

Priest: Will you who are witnesses to this Union do all in your power to support and to strengthen and in the days ahead?

Answer: WE WILL.

Priest: Let us offer our prayers for and .

Let us pray together:

Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Your Name; Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in Heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and for ever. AMEN.

Priest: May the Peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and Love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord: And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you, always. AMEN.

Priest: God has called us to live in Peace, Joy, and Love; may the Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: AND ALSO WITH YOU!

All greet the couple and each other with a Sign of Peace.

THE CELEBRATION
OF THE ENHANCEMENT
OF THE LIVES OF

Mr. and Mr.

3:00 P.M.

Saturday, November 26, 1983

San Francisco, California

COPY: Material located in the
Archives of the Episcopal Church

ORDER OF SERVICE

Priest: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: In the presence of God we have come together to witness the Celebration and Blessing of the Union which exists between _____ and _____, which they now desire to offer to God for Blessing and Renewal.

In this Service we remind ourselves of our Human vocation, which is to love God and to love our Neighbor. God has created us to love. We are to respond in many ways, always remembering that in our relationships with others the marks of true love should be self-sacrifice, commitment, respect, mutuality in giving and receiving, and the avoidance of all coercion, exploitation and superficiality.

We have come here today in order that _____ and _____ can bear witness to their love, and so we share in their happiness and witness this Exchange of Vows because we believe that God who is Love and Truth sees into their hearts, recognizes their humanity, and accepts the offering they are making.

The Priest then says to the couple:

Priest: You are soon to make a solemn Vow. Do you believe that God has called you to live together in Love?

Couple: WE DO.

Priest: Do you ask for His Blessing?

Couple: WE DO.

Priest: Do you swear to remain faithful to each other, never allowing any other human relationship to come before the one you are now to affirm?

Couple: WE DO.

Priest: Will you give yourselves to each other, wholeheartedly, and without restraint?

Couple: WE WILL.

Priest: Will you, under God, recognize each other's freedom to grow as individuals within your relationship?

Couple: WE WILL.

Priest: Will you do all within your power to make your life together a witness to the Love of God in the World?

Couple: WE WILL.

The Priest now asks each partner, separately:

Priest: Will you, N, give yourself wholly to N, sharing your love and your life; your wholeness and your brokenness; your successes and your failures?

Answer: I WILL.

The Priest now offers the Readings and Address.

The Couple Exchange Vows.

The Priest Blesses the Rings.

Priest: Bless + O Lord, these rings, that those who give and receive them may live in your Peace and continue in your love all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Each places a ring on the other's finger, saying:

N, receive this ring as a symbol of unbroken love; of all that I am and all that I am to be; treasure it as a token and pledge of the Love I have for you.

Priest: Will you, Jere and Jim, offer your life together to God?

Couple: God our Father, we offer you our lives and our love for each other. Forgive what we have been; Consecrate what we are; Order what we shall be. AMEN.

The Priest joins the couple's hands and says to the congregation: