

## **DEDICATION OF MASONIC HALLS AND TEMPLES BY FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF KENTUCKY**

The Dedications of Lodges is a Masonic ceremony to which the public can be invited. Therefore, a Lodge of Master Masons should be opened prior to the time of Dedication. Grand Officers and all Master Masons should be clothed as such. As this ceremony is a Masonic one, no one except Master Masons should ask to participate, except when requested to by The Grand Master.

Equipment needed to be furnished by Lodges: A table covered with a white cloth and seven chairs.

**GRAND OFFICERS ASSEMBLE IN FRONT OF THEIR STATIONS & PLACES. THE MASTER RAPS ONCE \* AND SAYS TO THE GRAND MASTER WHO IS STANDING or SEATED TO THE MASTERS RIGHT. "I now declare this lodge at labor on the Master Masons degree." Then he says to the GRAND MASTER:**

**MASTER-** Most Worshipful Grand Master, the brethren of .....Lodge No. ...., being motivated by a desire to promote the honor and interest of the Craft, have erected this Masonic Temple. The building in which we are now assembled has been constructed and we hope meets with your approval. We desire that this Temple be now dedicated to Masonic purposes.

**GRAND MASTER-** Worshipful Sir, the officers of the Grand Lodge are greatly pleased, and approve what you have done. You and your brethren deserve high commendations, and we pray that all who come after you, to assemble within these walls, may emulate your example and display equal zeal for our Fraternity. (MASTER offers the crown and Gavel to the GRAND MASTER and is escorted by the Grand Marshal to a seat on the floor and is SEATED)

**GRAND MASTER-** Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, announce to the brethren, and to all persons present, whose Name we most honor as Freemasons; declare the purpose to which this temple is dedicated and explain the principles.

**GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN- (rises)** Most Worshipful Grand Master, the first duty of Masons is to God, because he is the Creator and the Ruler of all things and the Giver of all good. All our ceremonies are intended to promote a reverence for him, and to impress upon the beginner the duties owed by man to him, and this Temple must be dedicated in the name of the Great Jehovah.

This building is now to be embraced from within by its tenets which are virtue, charity, relief, brotherly love and affection, and above all a reverence to the Supreme Architect of the Universe. This is the purpose to which this Temple should be dedicated.

**GRAND MASTER-** Brother Grand Marshal, cause the Grand Officers to assemble about the emblem.

**GRAND MARSHAL-** Right Worshipful Brethren it is the order of the Grand Master that you form about this emblem and assist him in the ceremonies of dedication.

**GRAND OFFICERS ASSEMBLE IN FRONT OF THEIR CHAIRS (five chairs on the floor in front of the east) Grand Master sits in the center. (a small table and gavel to his right hand) the Grand Chaplain to Grand Master's left, and may have a podium, Deputy Grand Master to Grand Master's right. The Grand Marshal sits to the Deputy Grand Master's right near the Senior Deacons chair. A table is placed 3-6 feet in front of Grand Master. The Master of the lodge is seated on the left of Grand Chaplain, Grand Junior Warden South of the table, Grand Senior Warden West of table. After they assemble the GRAND MASTER CALLS UP THE GRAND OFFICERS AND BRETHREN WITH THREE RAPS (guest remain seated)**

**Consecration Prayer**

**GRAND CHAPLAIN-** Almighty and glorious Lord God, Creator of all things, mercifully look upon thy servants, assembled in thy name, and bless all our works. Graciously bestow upon us **wisdom**, strength, and **beauty** in all our work. Let Faith be our Hope, and Charity the fruit of our obedience.

Let us dedicate this house to the honor and glory of thy name.

May all who come within these walls have but one heart and one mind to love, to honor and to obey thee, and to love one another as thou hast loved us. May discord be here banished from our hearts. May we have thy holy word always present in our minds.

May all work performed in this house be approved by Thee. And finally, O Thou Great Architect of the Universe bless this Masonic craft wherever dispersed. When the time of our labor shall draw near to its end, enable us graciously, to pass through the valley of the shadow of death, supported by thy rod and thy staff, to those mansions where love and peace and joy reign forever and forever. Amen.

**RESPONSE** – So mote it be.

**GRAND MASTER SEATS THE BRETHREN WITH ONE RAP \***

**THE GRAND MASTER RAPS ONCE \* AND SAYS: "RIGHT REVEREND GRAND CHAPLAIN YOU WILL READ FROM THE BOOK OF THE LAW."**

**GRAND CHAPLAIN** (rises & reads from Holy Bible which he is carrying, or from the altar, or podium in front of his chair.)

"And King Solomon sent and fetched Hiram out of Tyre. He was a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass; and cunning to work all works in brass. And he came to King Solomon, and wrought all his work."

**GRAND CHAPLIN SITS, AND THE GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN RISES TAKES THE VESSEL OF CORN**

**GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN** – Most Worshipful Grand Master, in the dedication of Masonic temples and Masonic halls, it has been the custom to pour corn upon the lodge as an emblem of nourishment. I therefore present this vessel of Corn.

**GRAND MASTER CALLS UP THE GRAND OFFICERS ONLY WITH TWO \*\* THE BRETHREN ON THE SIDE AND NON-MASONS REMAIN SEATED**

**GRAND MASTER** – In the name of GOD, the Great Architect of the Universe, to whom we all honor, and praise, I, ....., Grand Master of Masons in the Commonwealth of Kentucky do solemnly dedicate this Temple (or Hall) to Freemasonry. (or, I, ....., acting by virtue of a dispensation from, and therefore in the name and stead of Most Worshipful....., Grand Master of Masons in the Commonwealth of Kentucky do solemnly dedicate this Temple (or Hall) to Freemasonry. ),

**GRAND MASTER POURS THE CORN UPON THE LODGE AND SAYS**

**GRAND MASTER** – May the Corn of Nourishment ever be granted to all who shall gather within these walls. Amen.

**RESPONSE** – So mote it be.

**GRAND MASTER LEADS ONLY THE GRAND OFFICERS IN GIVING THE PUBLIC GRAND HONORS ONCE, THEN HE SEATS THE GRAND OFFICERS WITH ONE RAP \***

**GRAND MASTER** – Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden to what other purposes may this Temple be dedicated, and in whose name?

**GRAND SENIOR WARDEN** – Most Worshipful Grand Master, from the very earliest days it has been the custom to dedicate Masonic Temples and Masonic halls in the name of the Great Jehovah; but for centuries we have dedicated them to the memory of the Holy Saints John, Freemasonry inculcates all virtues. So it has long been the custom among Freemasons to emphasize the teachings of the craft by dedicating their lodge rooms to Virtue.

**THE GRAND MASTER RAPS ONCE \* AND SAYS: “RIGHT REVEREND GRAND CHAPLAIN YOU WILL READ FROM THE BOOK OF THE LAW.”**

**GRAND CHAPLAIN** –“For he cast two pillars of brass, of eighteen cubits high a piece; and a line of twelve cubits did compass either of them about.

“And he made two chapters of molten brass to set upon the tops of the pillars; the height of the one chapter was five cubits, and the height of the other chapter was five cubits.

“And nets of checker-work and wreaths of chain-work, for the chapters which were upon the top of the pillars; seven for the one chapter and seven for the other chapter.”

**GRAND CHAPLIN SITS, AND THE GRAND SENIOR WARDEN RISES TAKES THE VESSEL OF WINE**

**GRAND SENIOR WARDEN-** Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wine the emblem of refreshment, having been used by our ancient brethren in the dedication of their temples, I present you this vessel of Wine, to be used according to Masonic form.

**GRAND MASTER CALLS UP THE GRAND OFFICERS ONLY WITH TWO \*\* THE BRETHREN ON THE SIDE AND NON-MASONS REMAIN SEATED**

**GRAND MASTER-** In the names of the Holy Saints John, do I now solemnly dedicate this Temple (or hall) to Virtue.

**GRAND MASTER POURS THE WINE UPON THE LODGE AND SAYS**

**GRAND MASTER-** May the Fountain of all Strength constantly refresh those who shall assemble here, and grant to them strength for the perfect performance of all those things which ought to be done here. Amen.

**RESPONSE-** So mote it be.

**GRAND MASTER LEADS ONLY THE GRAND OFFICERS IN GIVING THE PUBLIC GRAND HONORS TWICE, THEN HE SEATS THE GRAND OFFICERS WITH ONE RAP \***

**GRAND MASTER-** Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, make known unto the brethren and all other persons present to the significance of the third element of consecration and dedication.

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER-** Most worshipful Grand Master, Freemasonry is neither bounded by geography nor by race, creed or time. All Freemasons, will here find welcome and brotherly greeting, within these walls we teach, that “of one blood made He all the nations of the earth,” wherefore all men are brethren, one father and members of one family. We also teach that where destitution exists, there also it is our Masonic duty to relieve.

Every Entered Apprentice is taught the duty to extend relief to any deserving member of the human family. Even as our ancient Grand Master, Solomon King of Israel, in his prayer of dedication at the completion of the great Temple, ask for divine blessing not only upon the children of Israel, but also upon all the strangers from foreign lands. So Freemasons have dedicated their lodges to Universal Benevolence.

**THE GRAND MASTER RAPS ONCE \* AND SAYS: “RIGHT REVEREND GRAND CHAPLAIN YOU WILL READ FROM THE BOOK OF THE LAW.”**

**GRAND CHAPLAIN-** “And he made the pillars, and two rows round about upon the one network, to cover the chapters that were upon the top, with pomegranates; and so did he for the other chapter.

“And the chapters that were upon top of the pillars were of lily-work in the porch, four cubits.

“And the chapters upon the two pillars had pomegranates also above, over against the belly which was by the net work; and the pomegranates were two hundred in rows round about upon the other chapter.

“And he set up the pillars in the porch of the Temple; and he set up the right pillar, and called the name thereof Jachin: and he set up the left pillar, and called the name thereof Boaz.

“And upon the top of the pillars was lily-work; so was the work of the pillars finished.

**GRAND CHAPLAIN SITS, AND THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER RISES TAKES THE VESSEL OF OIL**

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER-** Most Worshipful Grand Master, I present for your use, according to our ancient custom, this vessel of Oil, and emblem of that Joy which we aim to spread throughout the world, and which should give life to every heart on the completion of this important undertaking.

**GRAND MASTER CALLS UP THE GRAND OFFICERS ONLY WITH TWO \*\* THE BRETHREN ON THE SIDE AND NON-MASONS REMAIN SEATED**

**GRAND MASTER-** In the name of the entire Fraternity, where-so-ever dispersed upon the earth, I do now solemnly dedicate this Temple (or Hall) to Universal Benevolence.

**GRAND MASTER POURS THE OIL ON THE LODGE AND SAYS**

**GRAND MASTER-** May the Oil of Joy be spread over the hearts of all the distressed and may our Fraternity extend benevolence and prove a constant joy to all mankind. Amen.

**RESPONSE-** So mote it be.

**GRAND MASTER LEADS ONLY THE GRAND OFFICERS IN GIVING THE PUBLIC GRAND HONORS THRICE, THEN HE RAPS THREE TIMES \*\*\* CALLS UP ALL BRETHREN. AND SAYS: “RIGHT REVEREND GRAND CHAPLAIN YOU WILL LEAD US IN OUR INVOCATION.”**

**Invocation**

**GRAND CHAPLAIN-** O Lord God, there is no God like unto thee, in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants, who walk before thee with all their hearts.

Let all the people of the earth know that the Lord is God; and that there is none else.  
Let all the people of the earth **know** thy **Name**, fear thee.

Let all the people know that this house is built and consecrated to thy name.

Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that we have built!

Hear the prayer of thy servant, O Lord, hearken to the prayer of thy servant, and thy people. Let thine eyes watch over this house night and day, and when thou hearest, forgive.

For they be thy people, and thine inheritance. For thou didst separate them from among all the people of the earth to be thine inheritance. Amen.

**GRAND OFFICERS RESPONSE-** The Lord is gracious, and his mercy endureth forever.

**GRAND MASTER SEATS THE LODGE AND THE GRAND MASTER INSTRUCTS GRAND OFFICERS RETURN TO THEIR STATION**

**GRAND MASTER MAKES INTRODUCTIONS AND ADDRESSES THE LODGE**

**GRAND MASTER-** Brother Grand Marshal, you will make proclamation that this Temple (or Hall) in which we are assembled has been dedicated to the purposes of Freemasonry in ample form.

**GRAND MARSHAL GOES WEST OF THE ALTAR (Faces East) RAISES HIS BATON AND SAYS:**

**GRAND MARSHAL-** To the glory of the Great Architect of the Universe: In the name of the Grand Master of Masons of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, I proclaim this Temple (or Hall) of ..... Lodge No. .... dedicated to Freemasonry, Virtue and Universal Benevolence agreeably to ancient craft usage and in ample form. I proclaim it to the East. (Faces west) I proclaim it to the West. (Faces South) I proclaim it to the South. (Faces North) I proclaim it to the North. Let all take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

(As he says directions he turns and faces that direction suiting actions to words)

**GRAND MASTER CALLS UP ENTIRE LODGE**

**GRAND MASTER –** Brother Grand Chaplain, will you now pronounce the benediction.

**GRAND CHAPLAIN-** Blessed be the Lord that hath given rest unto his people. The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers; let him not leave us, nor forsake us: that he may draw our hearts unto him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes, and his judgments, which he has commanded.

**RESPONSE-** Glory be to God on high; on earth peace, good will toward men.

**GRAND MASTER RAPS ONCE \* AND SAYS:**

Grand Officers will assemble in the east with the officers of \_\_\_\_\_ lodge # \_\_\_\_ and form a Photo opportunity or appreciation line. **(Move table and chairs to the sideline. Photos may be taken at this time).**