

**WEDDING CEREMONY**

**Institute of Creative Judaism**

## ENTRANCE MUSIC (As desired)

Reader

בְּרוּכִים הַבָּאִים בְּשֵׁם אֱהֻבָּה  
בְּרֻחַ אֱהֻבָּה.

Blessed are you who have come in the name of love;  
in the spirit of love, we bless you.

מִמְעַן הַחַיִּים הָאֲדִיר עַל הַכֹּל

From the well of life that is mightier than all;

מִמְעַן הַחֶסֶד הַקָּדוֹשׁ עַל הַכֹּל

From the well of loving kindness that is greater than all;

מִמְעַן הַרַחֲמִים הַגְּדוֹל עַל הַכֹּל

From the well of compassion that is greater than all;

יְתַבְּרְכּוּ הַחַתָּן וְהַכּוֹלֵה.

Blessed be this bride and groom.

May all that is noble and true in the universe inspire your lives. May the spirit of goodness and mercy guide your labors. May you live out your days together in a world of peace.

SERMONETTE (As desired)

תְּהִי לָדָם בְּרִית הַקִּידוּשִׁין לְהַעֲשִׂרַת חַיֵּיהֶם

May the covenant of marriage into which the bride and groom are entering this day enrich and ennoble their lives.

תְּהִי לָדָם בְּרִית הַקִּידוּשִׁין לְרַעוּת לְדְבָקוּת וּלְשָׁלוֹם

May this covenant bring them the gifts of friendship, devotion, and peace.

תְּהִי לָדָם בְּרִית הַקִּידוּשִׁין בְּרִית אֱמוּנָה וּקְדוּשָׁה

May this covenant be a testament of faithfulness and sanctity.

As this ceremony celebrates the covenant that is sealed with abiding love, so does this day promise the sweetness of that family union which is founded on dedication and commitment, on duty and mutual self-consecration.

And now \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, as, in the presence of caring and loving witnesses, you stand ready to enter into the bond of wedlock, respond in faithfulness:

\_\_\_\_\_, do you of your own free will and consent take \_\_\_\_\_ to be your husband, and do you promise to love, honor, and cherish him throughout life? If so, answer: I do.

\_\_\_\_\_, do you of your own free will and consent take \_\_\_\_\_ to be your wife, and do you promise to love, honor, and cherish her throughout life? If so, answer: I do.

**WINE CEREMONY**  
(Reader raises goblet of wine)

3.

As this cup is raised, we feel deeply our gratitude for the spiritual and material bounties of life.

בְּרוּךְ מְעַן הַחַיִּים אֲשֶׁר כָּחוֹ הַבְּרִיאָה  
בוֹרָא פְּרִי הַגֶּפֶן.

Blessed is the wellspring of life whose creative power fashions the fruit of the vine.

(Cup is handed to bride or groom who first offers the other a sip, and then takes a sip herself or himself.)

As together you have now drunk from this cup, so may you in enduring union and devotion to each other draw contentment, comfort and happiness from the cup of life. Thereby may you find life's joys doubly gladdening, its bitterness sweetened, and all things hallowed by true companionship and love.

**RING CEREMONY**  
(Rings are passed to bride and groom)

\_\_\_\_\_, place this ring upon the finger of your groom as a token of wedlock, and repeat these words which I now say:

הָרִי אִתָּהּ מְקוּדֶשׁ לִי בְּטַבְעֵת זֶה בְּאַהֲבַת עוֹלָם,

Be thou consecrated unto me with this ring as my husband with an abiding love.

\_\_\_\_\_, place this ring upon the finger of your bride as a token of wedlock and repeat these words which I now say:

הָרִי אִתִּי מְקוּדֶשֶׁת לִי בְּטַבְעֵת זֶה בְּאַהֲבַת עוֹלָם,

Be thou consecrated unto me with this ring as my wife with an abiding love.

By these rings, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, you symbolize your marriage bond. May their meaning enter into your hearts and bind your lives together by faithfulness and dedication to one another.

Truly, then, will these rings fulfill the word of the Song of Songs:

שִׁימְנֵי כַחוֹתֶם עַל-לִבִּי

"Wear me as a seal upon your heart,

כַחוֹתֶם עַל-זְרוּעֵי

As a seal upon your arm;

כִּרְעוּזָה כַמוֹת אֲהַבָּה

For love is infinitely strong...

מֵיִם רַבִּים לֹא יוֹכְלוּ לְכַבּוֹת אֶת-הָאֲהַבָּה

Many waters cannot quench love;

וְנַהַרוֹת לֹא יִשְׁטְפוּהָ.

No flood can sweep it away."

## CONCLUSION

In mutual concern and ever-deepening regard for one another, may the home you establish be a sanctuary that is filled with the spirit of grace and generosity.

You have now spoken the words and performed the rites that unite your lives. I do, therefore, in conformity with ancient custom and with the laws of this state, declare your marriage to be valid and binding; and I pronounce you, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, to be husband and wife.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, now you need not know the cold, for you can be each warmth to the other. You need not know the dark, for you can be each light to the other. You have this day raised up a shelter against the loneliness of human existence. Though you remain two persons, you will share a life together. May your years be good and long upon the earth, and may love and truth be your companions forever.

יְהִי דְרַכְּכֶם מְבֹרָךְ.

May your way be blessed.

יְאֵר עֲלֵיכֶם אֹר הַחֲכָמָה.

May wisdom's light shine upon you.

יִתֵּן לָכֶם מַסְעֵיכֶם שְׁלוֹם.

May your journey bring you peace.

Amen