

Lynn and Jim at Oakham House, Ryerson University

The Introduction

Welcome to the marriage of Lynn Hart and James McDonald.

Marriage is the union of two people who openly declare their love, and share their joy with family and friends.

Marriage is valued by society as a secure environment in which to raise children.

We are gathered here to witness the marriage of Lynn and Jim, to wish them well, and to encourage them in their new life as a loving couple.

Intentions

I invite you now to declare your intentions, asking,
Lynn, will you have this man, James, to be your husband? (I will)
James, will you have this woman, Lynn, to be your wife? (I will)

Readings

From William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*:

But soft, what light through yonder window breaks?
It is the east and Juliet is the sun!
... It is my lady, O, it is my love!
Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven,
Having some business, do entreat her eyes
To twinkle in their spheres till they return.
What if her eyes were there, they in her head?
The brightness of her cheek would shame those stars,
As daylight doth a lamp. Her eyes in heaven
Would through the airy region stream so bright
That birds would sing and think it were not night.
See how she leans her cheek upon her hand
O that I were a glove upon that hand,
That I might touch that cheek!

Song:

“You’re Everything” performed by Laurence Smith

The Vows and Exchange of Rings

Lynn and James, you have indicated your desire to be united in marriage.
Will you confirm your commitment by reciting your vows?

I, Lynn (James), take you, James (Lynn),
to be my husband (wife)
to be my lover and my friend
to be the father (mother) of our children.
I offer you my love, respect, and loyalty.
I shall support you through the adversities of life.
I ask you to accept me for who I am and for whom I shall become.
(Placing the ring on partner’s finger):
I give you this ring as a symbol of my never-ending love for you.

From John Lennon’s song “Love”:

Love is real, real is love
Love is feeling, feeling love
Love is wanting to be loved

Love is touch, touch is love
Love is reaching, reaching love
Love is asking to be loved

Love is you
You and me
Love is knowing
We can be

Love is free, free is love
Love is living, living love
Love is needing to be loved

Pronouncement:

For as much as Lynn and James have consented together in marriage, and have declared their love for each other by giving and receiving of rings and joining of hands, I declare them to be husband and wife.

Kiss

Sharing the First Glass of Wine:

The pleasant taste and effervescence of this wine is the result of careful and patient aging.

Wine improves with age. Also, through care and patience, may your love and friendship grow stronger as the years go by.

Many days you will sit at the same table to eat and drink together. Share this glass of wine as you will share future joys and successes.

(Couple drinks)

Sign the Register

The Conclusion (Wish):

“Forever Young” by Bob Dylan

May you love each other always
May your wishes all come true
May you always do for others
And let others do for you
May you build a ladder to the stars
And climb on every rung
May you be forever young.

May your hands always be busy
May your feet always be swift
May you have a strong foundation
When the winds of changes shift
May your hearts always be joyful
May your song always be sung
May you stay forever young.

May you live on to be righteous
May you live on to be true
May you always see the truth
And the lights surrounding you
May you always be courageous
Stand up and be strong
May you stay forever young.

Presentation:

May I present to you the married couple, Lynn and James.