

Component Samples

Unity Ceremony:

Unity Sand Ceremony (colors are selected by couples preference)

Rev. T:

Michelle and Sean have just sealed their relationship by the giving and receiving of rings. Now they have chosen to represent their love and unity through a special sand ceremony. Their beautiful union will be symbolized through the combining of these two individual containers of sand. The ORANGE sand for the BRIDE (*Rev.T hands orange sand to Michelle*) represents who she is ... her personality, individuality, values and all of her life experiences that have made her the woman she is today. The RED sand for the GROOM (*Rev.T hands red sand to Sean*) represents who he is ... his ideals, thoughts, passion and life trials that have made him that stands before you.

Each container holds its own unique beauty, strength, and character. They can stand on their own and be whole, without need of anything else. However when these two are blended together they create a new and extraordinarily more intricate entity. Each grain of sand brings to the mixture a lasting beauty that forever enriches the combination.

We begin with a foundation of Neutral Sand which symbolizes that the marriage is grounded.

Rev. T pours a little of the Neutral Sand into the large jar.

Then we layer the individual colors which symbolizes that the marriage is based on the strength of the individuals.

*Sean pours a little of the Red Sand in first,
Rev. T follows by a little more of the Neutral Sand.
Michelle pours a little of the Orange Sand,
Rev. T follows by a little more of the Neutral Sand.*

Finally, we combine the colors which symbolizes two lives joined as one together forever.

*Sean and Michelle simultaneously pour remaining sand into jar until theirs are empty.
Rev. T caps off the sand with the last of the Neutral Sand.
Rev. T then holds up large jar to audience.*

Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage be a molding of two individual personalities, bonded together forming one heart and one love. The life that each of you experienced individually, before this moment, will hereafter be inseparably united, for the two shall become one.

Unity Flower Ceremony (for couple with young children)

Rev. T: We celebrate that growth between Amy and Jason that for eleven years they have discovered ways to care for their relationship and as they grow with their family they will continue to discover new ways to care for their family and one another.

(Rev. T. moves toward vases to explain the ceremony – The children are next to or held by mom and dad or maybe grandparents)

The Unity Flower Ceremony acknowledges the growth and beauty of relationships as well as the great care needed to cultivate them. Flowers represent the result of this care brought from many elements such as the sun bring life energy, the earth for the home, the rain for nourishing and cleansing and the wind to carry the sweet essence, reminding us of beauty. Just like the flower, so too are essential elements needed for the growth of relationships.

The essential element for this union and this family is love. The mother's placed their flowers as a symbol of the love that nourished their family but must now let go so that the next generation may begin to cultivate the love that will nourish another family.

The vase in the center has stood empty and is now ready to be filled by the family united in today's marriage with the next generation to receive the fruits of this union and the continued cultivation of love for one another.

(Grandmothers bring the girls to stage with Amy and Jason. Grandmothers step aside while Amy, Jason, and girls come to center vase taking the flowers from the mother vases and putting them in the center vase – giving each of the girls a flower)

The flowers brought together symbolize the love that will guide each other.

(Family stands together as Rev. T closes Unity ceremony)

May the life energy in the form of love bring unity into your home, may this love nourish and cleanse you so you may be reminded of the beauty your care has cultivated.

(Addressing audience)

We celebrate the Unity between Amy and Jason through marriage but more importantly recognize and celebrate the blessing and unity of their family with their sweet daughters Alexys and Mya.

(Grandmothers take the girls down to the audience... have something the girls can put their flowers in...)

Amy and Jason face the audience for the pronouncement of marriage...

Community Expression: - Butter Fly Whish

Butterfly/paper tags on the chair with a pen... wrapping around the tree after the ceremony... wishes from minister, wedding party, family and friends

Rev. T: If you could just for a moment believe in the possibility that the meeting of John and Marcy was energized by fate or the Bashert. As a community of witnesses it is your turn to lend a peace of creation presence and perception in the form of a blessing. Just as the butterfly gathered strength to emerge and carry out its destiny, let your blessings and wishes add to the source of strength that will support John and Marcy on their journey together.

Directions:

When you were seated you found an offering on your seat from the bride and groom, a gift of thanks to you. The butterfly wish blessing is your gift to them done in lieu of signing a guest book and will help Marcy and John remember this special day.

Light Unity Candle

Motion bride and groom to the table

Candles will be on the table at the right as you're walking down the aisle.

Rev. T: The flame of unity has burned long before the two of you met. It is now time to celebrate your meeting your bond with the lighting of that flame for your own Unity Candle. May it always represent the bond that has always existed between you and its flame represent the bond that has and will always light the way of your journey together.

Unity Ritual:

Rev. T: Bound further the rings represent the love faith and loyalty you have embraced in your marriage ceremony. As you light the candle, you're light together burns forever from the flame of love, faith and loyalty.

The two outside candles have been lit to represent the influence of love from family that has passed and yet to come. The two candles now represent both your lives in this moment. They are two distinct lights, That are now ready to become one light. As you join now in marriage, there is a merging of these two lights into one. As your life unfolds further together may it bring more light into your hearts and your lives.

Your plans shall be mutual, your joys and sorrows shall be shared alike. As you each take a candle and together light the center one you let the center candle represent the union of your love into a sacred partnership, acknowledging who you have been as individuals, who your are now in marriage, and who you will become as a family.
May it be so.