Wedding Script

Introduction and Welcome

(To guests): Welcome! Thank you for being here today and for supporting Jacqui and Dan over the years. As the old Irish saying goes, we like half of you half as well as we would like and like less than half of you half as well as you deserve. Which is to say, we love you all and are honored to be here with you today, to celebrate a loving and lasting relationship, which we now recognize as marriage. As Kermit says, this is the kind of dream that gets better the more people you share it with.

(To couple): Jacqui and Dan, thank you for inviting us to celebrate the love that has grown between you, deeper and more meaningful as the years have gone by. The kind of partnership you have is built on more than love. We have seen the ever-expanding empathy and the generous sense of humor that has gone into it and made it stronger. As Kermit also says, maybe you don't need the whole world to love you. Maybe you just need one person. One ridiculously optimistic person. May you never stop being each other's ridiculously optimistic person.

Declaration of Intent

(To couple): Please join hands.

(To Dan): Dan, do you take Jacqui to be your lawfully wedded wife to share your life with? Will you love her, laugh with her, comfort her, honor and defend her, and be true to her above all else?

(Dan to Jacqui): I do.

(To Jacqui): Jacqui, do you take Dan to be your lawfully wedded husband to share your life with? Will you love him, laugh with him, comfort him, honor and defend him, and be true to him above all else?

(Jacqui to Dan): I do.

Exchange of Rings

(To guests): Couples have exchanged rings as a symbol of commitment to each other for thousands of years. With no beginning and end, the circle is a symbol of eternity. Allow these rings to serve as a symbol of your love's history, present, and future.

(To Jacqui): Jacqui, please repeat after me: *I give you this ring as a symbol of my undying love for you. With it, I promise to love you, cherish you, and stand by you in good times and bad, sickness and health, for as long as I live.*

Jacqui places ring on Dan's finger.

(To Dan): Dan, please repeat after me: *I give you this ring as a symbol of my undying love for you. With it, I promise to love you, cherish you, and stand by you in good times and bad, sickness and health, for as long as I live.*

Dan places ring on Jacqui's finger

Salt Ritual

(To guests): Salt has been used as a preservative and purifier to prevent decay and corruption since ancient times. It is the symbol of God's character and dependability because it is enduring, never changing, and abiding eternally.

(To couple): Jacqui and Dan, a vial of salt stands before each of you, symbolizing your individuality as well as your aspirations, goals, desires, and intentions for this marriage and the family you have become. You create a Covenant by blending your salt together, symbolizing your joining in marriage and as one family.

(To couple): Dan and Jacqui, at this time, I ask each of you to lift your salt and blend them together.

(To couple): This salt exchange symbolizes the intertwining of your lives. You will be as difficult to come between as it would be to separate these grains of salt. This visual representation of your intentions for each other is as beautiful as it is eternal. No matter what life brings, this relationship is a shared and integral part of your journey through it.

Pronouncement

(To couple): At this time, I would like to share a wish for you both. My wish is you always find the Muppet-like optimism to love and care for each other and you continue to cultivate the support of your friends and family, which is as much a gift to us as we hope it is for you. May you be surrounded by the support and love shown here today for all the years to come, and may you be a light for each other in dark places, when all other lights go out!

By the power vested in me by the Universal Life Church Ministries and the American Marriage Ministries, I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss!