**Greeting**

Good morning everyone! My name is Josh Withers, I am duly authorised by law to solemnise marriages according to law.

On behalf of our couple, Kacey and Alex, I welcome you all in this celebration of love and marriage. Your presence here this day affirms the sacredness of this moment – the wedding day of Kacey and Alex. We are witness to this amazing journey, and our lovely couple thanks you for being here on this most glorious and precious of days!

You may all be seated. **Reflection**

Kacey and Alex, today, you commit yourselves to honoring and protecting one another above your separate selves, and to valuing your union above your own interests. In so doing, you will find a wealth of love and peace otherwise unattainable. With this joy comes a profound responsibility to protect the bond you share. For it is only with vigilance and dedication that your love is truly secure in the face of life's inevitable trials.

Your love for one another and your willingness to accept each other's strength and frailty with understanding and consideration is the foundation for a life together that will last. By your commitment to love each other, to work with all your hearts toward creating an atmosphere of care and respect, and by your eagerness to face the uncertainty in life together, you marry yourselves more surely than any words or any document ever can.

You must regard each other with the deepest respect. You must appreciate each other's talents, foster each other's dreams, and be ever mindful of the many gifts the other offers you. You must inspire and encourage one another. Bring out the very best in each other. Be sparing in criticism and generous in praise for things well done.  For by strengthening your partner, you strengthen your union.

In communication, be open and honest. For the heart that communicates truthfully without hesitation earns trust and builds a secure home. Without trust there is no respect, and without respect there is no love. Accept your marriage as a work-in-progress that will hereafter consume your attention, yet never be completed. A lifelong love requires a lifetime of hard work, and that is the nature of mutual adoration, the most exquisite and rewarding partnership we can ever hope for. **Shout Out**

Kacey and Alex, the presence of your family and friends is more than just an audience to your wedding, they are here to let you know how much they support the two of you.

At this time, I will ask you all, family and friends of Kacey and Alex, to assert your support of this marriage by answering “we will” to the following question:

Will you surround this couple with an abundant friendship, offering them your wisest counsel and most thoughtful concern, nurturing their union with constant encouragement, and celebrating with them through the seasons of life together?

(Audience: We will!) **Poem | Reading**
May your love be firm, and may your dream of life together be a river between two shores -- by day bathed in sunlight, and by night illuminated from within.
May the heron carry news of you to the heavens, and the salmon bring the sea's blue grace.
May your twin thoughts spiral upward like leafy vines, like fiddle strings in the wind, and be as noble as the Douglas fir.
May you never find yourselves back to back without love pulling you around into each other's arms. **Declaration of Intent**

 Kacey and Alex, I ask you now to please declare your intent to marry, responding with “I DO” at the end of the question.

 Kacey, do you receive Alex with all your heart and intend let love grow and flourish in your married life together? (Response: I DO!)

 Alex, do you receive Kacey with all your heart and intend let love grow and flourish in your married life together? (Response: I DO!) **Exchange of Vows**

The couple will now be exchanging their marriage vows.

Kacey and Alex, before you are joined in marriage in my presence and in the presence of these witnesses, I am to remind you of the solemn and binding nature of the relationship into which you are now about to enter. I would like to remind you that these vows represent a covenant that will guide you in your days together. They are promises exchanged through words, and proven through selfless acts of kindness. Marriage, according to law in Australia, is the union of 2 people to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life.

Speak from your hearts, and let your partner’s words take you across a threshold into your new life together.
Kacey, please repeat after me.
I call upon the persons here present to witness that I, Kacey Smith, take you Alex Jones, to be my lawful wedded husband,
my constant friend, my faithful partner
and my one and only love.
I promise to stay by your side,
In sickness and in health,
in joy and in sorrow,
in trials and triumphs.
I promise my faith and trust in you
To encourage you in all you do,
Grow with you in mind and spirit,
And cherish you always.

Alex, please repeat after me.
I call upon the persons here present to witness that I, Alex Jones, take you Kacey Smith,
to be my lawful wedded wife,
my constant friend, my faithful partner
and my one only love.
I promise to stay by your side,
In sickness and in health,
in joy and in sorrow,
in trials and triumphs.
I promise my faith and trust in you
To encourage you in all you do,
Grow with you in mind and spirit,
And cherish you always. **Giving of Rings**

May I have the rings please?

As you wear these rings, whether you are together or apart for even just a moment, may these rings be a constant reminder of the promises you are making to one another this day.

 Kacey, as you place the ring on Alex's finger, please repeat after me: On this day / I join my life with yours / I offer you my heart / my hand, and my love. / Please accept this ring / as a symbol of my devotion to you / for always and forever.

 Alex, as you place the ring on Kacey's finger, please repeat after me: On this day / I join my life with yours / I offer you my heart / my hand, and my love. / Please accept this ring / as a symbol of my devotion to you / for always and forever. **Blessing | Prayer**
You are the star of each night,
You are the brightness of every morning,
You are the story of each guest,
You are the report of every land.
No evil shall befall you, on hill nor bank,
In field nor valley, on mountain nor in glen.
Neither above, nor below, neither in sea,
Nor on shore, in skies above,
Nor in the depths.
You are the kernel of my heart,
You are the face of my sun,
You are the harp of my music,
You are the crown of my company. **Officiant’s Charge**

 Kacey and Alex, sending you on your way to married life, I wish for you to always remember that your marriage will remain true when you are steadfast in love and in friendship.

I implore each of you to be the constant ally who is loyal, vigilant, and dedicated to lift up the other.

Each be the friend who takes no notice of small faults, rather rises up to be more compassionate, patient, and understanding.

Each be the partner who is thoughtful, generous, and kind to nourish the other.

Each be the champion and advocate for one another’s dreams, endeavors, and hopes for the future.

In this journey ahead of you called marriage, each of you must walk it and live it together, hand in hand, heart to heart, and that is an alliance - a friendship, a bond - shared forever in brilliant, joyful, and everlasting love. **Pronouncement**

 Kacey and Alex, we have heard your promise to share your lives in marriage and have witnessed your exchange of rings.

In accordance with the laws of the state of Queensland , in the spirit of the true and abiding love, I now proclaim you to be [spouse] and [spouse], partners in life!

Congratulations; you may share your first kiss as newlyweds!

It is my privilege to present to you the happy couple, {{pronouncementnames}}!