

Wedding Ceremony
Celeste and Delores
June 5, 2010

Prelude

Introduction: Amanda

Friends, grace to you and peace from God our Creator, as we gather to witness the marriage of Celeste Jennifer Heery and Delores Ann Quade, to surround them with our prayers, and to share in their joy. Marriage is a gift of God, a holy mystery in which two people become one flesh. Let us enter into this celebration confident that through the Spirit, God is present with us now.

Prayer: Sara

Let us pray. O God, we gather to celebrate your gift of love and its presence among us. We rejoice that two people have chosen to commit themselves to a life of loving faithfulness to one another. We praise you, O God, for the ways you have touched our lives with a variety of loving relationships. We give thanks that we have experienced your love through the life-giving love of Jesus Christ and through the care of others. Enrich our lives today that we may embrace others with your love; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Reading of the Scripture: Sara

Hear this reading from 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

“If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind, love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful, it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.” Here ends the reading, may God add a blessing to the reading of the holy word.

Special Music: Moss Biss

Homily: Amanda

Declaration of Intent: Sara

Sara: Celeste and Delores, before God and this community, I ask you to affirm your willingness to enter this covenant of marriage and to share all the joys and sorrows of this new relationship, whatever the future may hold. Celeste, will you have Delores to be your partner, and will you love her faithfully until there are no more days? If so, please answer "I will, with the help of God."

Celeste: I will, with the help of God.

Sara: Delores, will you have Celeste to be your partner, and will you love her faithfully until there are no more days? If so, please answer "I will, with the help of God."

Delores: I will, with the help of God.

Vows: Amanda

Amanda: And now I invite the two of you speak your covenant promises that you have come to offer before God and this community. Celeste, repeat these words as your vow to Delores. (After each phrase, I will pause to give space for Celeste to repeat.) "Delores, I give myself to you to be your partner. I promise to love you in the covenant of marriage, from this day forward, in sickness and in health, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, until there are no more days."

Celeste: Delores, I give myself to you to be your partner. I promise to love you in the covenant of marriage, from this day forward, in sickness and in health, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, until there are no more days.

Amanda: Delores, repeat these words as your vow to Celeste. (After each phrase, I will pause to give space to repeat.) "Celeste, I give myself to you to be your partner. I promise to love you in the covenant of marriage, from this day forward, in sickness and in health, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, until there are no more days."

Delores: Celeste, I give myself to you to be your partner. I promise to love you in the covenant of marriage, from this day forward, in sickness and in health, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, until there are no more days.

Exchange of Rings: Sara

Sara: Celeste and Delores will symbolize their love with rings. By these symbols of covenant promise, may they be reminded of God's encircling love and unending faithfulness that in all their life together they may know joy and peace

in one another. Celeste, repeat these words as you give this ring to Delores.
“Delores, I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.”

Celeste: Delores, I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.

Sara: Delores, repeat these words as you give this ring to Celeste. “Celeste, I give you this ring, as a sign of my love and faithfulness.”

Delores: Celeste, I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.

Sara: Celeste and Delores, you may now kiss one another.

(KISS)

Announcement of Marriage: Amanda

The couple may join hands, and the pastor may place a hand on their joined hands while announcing the marriage.

Those whom God has joined together, let no one separate. Celeste and Delores, you are life partners with the blessing of Christ’s church. Be merciful in all your ways, kind in heart, and humble in mind. Accept life, and be most patient and tolerant with one another. Forgive as freely as God has forgiven you. And, above all else, be truly loving. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Benediction: Amanda

May God bless you and keep you. May God’s face shine upon you and give you peace. Go now in peace to love and serve Christ. Amen.