

Wedding Ceremony

- Homage (*Recite the O-daimoku three times.*)
- Meditation on the Place of the Way
- Taking Refuge in the Three Treasures
- Invocation

We put our faith in

The Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni—Great Benevolent Teacher, World-Honored One;

The Tathagata Abundant Treasures, witness to the Lotus Sutra;

The separated embodiments of the Buddha in the ten directions in the past, present, and future;

The four great bodhisattvas: Superior Practice, Boundless Practice, Pure Practice, and Steadfast Practice;

The bodhisattva-mahasattvas: Manjushri, Universal Sage, Maitreya, and all other bodhisattva-mahasattvas;

Great Bodhisattva Nichiren, revered practitioner of the Lotus Sutra;

Founder Nikkyo, Great Teacher of the One Vehicle;

Cofounder Myoko, Bodhisattva of the Way of Compassion;

The guardian spirits of Rissho Kosei-kai;

And the countless heavenly spirits in the ten directions.

May you all be present among us and know our deep devotion.

We now solemnly conduct the wedding ceremony of the groom, [*given name*], and bride, [*given name*], following the sacred ritual of Rissho Kosei-kai.

We earnestly pray for guidance in all things through the merit we receive from reciting the Great Vehicle Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wondrous Dharma.

(Strike the gong and recite the O-daimoku once.)

- Opening Verse
- Sutra Recitation (*Chapter 16 from the Kyoten*)
- Universal Transfer of Merit
- Recitation of the O-daimoku
- Wedding Announcement before the Buddha
- Transfer of Merit

Having respectfully recited the Great Vehicle Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wondrous Dharma,
may we transfer its merits to and thus reciprocate the boundless compassion of
The Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni—Great Benevolent Teacher, World-Honored One;
The Tathagata Abundant Treasures, witness to the Lotus Sutra;
The separated embodiments of the Buddhas in the ten directions in the past, present, and future;
The four great bodhisattvas: Superior Practice, Boundless Practice, Pure Practice, and Steadfast
Practice;
The bodhisattva-mahasattvas: Manjushri, Universal Sage, Maitreya, and all other bodhisattva-
mahasattvas;
Great Bodhisattva Nichiren, revered practitioner of the Lotus Sutra;
Founder Nikkyo, Great Teacher of the One Vehicle;
Cofounder Myoko, Bodhisattva of the Way of Compassion;
The guardian spirits of Rissho Kosei-kai;
The guardian spirits of [Dharma center name];
The guardian spirits of [groom's family name] family;
The guardian spirits of [bride's family name] family;
The guardian spirits of member families of Rissho Kosei-kai;
And the countless heavenly spirits in the ten directions.

(Strike the gong once.)

We now have respectfully recited the sutra at this wedding ceremony for the groom, [given name], and
bride, [given name].

We reverently pray that you may witness this wedding ceremony and bestow your boundless
protection upon the groom and bride.

- Homage (*Recite the O-daimoku three times.*)
- Ceremonial Exchange of Cups of Sake or Some Other Appropriate Beverage
- Wedding Vow
- Exchange of Wedding Rings
- Presentation of Prayer Beads
- Greeting from the Officiant
- Introduction of Relatives and Friends
- Homage (*Recite the O-daimoku three times.*)

Notes

1. As for the Wedding Announcement before the Buddha, refer to the Examples of Statement.
2. The Ceremonial Exchange of Cups of Sake or Some Other Appropriate Beverage is performed to symbolically establish the union of the groom and bride.
3. As for the Wedding Vow, refer to an example below.
4. The Exchange of Wedding Rings and the Introduction of Relatives and Friends are optional.

An Example of Wedding Vow

In the presence of the Eternal Original Buddha Shakyamuni, we have now solemnly held this wedding ceremony following the sacred rituals of Rissho Kosei-kai and promised ourselves to each other for eternity.

As members of Rissho Kosei-kai, we take today's ceremony as an opportunity to reaffirm our vows.

We vow to

Take refuge in the Three Treasures,
Venerate each other's ancestors,
Maintain loving affinity,
Respect each other,
And work together in harmony.

We also vow to

Establish a sound and spiritually rich home
And contribute to the development and peace of society.

Today, on [month/day/year], the groom [full name] and bride [given name] have now made their vows.