

## Family Unity Ceremony

CHILD(REN), would you please come up and join your parents, BRIDE and GROOM.

GROOM and BRIDE, the rings you have given to one another are symbols of your commitment to one another, but they are also more. For today you are also making a commitment to your CHILD(REN). Today you are pledging your love to him/her/them as well, committing to him/her/them that you will create a family together. Let the perfect circle of the wedding ring embrace CHILD(REN), as well as the two of you. For our children are gifts entrusted to us.

BRIDE and GROOM, you have begun the adventure of parenting together. Do you both promise to work together as CHILDR(REN)'s parents, to share with one another the joys and sorrows of raising him/her/them, and to cherish your family as you cherish one another? (We do)

Do you BRIDE and GROOM promise to honor and protect CHILD(REN), and to provide for him/her/them to the best of your ability? Do you promise to make his/her/their home a haven, where trust, love, and laughter are abundant? And do you make these promises lovingly, and freely, and vow to honor them all the days of your lives?

BRIDE and GROOM: We do

OPTIONAL:

BRIDE and GROOM, now give these ( a token gift: rings, bracelets, necklaces) to their children as a symbol of love and to commemorate the creation of their new blended family.

MINISTER:

As you embark on your journey as CHILD(REN)'s parents, consider these words from The Prophet: You may give them your love but not your thoughts, for they have their own thoughts. You may house their bodies but not their souls, for they dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams. You may strive to be like them, in their innocence, but seek not to make them like you. For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday. You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.