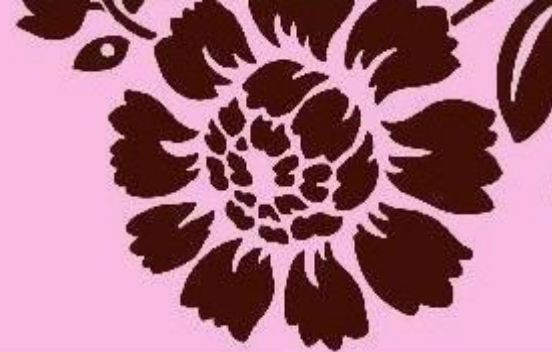


Wedding Bells Are Ringing

Non-Denominational Ceremonies For All Occasions



Designer: Commitment Ceremony

Gathering Words

Let us begin by welcoming the presence of God within each of us.

As we lift into the loving that joins us together as one, let us surround <Partner A> and <Partner B> with our love, our prayers, and our best wishes on this day of celebration and throughout their journey together as life partners.

We are here because <Partner A> and <Partner B> wish to publicly declare and celebrate their love for one another. We rejoice in the fact that they have found one another and have come to know the power of love as they have never known it before.

We celebrate this union of their hearts, their minds, their bodies and souls, and wish them great joy.

Chosen Reading No. 1

Couples who share a strong and abiding love with one another often say that the best part of their relationship is the fact that they don't have to pretend to be anything other than what they truly are, that they are able to express themselves without fear of being judged or rejected, that there is room in the relationship for both of them to be unique individuals, and that they are free to surrender to the possibility of profound intimacy – to be known and loved without condition.

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<Partner A> and <Partner B> have come to know and love one another for all that they are. Together, they have been strengthened by their love and through the beauty and tenderness of that love they have received many blessings. They have learned that they can depend on one other and on the power of their love, and that through each other they are becoming better people.

Today, they come before us to declare their commitment to one another as life partners, vowing to share the trials and triumphs that await them on their life's journey. They are declaring to one other, and to all of us present, that they will be by each other's side no matter what life brings their way.

Custom Addition No. 1: Friendship Circle

As the family and friends, of <Partner A> and <Partner B>, you are the ones who have taught them how to love. You have shown them the blessings that come only when one experiences, for themselves, the giving and receiving of true and unconditional love. We have all come here today with love in our hearts. We are here to support <Partner A> and <Partner B> as they begin their life journey together with promises of forever love, faithfulness, and devotion. We are here to see them off on this journey. Let us also be there to see them through.

<Partner A> and <Partner B> have expressed to me the importance of actively involving all of you in their celebration today. So, we are going to share a ritual, the Friendship Circle, which originated in the Quaker tradition. In a moment, I am going to ask you all to rise and join hands in a circle around the chairs. Then, anyone who wishes to may share their thoughts and feelings for <Partner A> and <Partner B> and the love we have come here to celebrate.

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You may want to offer them your blessing, or share a special story about them. You may want to recall a memorable event or time you shared together, or you may want to say something of a time you hope to share with them in the future. You may share whatever comes to mind.

So now, let us form our circle of family and friends.

(Everyone forms a circle and the Officiant invites guests to begin their sharing.)

Custom Addition No. 2: Candle Ceremony

This flame you ignite before us today is strong and shining brightly. May you tend it well so that it shines throughout your lives. May the warmth of the love it symbolizes forever bring you courage, reassurance, and comfort, and fill you both with strength and joy.

Commitment Vows

Please join hands to share your vows.

<Partner A>, will you please repeat after me:

I, <Partner A>, choose you, <Partner B>, in the presence of our friends and families, to be my partner from this time forward; to love you, to be a comfort and safe haven in your life, to hold you close, to listen deeply when you speak, to nourish you with my gentleness, to uphold you with my strength, to weigh the effects of the words I speak and the things I do, to never take you for granted, and to always give thanks for your presence in my life.

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<Partner B>, will you please repeat after me:

Dearest <Partner A>, I choose you to be my partner for life, to be by your side throughout all of our life's journey together. You are my best friend. You are my precious love. You are the one I choose to spend my life with. I promise to cherish you, to honor you, to love and respect you. I promise to comfort and encourage you when we must endure sickness and when we are blessed with good health; when we are filled with the joys of success and when we are burdened with the sorrows of loss, to never take you for granted, and to always give thanks for your presence in my life.

Chosen Reading No. 2

Please present the rings.

These rings are a symbol that has been carried forward from antiquity. They are simple and strong. They are round like the sun and the moon, like the eye, and like the embrace of love.

As circles, rings remind us that as we give our love, so it comes back around to us, and we give and receive love around and around in the circle of love.

May your commitment rings always serve as a reminder to you that your love, like the sun and moon, illuminates; that your love, like the eye, lets you see clearly; and that your love, like an embrace, is a grace upon the world.

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Ring Exchange

<Partner A>, place this ring on <Partner B>'s finger and repeat after me:

<Partner B>, let this ring be a symbol of my promise to always love you, cherish you, honor you, and comfort you. With this ring, I pledge myself to you, to our union, and our everlasting love.

<Partner B>, place this ring on <Partner A>'s finger and repeat after me:

<Partner A>, let this ring be a symbol of my promise to always love you, cherish you, honor you, and comfort you. With this ring, I pledge myself to you, to our union, and our everlasting love.

Pronouncement

Now that you, <Partner A>, and you, <Partner B>, have joined yourselves together by the taking of solemn vows and by the giving and receiving of rings, I pronounce that you are partners for life.

Congratulations and God bless you!

You may now kiss one another.

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