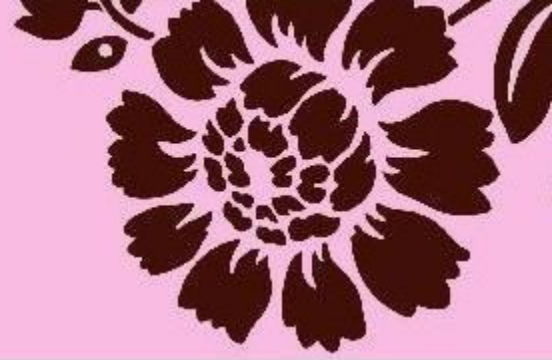


# Wedding Bells Are Ringing

Non-Denominational Ceremonies For All Occasions



## **Traditional: Handfasting Ceremony**

### **Gathering Words**

Greetings and Welcome to you all!

This is quite a special occasion that brings us together today. Here, with the horizon our only walls, the sky our only ceiling, and the beauty of nature alone as our altar, we have gathered to celebrate and to witness the marriage and handfasting of <Bride> and <Groom>.

### **Blessing**

May the Lord and Lady bless you both, and may these blessings fall upon your love and your marriage for as long as you shall live and love together.

Blessed be by the element of air. May you be blessed with communication, intellectual growth, and wisdom.

Blessed be by the element of fire. May you be blessed with harmony, vitality, creativity, and passion.

Blessed be by the element of water. May you be blessed with friendship, intuition, caring, understanding, and love.

Blessed be by the element of earth. May you be blessed with tenderness, happiness, compassion, and sensuality.

May these blessings of the Lord and Lady be with you always, and fill all of your coming days.

4515 286th Street \* Toledo, OH \* 43611

Phone: 419.279.4226

<http://www.weddingbellsareringing.com>

# Wedding Bells Are Ringing

Non-Denominational Ceremonies For All Occasions



## **Handfasting**

*(Handfasting cord is taken from the altar)*

<Groom> and <Bride>, this cord is a symbol of the lives you have chosen to lead together. Up until this moment, you have been separate in thought, word and action. As your hands are bound together by this cord, so too, shall your lives be bound as one.

If you would, please turn to face each other, and join your right hands.

*(Binding of hands and wrists with Handfasting Cord)*

Just as your hands are now bound together, so too, are your lives. May you be forever one, sharing in all things, in love and loyalty for all time to come.

## **Marriage Vows**

Now <Groom>, if you would, please repeat after me:

By seed and root,

By bud and stem,

By leaf and flower and fruit,

By life and love,

In the name of the God and Goddess,

I, <Groom>, take thee, <Bride>,

To my hand,

My heart, and my spirit.

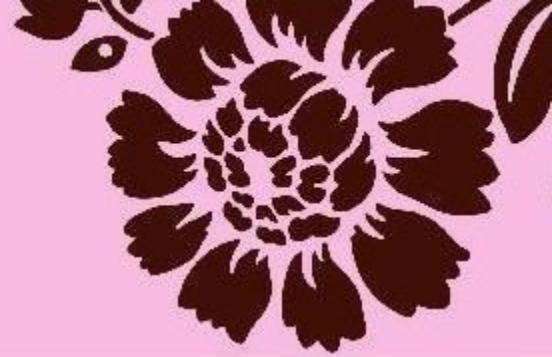
4515 286th Street \* Toledo, OH \* 43611

Phone: 419.279.4226

<http://www.weddingbellsareringing.com>

# Wedding Bells Are Ringing

Non-Denominational Ceremonies For All Occasions



And <Bride>, if you would, please repeat after me:

By seed and root,

By bud and stem,

By leaf and flower and fruit,

By life and love,

In the name of the God and Goddess,

I, <Bride>, take thee, <Groom>,

To my hand,

My heart, and my spirit.

## **Rings**

As it is, you cannot always be physically joined.

*(Removal of cord without untying it. Cord is then replaced on the altar)*

And so, we use the wedding ring to symbolize that connection. It is a constant reminder of the sacred bond shared between a husband and a wife.

Who holds the rings?

*(The rings are given to the Groom and Bride)*

<Groom> and <Bride>, you hold here in your hands the wedding rings that you will exchange with one another. When you give a ring to someone in marriage, you are giving them a symbol of your eternal love, a love that, like the circle formed by each band, has no beginning and no end.

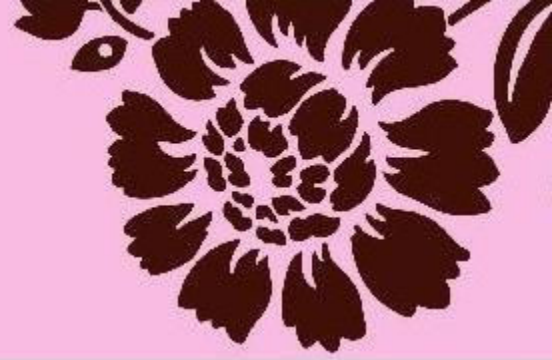
4515 286th Street \* Toledo, OH \* 43611

Phone: 419.279.4226

<http://www.weddingbellsareringing.com>

# Wedding Bells Are Ringing

Non-Denominational Ceremonies For All Occasions



As you understand this, and wish to affirm the love that the giving and receiving of these rings represents, please, exchange your rings with one another, and state for each, “With this ring, I thee wed”.

By the secrets of earth and water is this bond woven -- unbreakable, irrevocable. By the laws that created fire and wind is this bond set in you – endless and unchangeable.

## **Reading**

Above you are the stars, below you are the stones. As time passes, remember this: Like stones should your love be firm. Like a star should your love be constant. Let the powers of the mind and of the intellect guide you in your marriage; let the strength of your wills bind you together, let the power of love and desire make you happy and the strength of your dedication make you inseparable and always know that you are truly one in the eyes of the Gods.

## **Pronouncement**

And so, by the power vested in me by the State of Ohio, I now pronounce you husband and wife.

May the blessings of the Lord and the Lady be with you now and always.

Blessed Be!! You may now kiss the bride!

## **Presentation**

It is with great pleasure and honor that I now present to you all, for the first time, Mr. and Mrs. <Groom Full>!

4515 286th Street \* Toledo, OH \* 43611

Phone: 419.279.4226

<http://www.weddingbellsareringing.com>