

A CEREMONY FOR TWO PEOPLE WHO WANT TO RENEW THEIR WEDDING VOWS

Ceremony intention

- Remember and reaffirm the vows made to each other.
- Ask that the couple's growth and future together will be blessed.

Ceremony elements

Prayers: invocation, prayer and blessing for the couple's life together, reminder of the intention of why they came to marry [or be together], renewal of vows, closing blessing.

Readings/reflections: welcome, minister's address, poems/readings, selection from: Apache song: Now you will feel no rain, Dorothy R. Colgan: I Promise, Wilfred Arlan Peterson: The Art of a Good Marriage, Troy Williams: What I have been missing.

Commitments: family and friends of the parents may offer their support by forming an arch with their hands as the couple leaves from the labyrinth. Vows may be exchanged at the center of the labyrinth by passing scrolls to each other, or with a 'tied-knot' handshake, as well as being spoken out loud.

Symbols/actions: walking into the labyrinth together, where most of the ceremony takes place. Here, lighting of one larger candle from two others, to signify the meeting of two souls, pouring of different colored sand into one beaker. Leaving the labyrinth while holding a resolve to commit to and look forward to fulfilling their vows to each other.

Music: selected by the couple (suggested: celebratory, reflective).

Blessing:

Great Spirit and Bestower of all Life, bless dear [NAMES] this day and always, we pray. Fill them with Your power, Your wisdom and Your love. Give them strength to withstand difficulty and knowledge to inspire their growing in understanding together. Give them courage to confront what concerns them, and grace to be gentle and worthy supporters of each other. Heal them of all past wounds that might hold back their outpouring of love for each other, and keep them safe in the majestic journey that they now travel together. Bless this beautiful partnership, we pray.
And it is so.

Prayer for the renewal of vows

[Name's and Name's] love has endured for [years]. Through good and difficult times they have supported and nurtured each other, staying faithful to the promises that brought them together. In forming their partnership, they never doubted that each was meant for the other. They have served and honoured their commitments to grow and teach each other. Be with them now as they declare their vows anew.

Inspire their hearts to be filled with love for each other as they celebrate their unique and precious partnership. And it is so.