



The Wedding of Sophia and Crystal Burset

Processional

~ Introductory Music ~

Welcome Statement

Minister: Welcome to this day of celebration, it's great to have all of you here to witness the union of **Sophia** and **Crystal** as wife and wife before the Universe. Together, we will share in the joys of their wedding, both with the outward celebration of this occasion and with an internal appreciation for the love that surrounds us.

Sophia and **Crystal**, you two have the opportunity to build an amazing life together. You are blessed to share this experience with the loved ones gathered here to support you as you embark on this journey together.

Marriage is, truly, a magical gift. As Mark Twain noted, "Marriage makes of two fractional lives a whole, and it gives to two purposeless lives a work [...] it gives to two questioning natures a reason for living, and something to live for; it will give a new gladness to the sunshine, a new fragrance to the flowers, a new beauty to the earth, a new mystery to life."

May you all remember and cherish this ceremony, for on this day, with love, we will forever bind **Sophia** and **Crystal** together.

Family Blessing

Minister: Who gives this bride today?

Bridal Companion: I do.

Speak Now

Minister: If there is anyone in attendance who has cause to believe that this couple should not be joined in marriage, you may speak now or forever hold your peace.





Wedding Sermon

Minister: Marriage is more than a simple exchanging of rings or combining of material assets. Rather, it is an indescribably powerful shared commitment. While today I will legally bind you together, the truly important bonds we form today are largely invisible to the world, existing primarily in the unfilled corners of your heart.

Marriage is one of life's greatest gifts, and it is a blessing to make these promises with your soulmate. As you hold onto one another, you will find deeper levels of joy, happiness and peace together. Your marriage is the foundation upon which you will build the rest of your lives and, despite any adversity, will always be there to sustain you.

Sophia and **Crystal**, take a moment to sense the tremendous amount of love radiating throughout this space. As you stand here today, before the Universe, before those gathered here in your honor, and before one another, take note that after you speak your vows this day your lives will never be the same. Marriage, regardless of any preconceived notions you might have, has the capacity to deepen and challenge and strengthen you and your relationship in ways that you never thought possible.

The joy you'll find as you pursue your shared lives will fuel you to face head-on the challenges you'll encounter on this Earth. On your journeys together, keep your spouse in the space of highest priority in your heart.

Learn to work together, to laugh together, and to love together. Don't get caught up in worldly things that will draw you apart. Instead, focus on your shared devotion and turn inward. As your relationship strengthens you will find that you come to share a remarkable love; a love that is both abundantly given and freely accepted.

Consecration

Minister: As we celebrate this bond of unity today it is important that we keep in mind that, while this is certainly an occasion of tremendous joy, the promises we witness here today are serious and life-altering commitments.

Love, it has been noted, is the reason we live. As Carl Sagan wisely deduced, "The world is so exquisite with so much love and moral depth. We should remain grateful every day for the brief but magnificent opportunity that life provides. The sum of all our evolution, our thinking and our accomplishments is love."

It is with simultaneous feelings of elation and expressions of respect that we proceed.





Exchange of Vows

Minister: Sophia and **Crystal**, I would now invite you to publicly speak your commitment to your partner.

Sophia, would you like to begin?

Sophia: Crystal, today I take you to be my wife; I join my life with yours. I promise to love and to honor you; to treasure you and to respect you; to walk with you side-by-side in joy and sorrow. I vow to be honest, caring, and truthful; to love you as you are, and not as I want you to be; and to grow old by your side as your love and best friend. I give you my hand, my heart, and my love, from this day forward.

Minister: Crystal, your turn.

Crystal: Sophia, today I take you to be my wife; I join my life with yours. I promise to love and to honor you; to treasure you and to respect you; to walk with you side-by-side in joy and sorrow. I vow to be honest, caring, and truthful; to love you as you are, and not as I want you to be; and to grow old by your side as your love and best friend. I give you my hand, my heart, and my love, from this day forward.

Declaration of Intent

Minister: Sophia and Crystal please join hands.

Sophia, do you take **Crystal** to live together in the union of marriage? To take her as your best friend and partner in life? To honor, cherish, and love her, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, for all of your days?

Sophia: I do.

Minister: Crystal, do you take **Sophia** to live together in the union of marriage? To take her as your best friend and partner in life? To honor, cherish, and love her, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, for all of your days?

Sophia: I do.





Exchange of Rings

Minister: The wedding ring's circular shape reflects the unending power of love – a force with no beginning and no end. You should wear these rings proudly, and let them remind you each day of your commitment to one another.

Please repeat after me:

- I, **Sophia**, give you **Crystal** this ring as a symbol of my love. As I place it on your finger, I commit the whole of my heart and soul to you. I promise to cherish you for the rest of my days. I give you all that I am, and accept all that you are.
- I, **Crystal**, give you **Sophia** this ring as a symbol of my love. As I place it on your finger, I commit the whole of my heart and soul to you. I promise to cherish you for the rest of my days. I give you all that I am, and accept all that you are.

Pronouncement

Minister: Family and friends, by the power vested in me by the Universal Life Church and by the state of **New Mexico**, I am pleased to pronounce **Sophia** and **Crystal** as wife and wife, sealed together today both in law and in love.

Kiss

Minister: Sophia, you may kiss the bride.

Presentation

Minister: Ladies and gentlemen, for the first time, Mrs. and Mrs. Sophia and Crystal Burset!

Recessional

~ Exit Music ~