

## *Interfaith Wedding Ceremony*

2 Officiants~ Jewish & Christian

Officiant 1 Represents Jewish Tradition & Beliefs

Officiant 2 Represents Christian Tradition & Beliefs

### *Processional:*

Groom and parents walk down the aisle and then take their places under the Chuppah.

Bride and parents walk down the aisle and then take their places under the Chuppah

### *Mothers light the Unity Candles: Officiant 2*

To begin this ceremony, I would like to invite the two mothers to light the unity candle. In lighting these candles the two mothers honor the lives of their children, the lives they brought into this world, their love for their children and support of this marriage. The two end candles represent the couple's individual lives different and unique.

### *Opening Remarks and Blessing Officiant 1:*

Welcome family and friends. I am (Officiant 1 name) and my colleague is (Officiant 2 name). On behalf of (Bride and groom) they thank you for your taking the time to share and celebrate their wedding day. You have each played a part in the wonderful people they have become. Your love, support and the nurturing you have provided them has enabled them to grow into the beautiful people that are standing here in front of you today.

We welcome you here today as you will witness the joining of two hearts, and two unique diverse families into one new bond of love. Today (Bride) and (Groom) will create a new family, a new beginning joining two families into one

### *Blessing:*

#### **(Officiant 1)**

#### **Shehecheyanu**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of the universe, for giving us life, sustaining us and bringing us to celebrate this joyous time.

Baruch ata Adonai elohenu melech haolam Shehecheyanu Vekeyyamanu Vehigeeyanu Lazman Hazeh.”

### *Blessing*

**Officiant 2:** Blessed are you who come in the name of Lord. Let us Pray: Dear God, thank you for this joyous day. Thank you for Your Light that has entered Bride and Groom's life. Thank you for all the miracles and blessings. Please bless this union. Help Bride and Groom find the perfect place in this world for their love to flourish. Let the radiant light of their love shine on all those around them. May all their future creations be blessed? God, bless them with the inner gifts of trust, compassion, forgiveness and truth that they may live and grow together in love and peace. Amen.

## *Remembering Loved Ones Who Have Passed Away Officiant 2*

At this time, we would also like to honor those who could not be with us today. We offer a special remembrance of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Although they are not here with us physically, we feel blessed they are with us in spirit on this beautiful day. We bow in silence to honor their memory. (Pause for a few moments.)

### *Readings Read by family members or friends:*

#### Reading 1:

I shall betroth thee unto me forever, Yea, I shall betroth thee unto me in righteousness, And in loving kindness and in compassion; And I shall betroth thee unto me in faithfulness. (Hosea 2;19)

#### Reading 2:

1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

### *Hand blessing May go here: Officiant 2*

“[GROOM’S NAME] and [BRIDE’S NAME], please face each other and place your palms together so you may feel the gift that you are to one another.”

“These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and full of love for you, that are holding yours on your wedding day, as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow, and forever.”

“These are the hands that will work alongside yours, as together you build your future.”

“These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years and with the slightest touch will comfort you like no other.”

“These are the hands that will hold you when fear or grief wracks your mind.”

“These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children and support your grandchildren

“These are the hands that will help you to hold your family as one.”

“These are the hands that will give you strength when you need it.”

“And lastly, these are the hands that – even when wrinkled and aged – will still be reaching for yours, still giving you the same unspoken tenderness with just a touch.”

“Bless these hands that you see before you this day. May they always be held by one another. Give them the strength to hold on during the storms of stress and the dark of disillusionment. Keep them tender and gentle as they nurture each other in their wondrous love. Help these hands to continue building this relationship, rich in caring and devoted to reaching for perfection. May [GROOM’S NAME] and [BRIDE’S NAME] see their four hands as healer, protector, shelter and guide. May these hands and this relationship be blessed for all time.”

## *Exchange of Vows: Officiant 2*

\_\_\_\_\_, repeat after me: I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you \_\_\_\_\_, to be my wedded wife, To have and to hold from this day forward, For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, In sickness and in health, to love and to cherish as long as we both shall live.

\_\_\_\_\_, repeat after me: I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you \_\_\_\_\_, to be my wedded husband, To have and to hold from this day forward, For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, In sickness and in health, To love and to cherish as long as we both shall live.

## *Rings: Officiant 1:*

Rings are a precious metal; they are also made precious by us wearing them. Your wedding rings are special they enhance who you are. They mark the beginning of your long journey together. Your wedding ring is a circle a symbol of love never ending. It is the seal of the vows you have just taken to love each other with end.

\_\_\_\_\_ please place the ring on Brides left hand and repeat after me:

Ani L'Dodi, V'Dodi Li (I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine)

\_\_\_\_\_ please place the ring on Groom's left hand and repeat after me:

Ani L'Dodi, V'Dodi Li (I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine)

## *Blessing of the Wine Officiant 1:*

The wine symbolizes the sweetness of your lives May your lives be as sweet as the fruits of the vine. The wine also symbolizes sharing. Share this cup of wine as a symbol of the love you share here today.

“Blessed are you, creator of the universe, who has given us the fruit of the vine. “

“Baruch ata Adonai elohenu melech haolam boray p're hagoffen.”

## *The Seven Wedding Blessings Officiant 1:*

1. Baruch Ata HaShem Elokainu Melech HaOlam, SheHakol Barah Lichvodo

You are blessed, Lord our God, the sovereign of the world, who created everything for his glory.

2. Baruch Ata HaShem Elokainu Melech HaOlam, Yotzer Ha'Adam

You are blessed, Lord our God, the sovereign of the world, the creator of man.

3. Baruch Ata HaShem Elokainu Melech HaOlam, Asher Yatzar Et Ha'Adam Betzalmo, b'Tzelem Dmut Tavnito, VeHitkon Lo Mimenu Binyan Adei Ad. Baruch Ata HaShem Yotzer Ha'Adam

You are blessed, Lord our God, the sovereign of the world, who created man in His image, in the pattern of His own likeness, and provided for the perpetuation of his kind. You are blessed, Lord, the creator of man.

4. Sos Tasis VeTagel HaAkarah, BeKibbutz Bane'ha Letocha BeSimchaa. Baruch Ata HaShem, Mesame'ach Tzion BeVaneha

Let the barren city be jubilantly happy and joyful at her joyous reunion with her children. You are blessed, Lord, who makes Zion rejoice with her children.

5. Sameach TeSamach Re'im Ahuvim, KeSamechacha Yetzircha BeGan Eden MiKedem. Baruch Ata HaShem, MeSame'ach Chatan VeKalah

Let the loving couple be very happy, just as you made your creation happy in the Garden of Eden, so long ago. You are blessed, Lord, who makes the bridegroom and the bride happy.

6. Baruch Ata HaShem Elokainu Melech HaOlam, Asher Barah Sasson VeSimcha, Chatan VeKalah, Gila Rina, Ditza VeChedva, Ahava VeAchava, VeShalom VeRe'ut. MeHera HaShem Elokeinu Yishama BeArei Yehudah U'Vchutzot Yerushalayim, Kol Sasson V'eKol Simcha, Kol Chatan V'eKol Kalah, Kol Mitzhalot Chatanim MeChupatam, U'Nearim Mimishte Neginatam. Baruch Ata HaShem MeSame'ach Chatan Im Hakalah.

You are blessed, Lord our God, the sovereign of the world, who created joy and celebration, bridegroom and bride, rejoicing, jubilation, pleasure and delight, love and brotherhood, peace and friendship. May there soon be heard, Lord our G-d, in the cities of Judea and in the streets of Jerusalem, the sound of joy and the sound of celebration, the voice of a bridegroom and the voice of a bride, the happy shouting of bridegrooms from their weddings and of young men from their feasts of song. You are blessed, Lord, who makes the bridegroom and the bride rejoice together.

7. Baruch Ata HaShem Elokainu Melech HaOlam, Boreh Pri HaGafen.

You are blessed, Lord our God, the sovereign of the world, creator of the fruit of the vine.

### *Lighting the Unity Candle*

#### **Unity Candle: Officiant 2**

Groom and Bride, you have exchanged vows and rings expressing your desire to be united as one in a Christ-honoring marriage. As you enter marriage, may the light of his presence in your life and works through you be seen as a light in the darkness, a sign of God's light and presence. May that truth be reflected as you now take the flames from two separate candles and blend them into the one center candle. May the Lord unite you with one faith, one hope, and one love. I ask you to light this candle on your wedding anniversary remembering this day, and the promises made to each other.

#### **Pronouncement: Officiant 2**

Officiant: "By the power of your love, and by the commitment you have made to each other, together, we now pronounce you "husband and wife" (or "partners for life")."

Officiant: "You may now seal your union with a kiss!"

#### ***Breaking of the Glass: Officiant 1:***

(Bride and Groom), Today you joined two lives as one. You beautifully declared your love, and shared your traditions through the symbols of the canopy, the wine, the unity candle, your vows, the exchange of rings; the kiss and now you will share another tradition of breaking of the glass.

**Final Blessings together 1 & 2 in English and Hebrew:**

Our final blessing for your marriage:

“Y’varech’cha Adonai v’yish’m’recha. Ya’eir Adonai panav eliecha vi’y’chuneka. Yisa Adonai panav eilecha v’yasem l’cha shalom.”

“May God bless you and keep you. May God’s presence shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God’s presence be with you and give you shalom; peace.”

**Introduction: Officiant 2:**

Family and friends we are honored to present to you for the first time Mr. & Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_