

## Level 2 or 3

### Romantic Ceremony

#### Who gives this bride to this man?

#### Please be seated

#### Introduction:

Let us take a moment of silence to open our hearts to Love's presence revealed in the natural beauty around us, in the earth and sky, in the trees, the breeze, the, the song of the birds. Also let us be aware of that same presence as it stirs within us, expressing itself through our emotions of joy and happiness... but most especially, as it reveals itself in the radiant love of \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

#### Welcoming:

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, family and friends, welcome to this lovely location. We're gathered here to celebrate the coming together of your two separate lives, to share with you in this wonderful moment of uniting your hearts, minds and souls into one through holy matrimony.

#### Journey:

Simply allow your hearts to become peaceful and quiet now, like a placid pond in the early morning, and rest in the love that has brought you here today. Like the current of the stream that brings life and beauty to wherever it flows, so the current of God's love, the current that "knows the way," has brought you to life and beauty both in and through each other.

It has been said that, "Our real journey in life is interior; it is a matter of growth, deepening and of an ever greater surrender to the creative action of love and grace within our hearts." And this is your journey, \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, as husband and wife, namely learning to bow before the love in your hearts which you have for each other as it guides you into the future.

By marrying today you choose to travel as one to that home which is not a place, but rather an experience carried within you on every breath. An experience born of deep love that takes you each day closer to the one love that you are, to a loving of each other simply by 'being' who you are.

"The moment I heard my first love story, I started looking for you, not knowing how blind that was. Lovers don't finally meet somewhere. They're in each other all along." - Rumi

#### Opening Prayer:

God of love, you are the power that awakens and draws lovers out of their separateness into a whole new adventure of oneness and wholeness. We give you thanks for \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, for their open hearts, willing spirits, and for the example of love which they embody as a couple for us today. Empower them at this moment and always as they join their lives into one.

#### Intentions:

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, you have found in each other that which compliments your life. You stand here as two independent whole people, each bringing your gifts and love to this marriage.

#### Wedding Vows:

I ask you to join your hands and declare your vows to each other before God and this community of family and friends joined together with you.

#### Your Own Vows

#### Vows

#### Please face each other and join hands

#### Option 1: Your own vows

**Option 2: Respond "I Do" Vows:**

Groom Do you take bride to be your wedded wife? (I DO)

Do you promise to be a tender faithful husband? (I Do)

Do you promise to Love, Honor and cherish her in sickness and in Health, for richer or poorer, for better or for worse as long as you both shall live? (I Do)

Bride Do You take Groom to be your wedded husband? ( I DO)

Do you promise to be a tender faithful wife? ( I Do)

Do you promise to Love, Honor and cherish him in sickness and in Health, for richer or poorer, for better or for worse as long as you both shall live? (I Do)

**Reoeat after vows:**

Please repeat after me.

\_\_\_\_\_, I bring myself to you this day to share my life with you. You can trust my love for it is real. I promise to be a faithful husband / wife and to always share and support your hopes, dreams and goals. I vow to be there for you always. When you fall I will catch you; when you cry I will comfort you; when you laugh I will share your joy. Everything I am and everything I have is yours, from this moment forth and for eternity.

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**May I have the Rings?**

Since the beginning of time the circle has been a symbol of completeness, a symbol of committed love. An unbroken and never ending circle symbolizes a commitment of love that is also never ending. As often as you look at this symbol, may you be reminded of the commitment of love to each other that you have made here today.

**Exchange of Rings:**

Please repeat after me.

\_\_\_\_\_, you are my life, my love, my best friend, and with this ring I thee wed. May it be a reminder of my love and the sacred commitment I have made here today.

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**Final Blessing:**

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, by your free choice you have made a marriage. No matter what the demands on your lives and your time, the meaning of your living is now known through your love.

"The same wind moves you, but not in the same way. The same earth holds you, but not in the same place. The same sun feeds you and you share each other's shadows. Now you will feel no rain, for each shall be shelter to the other. Now you will feel no cold, for each shall be warmth to the other. Now you will feel no loneliness, for each shall be companion to the other. Now you are two bodies, but there is only one life before you. Go now to your dwelling place to enter into your days together, and may your days be good and long on earth!" - Apache Blessing

**Pronouncement of Marriage & Presentation:**

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, because you have showered our hearts with expressions of your love, and promised each other the joy of all your days, it gives me great honor and pleasure to now pronounce you husband and wife.

**Kissing of the Bride:**

\_\_\_\_\_, you may now kiss your beautiful bride!

I now present to you \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_!