### Standard Non-Denominational Christian Ceremony

Processional/Introductions/Greeting:

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today in this wonderful paradise, to celebrate one of life's greatest relationships – the union between man and woman. A wedding is the celebration of the miracle of love.  **Bride** and **Groom**, today, in the presence of God, family and friends we celebrate this miracle in your lives.

In Paul’s first letter to the Church at Corinth, he writes:

Love is patient and kind; Love is not jealous or boastful;
Love is not arrogant or rude; Love does not insist on its own way;
Love does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices with the right.
Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
Love never fails.

Marriage is the holiest of all earthly relationships and the state of matrimony is based on a deep, invisible union of two souls who seek to find completion in one another. Learning to love each other and to live together in harmony is one of the greatest challenges of marriage. Marriage is not to be entered into lightly; it should be entered into reverently, thoughtfully, and with full understanding of its sacred nature. Your marriage will stand by the strength of your love and the power of faith in each other and in God.

**Groom** and **Bride**, I charge you both as you stand in the presence of God, to remember that love, trust, and loyalty are the foundation of a happy and enduring marriage. No vows are more sacred than those you are about to make. If these vows are kept unbroken, and as you endeavor to do the will of your Heavenly Father, your lives together will be full of joy and love.
Please join hands and look into each other's eyes.

*Declaration of Intent/Exchange of Vows:*

Do you, **Groom,** take this woman, to live together in marriage; will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and in adversity; and forsaking all others, be faithful to her, so long as you shall live?

Groom: "I do."

Then repeat after me:

I, **Groom**, take you, **Bride**, 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, till death do us part.

Do you **Bride** take this man, to live together in marriage; will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and in adversity; and forsaking all others, be faithful to him, so long as you shall live?

Bride: "I do"

Then repeat after me:

I, **Bride**, take you, **Groom**, 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, till death do us part.

*Exchange of rings:*

May I have the rings please?

These rings are symbols of eternity and the unbroken circle of love. Love freely given has no beginning and no end.  Today you have chosen to exchange rings, as a sign of your love for each other, and as a seal of the promises you make this day. We ask that God bless these rings and this union of souls.
**Groom,** as you place this precious ring on **Bride’s** finger repeat after me:

Just as this ring encircles your finger,/ so does my love encircle your heart./  May this ring forever be a symbol/ of my growing love for you./  With this ring I thee wed.

**Bride,** as you place this precious ring on **Groom’s** finger repeat after me:

Just as this ring encircles your finger,/ so does my love encircle your heart./  May this ring forever be a symbol/ of my growing love for you./  With this ring I thee wed.

*Recognition and Declaration/Presentation of the Couple/Recessional:*

And so now, inasmuch as you, **Groom**, and you, **Bride**, have announced the truths that are already written in your hearts, by the power invested in me by the Territory of the United States Virgin Islands, I now pronounce you husband and wife.

**Groom**, you may kiss your bride!