

PRELUDE

A song may be sung as people gather together in a circle or semi-circle. Or, an original poem or meditation by one of the guests may be presented. Or, a short musical composition, with or without accompanying dance, may be presented.

THE WEDDING PRENUPTIAL CEREMONY

CELEBRANT: It is with great pleasure that I welcome all of you to this ceremony celebrating the union between _____
And _____

This is a gathering of love – love given and received, love expressed as commitment, love celebrating a bond between two lovers, and love affirmed by all of us gathered here today. Indeed, it is love that is the deepest connection in our lives and in our relationships. Love inspires our hopes and dreams, and nurtures and sustains all our relationships. In the mystery of our lives lived, There are moments of a deeper communion. A joining of souls with Soul In glances that warm the heart. In touches that join us to a greater understanding, In embraces that suspend us in an eternity of bliss, Our first tentative doubts and uncertain hesitations Unfold and are transformed by the gentle nurture of time, Until the doubts change into a certainty that pronounces boldly That now is the time to surrender our hesitations and blend together. Into our fullness. We then proclaim and celebrate our love. We cannot define this mystery, Nor can we quantify it and concretize in solid forms the invisibility of the Holy feeling, But we can know there is a mystery beyond words and our accustomed comfortable certainties. And we can simply know we are in love. We can know that this love is our joy and peace and deepest fulfillment. We can just know that LOVE IS HERE! Even if we cannot define love, we come to know that without love, nothing else matters. Over twenty centuries ago, the Apostle Paul wrote about Love in what is now known as the thirteenth chapter of his first letter to the Corinthians. He said: If I could speak in any language in Heaven or on earth but didn't love others, I would only be making meaningless noise like a loud gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I knew all the mysteries of the future and knew everything about everything, but didn't love others, what good would I be? And if I had the gift of faith so that I could speak to a mountain and make it move, without love I would be no good to anybody. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would be of no value whatsoever. Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. Love will last forever... There are three things that will endure – faith, hope, and love` - and the greatest of these is love. From Holy Bible: New Living Translation, 1996

OPTIONAL

CELEBRANT: And now, these two we are uniting in [marriage] [Holy Union] would like to share briefly with all of you why they are making this commitment to each other and what this ceremony means to them.

Optional: Song or music. *****

THE WEDDING: THE CEREMONY OF UNION

(The group may choose to come in closer in a circle or semi-circle)

Celebrant: A circle represents eternity. That which we call Love is indeed an eternal something that many believe is the highest quality of humankind and that which transcends our limited understanding. At this time, _____
and _____

will exchange the rings, the circles, which symbolize their union. (The couple may speak out loud or whisper to each other their expression of love and commitment as they exchange rings). [The author of this ceremony believes the exchange of the rings is the core essence of the ceremony at the spiritual level, and the couple has been informed of the sacredness of this moment prior to their public ceremony].

Celebrant: It is now my honor to officially unite you in [marriage] [Holy Union].

Celebrant then asks each one of the following:

Do you take to be

your life mate and soul mate, [your wife/husband] And do you promise to honor, respect, and cherish now and forever? Each participant may answer "I do" or "Yes.">>>

celebrant:

and

you have stated to each other and to those gathered here that you are united. It is a union grounded in love, hope, and future promise. Therefore, by the authority vested in me as an ordained Divine Science Minister [and/or other ordination if relevant], I now pronounce you:husband and wife]> (or)
<soul mates united in Holy Union)> You may embrace and kiss

BENEDICTION:

Celebrant: There is one Sacred Presence, one Power of Divine Love, one Holy Spirit. We are all Its expression and we partake in Its unending Perfection and Harmony. In this ceremony, the bonds of love expressed by

and

reminds us that we are all connected and nourished by the Perfect Love that brings the Peace that passes our understanding. We are thankful for the life we are living, the love are expressing and sharing, the joy of being fully human and fully involved in this great mystery of Life. May we all be blessed now and forever.

Amen!