**Wedding Welcome & Invocation & Toast**

**Welcome - for a couple who have been awaiting legalisation recognising all marriages**

Family and friends of ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_& \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***, welcome to this exciting, auspicious and long awaited occasion.  Welcome to those who have walked from nearby in (name of town) and to those who have travelled from places far beyond.   Welcome to those who have, with ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_& \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***, waited for more than a decade [*insert number of years relevant to couple*] to come to this wedding.

We come to celebrate, honour and respect the love of ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_& \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***, as they make their vows and promises to one another, as a couple, and as a family, before one another, before God, before us and before the law (one might name the local/federal legal body recognising same-sex marriage, e.g. of England, of Scotland, of South Africa, etc.) as witnesses!

**Welcome -- general version**

Families and friends of ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_& \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***, welcome to this exciting, exotic, auspicious occasion.

*When family and friends have travelled from afar:*

Welcome to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s family travelling from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and places beyond.

Welcome to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s family travelling from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and places beyond.

Welcome to friends from all over!

We come to celebrate, honour and respect the love of ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_& \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***, as they make their vows and promises to one another, a new couple, a new family in our midst. And I invoke the mystery that is LOVE to bear witness to our witness and to bless ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_& \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***, as we bless them today.

**Invocation of Love**

I invoke the mystery that is LOVE to bear witness to our bold and joyful witness, and to bless ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_& \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***, as we bless them this afternoon.