

Vow Renewal Ceremony - Religious

Reverend Joe Miles

OPTIONAL: ~ Hawai'ian Chant

ONA ONA I KA HALA, ME KA LEHUA E HALALEHUA, OIA NA KE NOE
OKA Ô U NO KA HIKI MAI A HIKI MAI NO OKUOU, A HIKI NO ME KE ALOHA

The Oli Aloha is a chant which offers a word of greeting. It says, in part, this is the sight for which I have longed. Now that you are here, love has come with you.

OPTIONAL: ~ Hawai'ian Blessing

A O KA MEA NONA KA MANA
E HANA MAI AI I NA MEA A PAU
A KAKOU E NOI AKU AI, ÔA E MANAO IHO AI
A NUI LOA AKU HOI

Dearly Beloved,

Let this be a day of gladness, thanksgiving, possibility, and good fortune for all of us, but especially for _____ and _____, who are here to renew and celebrate their love before God and before this company.

If it were possible to begin this ceremony by gathering together all the wishes of happiness for _____ and _____, if we could gather those precious wishes of affection and our very fondest hopes and turn them into music, we would be listening now to a most inspiring anthem, where it would be composed of the most harmonious notes possible to produce.

Even though this is not possible, just speaking of it should assure _____ and _____ that our hearts are attuned to theirs in these moments so meaningful to all of us, for "what greater thing is there for two human souls than to feel they are joined together to strengthen each other in all labor, to minister to each other in all sorrow, and to share with each other in all gladness."

Marriage has been described as the best and most important relationship that can exist between two human beings: the construction of their love and trust into a single growing energy of spiritual life. Marriage should be a lifelong consecration to the ideal of loving kindness backed by the will to make it last.

The Word of God tells us what love is and what love does:

"Love is patient, love is kind, love is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, it does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek it's own, it is not provoked, and it does not take into account a wrong suffered, it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; for love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things, but above all, love never fails."

Just as Spring blossoms anew after a harsh winter, so must spouses renew their love for each other in their daily lives. _____ marks the _____ anniversary of your marriage and today you renew your vows and your love as husband and wife. This day begins the new Spring of your love for one another. So may it be renewed each day in your hearts.

VOWS:

_____ and _____, we are here today to remember and rejoice with you and to recount with one another that it is love that guides us on our path; and to celebrate as you continue this journey together. It is in this spirit that you have come here today to exchange these vows.

_____ and _____ have you come here freely and with the intention of a renewal of your marriage vows?
(Both answer, "we have")

Will you continue to love and honor each other as husband and wife every day as you have promised to do?
(Both answer, "we do")

Will you love, comfort and honor, keeping each other forever more?
(Both answer, "we will")

Husband: Do you again take _____ as your wife, will you continue to be faithful to her in tender love and honor, offering encouragement and companionship and will you continue to live with and cherish her?
(Husband answers "I do")

Wife: Do you again take _____ as your husband, will you continue to be faithful to him in tender love and honor, offering encouragement and companionship and will you continue to live with and cherish him?
(Wife answers "I do")

RINGS (or substitute lei exchange):

The wedding ring is the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual bond, which unites two loyal hearts in endless love. Your rings say that even in your uniqueness you have chosen to be bound together. Let these rings also be a sign that love has substance as well as soul, a past, a present and a future, and that, despite it's occasional sorrows, love is a circle of happiness, wonder, and delight.

(Husband), repeat after me:
_____, with this ring, I continue to take you to be my trusted confidante and partner for life as God is my witness.

(Wife), repeat after me:
_____, with this ring I continue to take you to be my trusted confidante and partner for life as God is my witness.

PRAYER:

Let us pray.
O thou Eternal God, who art our Father and our Friend, as You have heard these words of promise just spoken, may the Holy Spirit deepen in the mind of this man and this woman the sense of the sacred and binding power of their vows. And as in Thy Name these words were spoken to make these lives one, may your rich Blessing be added. Give them your grace and guidance, that they may loyally fulfill the vows that they have taken. When selfishness shows itself, grant generosity; when mistrust is a temptation, give moral strength; when there is misunderstanding, give patience and gentleness; if suffering becomes a part of their lives, give them a strong faith and an abiding Love. May your joy abide with them always, that thus they may be a blessing to each other, and to those about them.
Amen

PRONOUNCEMENT:

_____ and _____, you have come here today before us and before God to renew your vows as husband and wife. You have shown your love and affection by joining hands, and have made promises of faith and devotion, each to the other, and have sealed these promises by the giving and the receiving of the rings (lei).

Therefore, it is my privilege to pronounce that you have reaffirmed your life's commitment to one another. Go forth in love and friendship for the rest of the days of your lives. May God bless you both and keep you in the palm of His hand.

(Husband), you may kiss your bride!