lot of people, looking fancy, holding flowers, and being stared at by pretty much everyone who has meant anything to you.

So why do we do it?

We have thousands of important moments that happen throughout our lives, but this one is regarded as one so critical, we acknowledge its special status by sharing it with others.

Why this moment?

Because despite all of our differences, love is what we all share.

It's the great unifier — our one universal truth.

That no matter who we are, where we've come from, what we believe, we know this one thing: love is what we're doing right.

That's why you are both standing here.

And that's why you all are here to watch them stand up here.

All of us here today have our own love stories.

Some are yet unwritten, while others are just getting to the good part.

Dan & Courtney, we're here to hope with you, to support you, to be proud of you, and to remind you that love isn't happily ever after, love is the experience of writing your story.

It's not one moment — not even this moment. It's every moment.

Big ones like saying "I love you," moving in together, getting engaged — but mostly a million little ones that come in between the big moments.

Falling asleep next to one another, making dinner together, spending holidays with your families, getting a big hug when you get home from work...

These everyday moments fuse together into one big experience.

And even though this experience is so incredible, words fail us when we try and explain it.

That's just the way it is with love — it's meant to be felt, not described.

But trying to describe love is one of our favorite pastimes.

We use the words we have to write stories, and poems, and songs about love.

And even though we describe love in different ways — and even though love can look different from one person to the next — we all know it when we see it.

And we see it here.

Vows

Now Dan do you choose Courtney, to be your wife, your partner in life and your one true love. Will you cherish your friendship and love her today, tomorrow, and forever?

Now Courtney do you choose Dan, to be your husband, your partner in life and your one true love. Will you cherish your friendship and love him today, tomorrow, and forever?

Glass Ceremony

Dan and Courtney have chosen colors of glass that represents each of them in a special and unique way.

Throughout their lives they have been two colorful, complete, amazing people all on their own - just like the glass. Courtney is nurturing and intuitive as represented by pink and Dan is loyal and confident as displayed in blue. But today is special; today they become husband and wife and create a new, beautiful combination of their colors.

:: begin to pour flutes of glass into container::

Dan and Courtney are together creating a new life and mixing their personalities and characteristics into their marriage. Symbolically they are creating something unique to just the two of them in their wedding vows and marriage. After their unity glass ceremony today the colorfully mixed pieces of glass will be made into a one-of-a-kind glass sculpture as special as their love for each other. The pieces of their personality that complement each other will be reflected in the glass sculpture they can display in their home forever. This new sculpture will be a physical reminder of their beautiful personalities, love and commitment to each other coming together.

Exchange of Vows/Rings

The circle has long been a symbol for marriage. These circles are made of precious metal to represent

the precious nature of your relationship. Being unbroken circles, each represents unending love. As often as either of you look upon these rings, may you be reminded of this moment and the love you have promised.

Now Dan please acknowledge your intent for Courtney by placing this ring on her finger.

Now Courtney please acknowledge your intent for Dan by placing this ring on his finger.

Nuptial Blessing

By your free choice you have made a marriage.

No matter what the demands on your lives and your time,

The meaning of your living is now known through your love.

You must nurture each other to fullness and wholeness,

renew yourselves in love and laughter, maintain the capacity for wonder, spontaneity, humor, sensitivity, and save time for each other.

Declaration of Marriage

Before this gathering, Courtney and Dan have promised each other their undying love and have exchanged rings to wear as a sign of their everlasting commitment to each other. By the power vested in me, I now pronounce you husband and wife. Dan, you may kiss the bride!