

William and Kate's Wedding Ceremony

Before Ceremony Begins

Eron and William, Jack, and Lesley take their places up front.

Processional (with recorded music)

Kate walks down the aisle with Dad to the music.

Eron: "Who presents Kate to be married to William?"

Dad: "Her mother and I do."

Kate hugs her dad and joins William at the front. Dad sits down.

Opening Prayer

Jack opens the service with a prayer for Kate and William.

Song

Jack plays and sings a song.

Greeting

Eron: "Dear family and friends, on behalf of Kate and William, I welcome you all to this marriage ceremony. We are here today to encourage, celebrate and support the covenant Kate and William are going to make and to share in the joy that they experience as they pledge their love and commitment to each other. We rejoice in the way that God has led them to each other and brought them to the place where they now stand. They became friends 9 years ago. Over the years, their lives changed and grew separately, but their friendship only grew stronger. Eventually, they were finally in the same place at the same time again, here in Seattle. They took a chance on making their friendship something more, and the rest, we say, is history. Their faithfulness to God's timing and loyalty to the stirring of their own souls is the reason we gather today with joy in our hearts and tears in our eyes at the beauty of their love."

Statement of Intent

Eron: "William and Kate journey to this ceremony today out of their own free will and deep love and respect for each other. Their minds echo the words of the Song of Solomon, 'I have found the one whom my soul loves.'"

Question of Intent

Eron: "As an expression that your souls are joined together in love, will you now please join your hands and face each other?"

William, do you choose Kate to be your wife, companion, and friend, and to hold her in respect and love for the rest of your life?"

William: "I do"

Eron: "Kate, do you choose William to be your husband, companion, and friend, and to hold him in respect and love for the rest of your life?"

Kate: "I do"

Blessings of the Gathered

Eron: "As they prepare to join their lives, it's important to understand that everyone present has played a part in shaping the lives of Kate and William, and will play a vital role in their continuing lives. And so we are here not only to witness their vows to each other, but also bestow upon them our blessing. Do you bless this couple and pledge, now and forever, to support and strengthen this marriage by

upholding Kate and William with your love and concern? Please respond with 'We do!'"

Congregation: "WE DO!"

Vows Exchange

Eron: "William, Repeat after me: (I will say a little section at a time and you repeat what I say)

'I William take you Kate to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer; in sickness and in health; in joy and in sorrow; to love and to cherish, as long as we both shall live.'

Kate, repeat after me:

'I Kate take you William to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer; in sickness and in health; in joy and in sorrow; to love and to cherish, as long as we both shall live.'"

Rings Exchange

Eron: "May I have the wedding rings? (Jack and Lesley will place them on my Bible, and I will hold them up to bless them) The wedding ring symbolizes unity, a circle unbroken, without beginning or end. And today Kate and William exchange these rings as confirmation of their vows to join their lives, to work at all times to create a life that is complete and unbroken and to love each other unconditionally. We pray blessing and strength and protection on these vows and tokens, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and may all who are gathered as witnesses today recognize these that you give to each other as the symbol of your love and fidelity.

William, take this ring and place it on your bride's finger, and state your pledge to her, repeating after me:

'With this ring I thee wed.

I offer you my hand, and my heart, as I know they will be safe with you.

All that I am I give to you and all that I have I share with you.'

Kate, take this ring and place it on your groom's finger, and state your pledge to him, repeating after me:

'With this ring I thee wed.

I offer you my hand, and my heart, as I know they will be safe with you.

All that I am I give to you and all that I have I share with you.'"

Marriage Pronouncement

Eron: "Kate and William, you have given and pledged your promises to each other, and have declared your everlasting love by exchanging the rings. Your vows may have been spoken in minutes, but your promises to each other will continue until your last breath. As you have pledged yourselves to meet sorrow and happiness as one family before God and this community of friends and family, I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss your bride!"

Kiss

Presentation

Eron: "Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you Mr. and Mrs. Duke!"

Recessional

Walk back down the aisle... but this time together!

“Prayer of Love” Author Unknown

“Our prayer for you is this: That you will always remember the qualities that attracted you to each other when you first met and how you felt as your feelings of attraction turned into respect, admiration and finally love. That you will work hard to turn your feelings of love into acts of love so that nothing and no one can divide you. That you will always have kind and loving hearts that are quick to ask for forgiveness when you are wrong as well as to forgive when your partner is wrong. That your love might grow to hear all things, believe all things, and hope for all things, endure all things. We pray you place your marriage in God’s hands and that your love increases and overflows, beyond anything you can yet imagine.”