## **UNITY CANDLE CEREMONY #1**

**MINISTER:** This candle you are about to light is a candle of Marriage. Its fire is magical because it represents the light of two people in love.

This candle before you is a candle of commitment because it takes two people working together to keep it aflame

This candle is also a candle of Unity because both come together, giving a spark of themselves, to create the new light.

As you light this candle today, may the brightness of the flame shine throughout your lives. May it give you courage and reassurance in darkness, warmth and safety in the cold, Strength and joy in your bodies, minds, and spirits.

May your union be forever blessed!!

## **UNITY CANDLE CEREMONY #2**

<u>Minister</u>: Long before you found each other in this lifetime, your souls burned brightly as one in the heavens. In this lifetime, you have both grown in to bright beacons of light that have gained strength and wisdom through your many travels and experiences. Nevertheless, as it was written in the stars, these beacons called out to each other in the darkness. Moreover, as destiny designed their response we love.

Together you stand before us prepared to reunite your soul's incandescence by rejoining your individual beacons of light back to their original glorious flame; a flame of such magnitude that not even death with extinguish it.

We celebrate with you, and in so celebrating, we light this candle in memory of all those who have gone before us or are unable to be with us today in recognition of the power that is love.

Minister: And now, let us participate in another symbolic act. Life is full of may such actions that speak to us of a deeper meaning that we cannot always put into words. You have used ancient symbols in this wedding service-the exchange of rings, the clasping of hands, the bearing of flowers. By such things you act instead of speak in regards to your promises. Now each of you will take a candle. Together you will light one larger candle. This is a vivid reminder that in Christian marriage, that our lives are merged, even as we remain individuals. This is a symbolic prayer that god will enhance our own persona and bless your uniqueness as individual: but that god will also make of your hands ONE hand.. Of your hearts ONE heart... and our lives ONE life.

<u>Minister</u>: Groom and Bride, the two lighted candles symbolize your separate lives, your separate families and your separate set of friends. I ask that you each take one candle and that together you light the center candle. The individual candies represent your individual lives before today. Lighting the center candle represents the joining together and our two families and sets of friends to one.