

Naming Ceremony

This ceremony can be shared with family and friends gathering together to welcome a child into the family, to Mother Earth, and into the community. Invitations can be sent to ask guests to bring a flower or a plant of their choice along with a small note that can be placed into a scrap book for the child. The notes can be good wishes, photographs, poems, drawings or whatever they would like to pass on to the child. This book can be kept for the child to see later. Also, a photograph of the bouquet of flowers can be put in the book. A basket of petals can be collected earlier to spread where the child is or place on the child while naming.

This naming ceremony may be conducted outside - weather permitting. It may be appropriate to bring chairs for people. If this ceremony is conducted inside, people may still be able to join in a circle and when spreading petals you may put down a blanket to collect them.

Naming Ceremony

Welcome family and friends to this special time. I invite you all to join together in a circle of life and love to welcome this precious flower into our lives.

Opening of Sacred Space: (This can be done by Reverend or four people who are part of the circle.)They will be standing in the cardinal directions of north, east, south and west. Playing the heart beat on the drum will bring a connection within the circle.

Spirits of the Air: We call to you, the Breath of life, the Knowledge of life, the Wind of life - it blows from thee to me. Be with us now.

Spirits of Fire: We call to you, the Heat of life, the Will of life, the Fire of life - it burns from thee to me. Be with us now.

Spirits of Water: We call to you, the Blood of life, the Passion of life, the Water of life - it flows from thee to me. Be with us now.

Spirits of Earth: We call to you, The Flesh of life, the Strength of life, the Earth of life - it moves from thee to me. Be with us now.

Prayer

Great Spirit, as we gather together with our family and friends, we give thanks for this special day - this day we give thanks for..... We are all witness to the blessing of Spirit on the life of We welcome her/him into our hearts, home and community.

Dear _____

May the road rise up to meet you

May the wind always be at your back

May the sun shine warm upon your face

May the rain water your path

Song:

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, x3

Let it shine x3

I'm gonna take this light around the world and I'm gonna let it shine x3

Let it shine x3

Won't let anyone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine x3

Let it shine x3

Let it shine x3

OR

We Are There

by Molly Atkinson-Powell (music available upon request from grandmotherblueowl@gmail.com)

Chorus

If you need a shoulder to cry into

If you need a hand to grab onto

If you need a back you can jump onto

If you need open arms you can run into

We are there/ We are here

We are there/We are here

We are always there/We are always here

Just like the roots of the trees deep in the earth

Just like the nest that surrounds the baby birds

Just like the rock that holds up the mountain top

We will always be there to guide you along

We will always help you stay strong

When I think of the two of you

All I can see is the light that shines through

And your eyes that smile and your giving hands

Your gentle ways and adventurous plans

There is so many ways that water can flow

These are the things that you will always know

As you grow into the people you are best

You'll be amazed at the strength you possess

Take your time growing up, there is no need to rush

Keep your kindness and your spirit generous

You both came to teach us pure love and light

Now we will hold the ground as you take flight

If you need a shoulder to cry into

If you need a hand to grab onto

If you need a back you can jump onto

If you need open arms you can run into

We are there/ We are here

We are there/We are here

We are always there/We are always here

Reading: This may be shared by an elder/ grandparent or the Reverend.

The Prophet by Kahlil Gibran

Your children are not your children, they are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.

They come through you but not from you,

And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts. For they have their own thoughts.

You may house their bodies but not their souls, for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you. For life goes not backward nor carries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth. The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinity, and He bends you with his might that His arrows may go swift and far. Let your bending in the Archer's hand be for gladness; for even as He loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is stable.

Message

Welcome Family and Friends

We meet here today in celebration of a new life which has entered into this world, a life with all the potential spiritual growth, which is part of our divine heritage.

Being children of the Great Spirit we are sharing in a ceremony which is ancient in character and sacred in essence. This ceremony is a recognition of the new life which has come amongst us, an acknowledgement of identity and of oneness with God.

Men and women have always felt the need to be distinguished from one another and known by an individual name. This is just as desirable today as it has ever been.

Our service of naming is, therefore, an act of thanksgiving for this young life and an opportunity for each of us to dedicate ourselves to their future wellbeing. We seek God's blessing on this child, who may shed radiant light in our world. It may be that they will lead mankind into greater knowledge and understanding.

It is the duty of parents and guardians to train children in the ways of spiritual growth, therefore no two or three sponsors alone will suffice to support them in this task. A duty devolves upon us all to share responsibility for the welfare of this little child. Today's children are the promise of a better world.

Spiritualism acknowledges that children are blossoms of Divine Love. A blessing from God born in accordance with natural law.

Let us pause to admire the beauty and purity of the human flower with which God graces the earth, of which this child is a delightful example.

We shall use these flowers... as symbols of purity and grace and concentrate all our thoughts of love upon this child as we share their name.

Let us pray:

Divine Spirit we thank you for the blessings given to _____ (mother) and _____ (father) through the gift of this young life.

May their love grow stronger and their instincts as parents unfold through love and care.

As this child grows in years, may they grow in strength and wisdom. In time may they become a comfort and help to their parents and be aware of You and the nearness of spirit messengers throughout life.

Take child/baby

What name do you give your daughter/son?

Using these flowers - earth's gems as - emblems of the beauty which God's desires in the hearts of all His children, I name you _____. Sprinkle petals on child.

May God bless and shield you, may His Spirit messengers guide you and aid you in trouble, comfort you in sorrow, inspire you to search for truth and may His presence and blessings be with you throughout your life,

Amen.

Presentation of Flowers to the Child.

As you present a flower to the child you may share your message, wish a greeting of love for the child. These notes will be placed in a book that will be kept for _____. We are here to support your life's quest.

Song:

Turn Around

Where are you going, my little one, little one?

Where are you going, my baby, my own?

Turn around and you're two, turn around you're four, turn around and you're a young one going out of the door.

Turn around, turn around, turn around and you're a young one going out of the door.

Where are you going, my little one, little one?

Toy trucks and petticoats, where have they gone?

Turn around and you're tiny, turn around and you're grown, turn around and you're a young person with babes of your own.

Turn around, turn around, turn around and you're a young person with babes of your own.

Closing of Sacred Space:

Spirits of the Air: We thank you for the breath of life that we have shared today. May you continue to blow from thee to we.

Spirits of the Fire: We thank you for the heat of life that we have shared today. May this fire continue to burn from thee to we.

Spirits of the Water: We thank you for water of life that we have share today. May it continue to flow from thee to we.

Spirits of the Earth: We thank you for the Strength of life that we have shared today. May it continue to move through thee to we.

Closing Prayer

Great Spirit, we give thanks for this beautiful child who is amongst family and friends who will watch over her/him. Now let us all celebrate with food and music and cheer. Amen.