

To those who call beloved, yet are not here:

Your spirits fill us with the warm glow of love.

You are in our hearts always.

Family and Friends,

We sincerely appreciate your company on
this most momentous day.

Your presence is an honor we will cherish throughout our lives,
and we hope we are able to return your generosity many times over.

Special Thanks to.....

The Marriage Service of
First, Middle, Last Name of Spouse 1
and
First, Middle, Last Name of Spouse 2
Officiated by....
on Saturday, Month, Day, Year
Time
Site
Address

SEATING OF NEAREST AND DEAREST

Intended A (parents, etc)..... Intended B (parents, etc)
Groomsmen often act as ushers and help guests find seats as well as distribute programs.

PRELUDE

Kindly remember to silence electronic devices. Celebrant will describe briefly the meaning of a humanist ceremony as a rite of passage in which the best of the old and new meet in the spirit of love.

PROCESSIONAL OF THE WEDDING PARTY

If live, music played by

Name of Song, Name of Author Names in Party
Names cont'd
Names cont'd
Names cont'd
Name of Song, Name of Author Entrance of Bride or Couple Together

WELCOMING

Celebrant states the reason for the celebration and invites everyone to recognize the joys of marriage.

REFLECTIONS ON MARRIAGE

Celebrant considers the charms of love and potential gifts marriage may bring with a full understanding of its purpose. Celebrant may also remark upon the challenges of a life-long partnership and suggest advice to perpetuate peace.

MOMENT OF QUIET CONTEMPLATION

Honoring.....

Celebrant invites everyone to reflect silently on the magnitude of the occasion and to honor those who helped make the day possible.

OPENING RITE

Couple may request an opening rite, such as a cleansing ritual, spilling wine in honor of spirits of loved ones who passed away or the pain that still exists in the world, or a more contemporary rite in which they distribute chocolate to underscore the bitterness and sweetness of life or ask guests to add to their wishing tree after the ceremony, et cetera.

INTERLUDE

Couple may select passages, literature excerpts, or poems that capture how they feel about each other, marriage, and love.

Name of Reading, Name of Author..... Name of Reader

Name of Reading, Name of Author..... Name of Reader

VOWS OF INTENT

Celebrant introduces the vows. First, the celebrant traditionally asks for the couple's consent to marry. The couple may then exchange vows in “repeat after me” format. Alternatively, the couple may recite vows they wrote for each other.

Consent Example: Dost thou take this woman/man for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness, in health, and to have and to hold from this day forth as thy wedded wife/husband to live together in the bonds of matrimony seeking that only which her/his love induces her/him to give freely? Dost thou promise to love, comfort, cherish, honor, and care for her/him in sorrow and joy and, forsaking all others, keep only unto her/him so long as ye both shall live?

Example of Vows: I promise to be onto thee a loving and faithful spouse/husband/wife/life-long partner.

SPECIAL RITE

Couple may incorporate a rite of passage in acknowledgement of their vows. Such unity rites as the candle, sand, rose, hand-fasting, salt, loving cup, wine box and love letters, unity wine or drinking wine, pebbles, wish

EXCHANGE OF SYMBOLS

While not mandatory, most couples do exchange rings. Most often, the Best Man and/or Best Woman have rings (given by the ring bearers), although it is not unusual for the parents or couple themselves to hold on to the rings and present them to the couple at this time.

Celebrant will highlight the meaning of the rings and the couple may exchange a few words will giving their first gift in marriage. These vows are often in “repeat after me” format and lead by the officiator.

Example: In token and pledge of our abiding love, with this ring I thee wed, and thereto pledge all I am, all I have, and I will ever be with constant faith, love, affection, and kindness.

SIGNING OF MARRIAGE LICENSE

Celebrant invites witness or witnesses to step forward to sign the license (or keepsake certificate for commitment celebrations and vow renewals); couple then signs. Be sure to have a small table nearby if you choose this option and have a large wedding ceremony.

Name of Song, Name of Author..... Name of Singer

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

Celebrant closes the ceremony with wishes for the best of luck to grace the couple's future. Couple may also ask parents or grandparents or siblings or other special someones to read a blessing.

Name of Reading, Name of Author..... Name of Reader

PRONOUNCEMENT

Celebrant introduces the couple.

FIRST ACT AS NEWLYWEDS

Couple may jump the broom, break the glass, or simply kiss.

RECESSIONAL

Name of Song, Name of Author..... Name of Musician