

### Welcome of Guests:

Welcome! Thank you for coming to this celebration! We are all here today to see two people; (Groom and Bride) celebrate the love in the presence of their friends and family and to give recognition to their decision to join hands and hearts in matrimony here today.

### Prayer:

Beloved Creator, Essence of Love, and Source of Hope, Open our hearts and fill us with Your Presence. You graciously give to us the longing for love and we give you thanks for (Groom and Bride), for their beautiful hearts and willing spirits, and for the example of love that they embody here today. Elevate us to an awareness of the Sacred and the Eternal, as we celebrate this miraculous moment in their lives. Be with them on this joyous occasion of showing their love and making their vows; and be with us, their witnesses, that we might all be inspired by the blessings shared today. Amen.

### SILENT BLESSING for those not with us

We now close our eyes and bring to mind any loved ones who could not be here today. Some could not make the journey and others have passed on before us. Though they are not with us physically, they are here with us in spirit. Let's pause for a moment to invoke their presence through our thought and prayers.

### 4 Elements

*Options: (Candles or Sand) Candle lighting or four sand vases with the sand poured into your heart keepsake vase*

(We will now light the candles honoring the elements and the directions). Or (we will now pour the sand honoring the elements and directions)

The yellow candle (sand) represents the East, home of the rising Sun and the element of Air. This is the place of new beginnings, intelligence and learning.

By the Air that is your Breath,

Do you pledge to one another your openness and honesty, that the love for one another shall be in the foreground of your thoughts always, guiding your actions, and that you shall leave no parts of self unknowable to one another?" (Groom and Bride) "We do." (Officiant or couple light the candle or pour the sand)

The red candle (sand) represents the South, heat of the sun and the element of Fire. This is the place of movement and passion.

By the Fire is your Spirit,

Do you pledge to continue to love one another wholly and fearlessly, that you will share each other's laughter and work together to spark creativity and inspire passion in all aspects of your life together?' (Groom & Bride) "We do." (Officiant or couple light the candle or pour the sand)

The blue candle (sand) represents the West, the coolness of twilight and the element of Water. This is the place of emotion and intuition.

By the Waters of your Blood,

Do you pledge that you will always be there to comfort, soothe, and heal one another, and that you will stand together when the future is unclear, proving that times may change but your love is constant?" (Groom & Bride): "We do." (Officiant or couple light the candle or pour sand)

The green candle represents the North, the time of planting, nurturing and rest and the element of Earth. This is the place of growth and abundance.

By the Earth of your Body,

Do you pledge that your home will always be a place of warmth and welcome, a safe haven and sanctuary to body, mind, and spirit that shall sustain and nourish your roots as you grow in to all that is and shall be your life together?" (Groom and Bride): "We do." (Officiant or couple light the candle or pour the sand)

### **VOWS/QUESTION/RING CEREMONY COMBINED**

May I have the rings? The circle has long been a symbol of God. Without beginning or end and with no pint of weakness, the circle is a reminder of the eternal quality of God and of unending strength. Let the seamless circle of these rings become the symbol of your endless love. Your wedding rings are most special because they say that even in your uniqueness you have chosen to be bonded, to allow the presence of another human being to enhance who you are. Your rings carry a potent double message: We are individual and yet we belong; we are not alone. As you wear them through time, they will reflect not only who you are by also the glorious union that you are now creating. As you look to your hand and your wedding band, it will softly speak of the great gift that you have been given and all that you have in one another. It shall also be a reminder in the times of great joy, that you have someone to share it with. Never again do you walk alone for your love shall be with you always."

(Groom), do you take (Bride) to be your wedded wife, to live together in marriage? Do you promise to love her, comforter, honor and keep her for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and health and forsaking all others, be faithful only to her. As long as you both shall live? "I do"

Then please place the ring you have for your (Bride) on her hand and repeat after me: I (Groom) take you (Bride) to be my Wife I will Love you, and Honor you, Respect and cherish you, for all the days of my Life.

(Bride), do you take (Groom) to be your wedded husband to live together in marriage? Do you promise to love him, comfort him, honor and keep him for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and health and forsaking all others, be faithful only to him So long as you both shall live? "I do" Then please place the ring you have for your (Bride) on her hand and repeat after me: I (Bride) take you (Groom) to be my Husband. I will Love you, and Honor you, Respect and cherish you for all the days of my Life."

The white candle (sand) represents Spirit, Mother Earth, Father Sky, the God and the Goddess and All That Is. This is the place that is not a place, yet is every place.

(Groom and Bride) You affirmed your free choice to unite as partners in marriage, (please light the white candle together or pour the sand) now to symbolize your marriage, your willingness to surrender to something greater than yourselves. (May the light of your marriage, (Bride and Groom), be a beacon in the night, a safe harbor from the storms of life. May your future be made infinitely brighter by the light and the love that you share).

### **Blessing**

I ask God's blessing on this marriage, knowing it has been entered into with love and commitment. Their devotion to each other and to their families is truly an expression of the God presence within. Spirit of Love and Life, (Groom and Bride) have found each other. Their journey through life, their joys and sadness has now begun as one. (Bride and (Groom) may your home be a place of happiness, a place where all family and friends can share laughter, prayer and love. May those around you know the beauty of your love for one another, and your days good and long upon the Earth.

### **Pronouncement:**

(Bride and Groom) I know I speak for all of you and myself as I thank you, for allowing us to share this beautiful day with you. May you be forever one. By the power vested in me, it is my legal right; greatest joy and privilege I now pronounce you Husband and Wife!

**Kiss**

(Groom) you may kiss your beautiful bride

**Introduction**

Family and Friends for the first time as husband & wife: Mr. & Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_