

## Opening

We are gathered here today to celebrate one of life's greatest moments: the joining of two hearts. In this ceremony today, we will witness the joining GROOM/BRIDE and GROOM/BRIDE in marriage.

If there is anyone present who has just cause why this couple should not be united.....

Who gives this woman/man to be married today (Optional)

Today they promise to dedicate themselves completely to each other, with body, speech, and mind. For them, out of the routine of ordinary life, the extraordinary has happened. They met and now will transform their feelings into the path of love, compassion, joy and equanimity? Today they attain greater enlightenment by perfecting their kindness and compassion toward each other and world around them.

## Spiritual Path

Buddhism is a path of transformation of one's inner potential.

It is a path dedicated to serving others, helping them awaken their potential.

Marriage is the vehicle to practice serving others.

Love is wishing others happiness.

Marriage is the equal commitment to the happiness of our partner, toward their awakening.

Our inner potential is developed through taking on challenges, not just through joy.

We need people in order to practice compassion.

Since their marriage is dedicated toward the happiness of all living beings, those gathered here are the representatives of all living beings.

GROOM/BRIDE and GROOM/BRIDE are happy today not only because they can share the joy of their love for each other with friends and family, but also because they have the opportunity to express their aspirations for the future.

## VOWS

I, GROOM/BRIDE take you GROOM/BRIDE to be my husband/wife, my partner in life and my one true love. I will cherish our friendship and love you today, tomorrow, and forever.

I will trust you and honor you.

I will laugh with you and cry with you.

Through the best and the worst.

Through the difficult and the easy.

Whatever may come I will always be there.

As I have given you my hand to hold.

So I give you my life to keep.

I, GROOM/BRIDE take you GROOM/BRIDE to be my Husband/Wife, my partner in life and my one true love. I will cherish our friendship and love you today, tomorrow, and forever.

I will trust you and honor you.

I will laugh with you and cry with you.

Through the best and the worst.

Through the difficult and the easy.

Whatever may come I will always be there.

As I have given you my hand to hold.

So I give you my life to keep.

### We Do's

Recognizing that the external conditions in life will not always be smooth and that internally your own minds and emotions will sometimes get stuck in negativity. Do you pledge to see all these circumstances as a challenge to help you grow, to open your hearts, to accept yourselves, and each other; and to generate compassion for others who are suffering? Do you pledge to avoid becoming narrow, closed or opinionated, and to help each other to see various sides of situations?

“We do”

Understanding that just as we are a mystery to ourselves, each other person is also a mystery to us. Do you pledge to seek to understand yourselves, each other, and all living beings, to examine your own minds continually and to regard all the mysteries of life with curiosity and joy?

“We do”

Do you pledge to preserve and enrich your affection for each other, and to share it with all beings? To take the loving feelings you have for one another and your vision of each other's potential and inner beauty as an example and rather than spiraling inwards and becoming self-absorbed, to radiate this love outwards to all beings?

“We do”

### Ring Exchange

I GROOM/BRIDE, take thee, GROOM/BRIDE to be my Husband/Wife - To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, in joy and sorrow, and I promise my love to you. And with this ring, I take you as my Husband/Wife, for as long as we both shall live.

I GROOM/BRIDE, take thee GROOM/BRIDE, to be my Husband/Wife. To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, in joy and sorrow, and I promise my love to you. And with this ring, I take you as my husband/wife, for as long as we both shall live.

Remember to be patient with yourselves and others, knowing that change comes slowly and gradually.

Seek inspiration from your family and friends. Develop the understanding of the nature of all things, Form the wisdom of knowing there is a deeper way of existence.

### Closing

To make your relationship work will take love. This is the core of your marriage and why you are here today. It will take trust, to know, that in your hearts, you truly want what is best for each other. It will take dedication, to stay open to one another - and to learn and grow together. It will take faith, to go forward together, without knowing exactly what the future brings. And it will take commitment, to hold true to the journey you both have pledged to today.

By the power vested in me, I now pronounce you . . . . .

(THE KISS)

You may kiss your Groom/Bride.

I would like to introduce the happy couple.