

## Standard Civil Ceremony

**Minister:** \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, today you celebrate one of life's greatest moments and give recognition to the worth and beauties of love, as you join together in the vows of marriage.

### Exchange of Vows

**Minister:** \_\_\_\_\_, do you take \_\_\_\_\_, to be your Wife?

Groom: "I do"

**Minister:** Do you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect her, forsaking all other and holding only unto her?

Groom: "I do"

**Minister:** \_\_\_\_\_, do you take \_\_\_\_\_, to be your Husband?

Bride: "I do"

**Minister:** Do you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect him, forsaking all other and holding only unto him?

Bride: "I do"

## Standard Civil Ceremony

### Exchange of Rings

Groom: I \_\_\_\_\_, take the, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my wife.

To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, and I promise my love to you. With this ring I thee wed.

Bride: I \_\_\_\_\_, take the, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my husband.

To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, and I promise my love to you. With this ring I thee wed.

Minister: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, just as two very different

threads woven in opposite directions can form a beautiful tapestry, so can your two lives merge together to form a very beautiful marriage. To make your marriage work will take love.

Love should be the core of your marriage, love is the reason you are here. But it also will take trust- to know in your hearts you want the best for each other. It will take dedication- to stay open to one another; to learn and to grow together even when this is not always so easy to do.

It will take faith, to be willing to go forward to tomorrow, never really knowing what tomorrow will bring. In addition, it will take commitment, to hold true to the journey, you both now pledge to share together.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, in so much as the two of you have

agreed to live together in Matrimony, have promised your love for each other by these vows, I now declare you to be Husband and Wife.

Congratulations, you may kiss your bride.

## Short Ceremony ~ Exchange of Rings

**Minister:** The wedding ring is a symbol of unity, a circle unbroken, without beginning or end. And today, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

give and receive these rings as demonstrations of their vows to make their life one, to work at all times to create a love that is whole and unbroken, and to love each other without end.

\_\_\_\_\_ take this ring and place it on your bride's finger and state your pledge to her, repeating after me "This ring I give as a sign of our constant faith and abiding love."

\_\_\_\_\_ take this ring and place it on your groom's finger and state your pledge to her, repeating after me "This ring I give as a sign of our constant faith and abiding love."

Minister: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, just as two very different

threads woven in opposite directions can form a beautiful tapestry, so can your two lives merge together to form a very beautiful marriage. To make your marriage work will take love.

Love should be the core of your marriage, love is the reason you are here. But it also will take trust- to know in your hearts you want the best for each other. It will take dedication- to stay open to one another; to learn and to grow together even when this is not always so easy to do.

It will take faith, to be willing to go forward to tomorrow, never really knowing what tomorrow will bring. In addition, it will take commitment, to hold true to the journey, you both now pledge to share together.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, in so much as the two of you have

agreed to live together in Matrimony, have promised your love for each other by these vows, I now declare you to be Husband and Wife.

Congratulations, you may kiss your bride.

## Civil Ceremony (Vows & Ring as One)

**Minister:** The wedding ring is a symbol of unity, a circle unbroken, without beginning or end. And today, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

give and receive these rings as demonstrations of their vows to make their life one, to work at all times to create a love that is whole and unbroken, and to love each other without end.

### **Bride & Groom Exchange Rings as they say below vows:**

**Groom:** (Bride), I take you to be my lawfully wedded wife.

Before these witnesses, I vow to love you and care for you as long as we both shall live. I take you, with all your faults and strengths, as I offer myself to you with all my faults and strengths. I will help you when you need help, and will turn to you when I need help. I choose you as the person with whom I will spend my life.

**Bride:** (Groom), I take you to be my lawfully wedded husband.

Before these witnesses, I vow to love you and care for you as long as we both shall live. I take you, with all your faults and strengths, as I offer myself to you with all my faults and strengths. I will help you when you need help, and will turn to you when I need help. I choose you as the person with whom I will spend my life.

**Minister:** \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, just as two very different

threads woven in opposite directions can form a beautiful tapestry, so can your two lives merge together to form a very beautiful marriage. To make your marriage work will take love.

Love should be the core of your marriage, love is the reason you are here. But it also will take trust- to know in your hearts you want the best for each other. It will take dedication- to stay open to one another; to learn and to grow together even when this is not always so easy to do.

**Civil Ceremony (Vows & Ring as One)**

It will take faith, to be willing to go forward to tomorrow, never really knowing what tomorrow will bring. In addition, it will take commitment, to hold true to the journey, you both now pledge to share together.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, in so much as the two of you have

agreed to live together in Matrimony, have promised your love for each other by these vows, I now declare you to be Husband and Wife.

Congratulations, you may kiss your bride.

## Unity Candle

**Minister:** Long before you found each other in this lifetime, your souls burned brightly as one in the heavens. In this lifetime, you have both grown into bright beacons of light that have gained strength and wisdom through your many travels and experiences. Nevertheless, as it was written in the stars, these beacons called out to each other in the darkness. Moreover, as destiny designed their response was love.

Together you stand before us prepared to reunite your soul's incandescence by rejoining your individual beacons of light back to their original glorious flame: a flame of such magnitude that not even death will extinguish it.

We celebrate with you, and in so celebrating we light this candle in memory of all those who have gone before us or are unable to be with us today in recognition of the power that is love.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, the two lit candles

symbolize your separate lives, your separate families and your separate sets of friends. I ask that you each take one candle and that together you light the center candle. The individual candles represent your individual lives before today.

Lighting the center candle represents that your two lives are now joined to one light, and represents the joining together of your two families and sets of friends to one.

## **Sand Ceremony**

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, today you join your separate

lives together. The two separate bottles of sand symbolize your separate lives, separate families and separate sets of friends. They represent all that you are and all that you'll ever be as an individual. They also represent your lives before today. As these two containers of sand are poured into the third container, the individual containers of sand will no longer exist, but will be joined together as one. Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage be.”

## **Sand Ceremony w/Vows**

Bride & Groom holding each other's hands and looking into each other's eyes.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, you have just committed

yourselves to one another through sacred vows. Your lives are no longer two, but one. To symbolize this joining, we ask that you each pour some sand into this container, as you pour your sand, please repeat after me: “As these grains of sand merge together as one, I merge my life with yours. Please take my love throughout the sands of time. My heart is forever in your keeping.

**Officiant:** \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as these grains of sand are

joined together, so are your hearts, your bodies and your souls in marriage.