

Vow Renewal Ceremony

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

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.

If it were possible to begin this ceremony by gathering together all the wishes of happiness for _____ and _____ from all present here.....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.

We read in "The Prophet":

True love gives nothing but itself And takes nothing but from itself Love does not possess, nor would it be possessed For love is sufficient unto love. Love has no other desire but to fulfill itself, To awake at dawn with a winged heart and Give thanks for another day of loving. To rest at noon and meditate love's ecstasy; To return home at eventide with gratitude, And then to sleep with a prayer for the beloved in your heart And a song of praise upon your lips"

Just as spring blossoms anew after a harsh winter, so must spouses renew their love for each other in their daily lives. Today 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? (Groom 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? (Bride 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 (or lei), I continue to take you to be my trusted confidante and partner for life.

(Wife) repeat after me:

_____, with this ring (or lei) I continue to take you to be my trusted confidante and partner for life.

PRONOUNCEMENT :

Although I am officiating here today, it is not truly in my power to sanctify, legitimize or bless your relationship in any way; because the two of you have already done that in your hearts. So by joining hands right now and looking into each others eyes, let it be know that you are rejoined, body and soul in this lifetime, and that bond is sacred and eternal.

Now that you have stood before me and have exchanged these vows and these rings and have agreed to be remarried, it gives me great pleasure 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.

YOU MAY KISS YOUR BRIDE