

Rev. Rick's Ceremony Sequence Suggestion

You can provide a ceremony sequence of your own, or use any or part of my suggestions below. The order of events can be switched, new events added, or omitted. Please use the following as a basic guideline to the various parts of a traditional wedding ceremony.

PRELUDE: This is the time when guests are arriving up until the mother of the bride is seated.

PROCESSIONAL: This is when the wedding party comes down the aisle, followed by the bride and her presenter. The guests are asked to stand as the bride is escorted down the aisle.

GIVING AWAY OF BRIDE: (optional) I can ask the questions, "Who gives "bride's name" to be married to "groom's name"? The parents, escort or father would answer "I do" or "We do".

WELCOME TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND OPENING REMARKS: (guests are seated) This is the greeting of the guests by Rev. Rick on behalf of the couple.

OPENING PRAYER BY REV. RICK: (optional) In a religious ceremony, a prayer to God asking for his blessing in the marriage or more popularly, a spiritual blessing that just asks the "universe" for blessings and opens the ceremony up to the acknowledgment of a greater force by offering gratitude for this day.

MINISTER ADDRESS: This part is usually about 5-10 minutes where I speak directly to you to lead you into the moment of the vows and to remember the core reason of why you are doing this.

READING OF "HAND POEM": (optional) This is a poem that I have found to be quite appropriate. Please see separate sheet on the poem. You will face each other and hold hands for this.

DECLARATION OF INTENT: This is where the two of you assert that you are going into the marriage by your own volition. Known as the "I do's".

WEDDING VOWS: Here you speak your words of commitment to each other through the vows that you speak. You can choose from traditional vows, modified vows, (See separate vow sheet) or you can write your own. You can repeat after me or speak from your heart.

RING VOWS: This is the traditional exchanging of wedding rings, meant to be the physical representation of the vows you have said. Here you can use the traditional vows, or choose your own wording, and repeat after me. It will always end with "With this ring I marry you"

LIGHT UNITY CANDLE (optional), **SOLO** (optional), **COUPLE PRAYER** (optional), **LEI CEREMONY:** At this time you may want to have a candle lighting ceremony to symbolize your merging, or you may choose to have a quiet time of prayer and reflection while a soloist sings. You may want to present lei's to each other or to your parents. You can have this time to do anything you want, or you can go straight to the pronouncement.

PRONOUNCEMENT: "By the authority vested in me by the state of Hawaii, I now pronounce you husband and wife".

KISS: Traditional kiss (please hold 3 seconds for good pictures).

PRESENTATION OF COUPLE: "Ladies and Gentlemen, I present to you for the first time Mr. & Mrs."

RECESSIONAL

