

Unity Church of Clearwater

 A House Built on Love

Readings for Your Ceremony

You may select a reading from this collection of favorites to be included in your ceremony, or you may submit a copy of another reading that you prefer. The reading you select can be read by the Minister (see the document entitled "Order of Service"), or it may be read by a dear one that you appoint for this honor. The readings given here are numbered for easy reference.

Love by Emmet Fox

There is no difficulty that enough love will not conquer;
No disease that enough love will not heal;
No door that enough love will not open;
No gulf that enough love will not bridge;
No wall that enough love will not throw down;
No sin that enough love will not redeem.
It makes no difference how deeply seated
may be the trouble,
How hopeless the outlook, how muddled the tangle,
How great the mistake, a sufficient realization
of love will dissolve it all
If only you could love enough you would be
the happiest and most powerful being in the world. . . .

Native American Wedding Blessing

Now you will feel no rain,
For each of you will be shelter to the other.
Now you will feel no cold,
For each of you will be warmth to the other.
Now there is no more loneliness for you,
Now you are two persons,
but there is one life before you.
Go now to your dwelling-place
To enter into the days of your togetherness.
And may your days be good and long upon the earth.

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High Romance by Leddy Hammock

Spirit breathed a love that would hold, but not restrain;
A fondness that would enfold, but not bind;
A joy that would delight, but not possess;
A promise that would be sacred, but not burdened;
A mindfulness that would be constant, but not obsessive.

Here two souls would share
An open invitation to one another,
A mutual consent to one another,
An unshakeable trust in one another,
A timeless, simply elegant love
– this is High Romance.

One perfect day, two souls found each other, at last!
And when their eyes met, they knew they
had always been together.
And Spirit breathed a smile.
That was the beginning of **High Romance**.

They knew that nothing and no one could ever part them.

Though their love holds them,
neither restrains the other;
Though their fondness enfolds them,
neither binds the other;
Though their joy delights them,
neither possesses the other;

Though they are promised, one to the other,
neither rules the other.

Though their mindfulness of one another is constant,
neither controls the other.

And through the years,
their invitation to one another
will remain open,

Their consent to one another shall be mutual,
Their trust in one another
stays ever unshakeable,
Their love is timeless,
simply elegant --
High Romance.

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On the Way of Marriage by Kahlil Gibran

Marriage begins with the first look . . .
between lover and beloved. . .
It is the first flame that lights up the
inner domain of the heart. . . .
The first glance from the eyes of the beloved
is like the spirit that moved upon the face of the water,
giving birth to heaven and earth
when the Lord spoke and said, 'Let there be'. . . .
In Marriage . . . Love's longing draws back the veil,
and illumines the recesses of the heart,
Creating a happiness that no other happiness can surpass,
but that of the soul when it embraces God.
Marriage is the union of two divinities
It is the union of two souls in a strong love,
for the abolishment of separateness.
It is that higher unity which fuses
the separate unities within the two spirits.
It is the golden ring in a chain
whose beginning is a glance,
and whose ending is eternity.

On Love by Kahlil Gibran

Love gives naught but itself and takes
naught but from itself.
Love possesses not nor would it be possessed.
For love is sufficient unto love.
When you say love, you should not say,
'God is in my heart,'
but rather, 'I am in the heart of God.'
And think not you can direct the course of love,
for love, if it finds you worthy, directs your course.
Love has no other desire but to fulfill itself, but if you love
and must needs have desires, let these be your desires
To wake at dawn with a winged heart
and give thanks for another day of loving:
To rest at the noon hour and meditate love's ecstasy;
to return home at eventide with gratitude;
And to sleep with a prayer for the beloved in your heart
and a song of praise upon your lips.

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On Marriage by Kahlil Gibran

Let there be spaces in your togetherness.
And let the winds of the heavens dance between you.
Love one another, but make not a bond of love;
Let it rather be a moving sea
between the shores of your souls.
Fill each other's cup, but drink not from one cup.
Give one another of your bread,
but eat not of the same loaf.
Sing and dance together and be joyous,
but let each of you be alone,
Even as the strings of a lute are alone,
though they quiver with the same music.
Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping,
for only the hand of Life can contain your hearts.
And stand together, but not too near together,
for the pillars of the temple stand apart,
And the oak tree and the cypress grow not
in each other's shadow.

Writings of the Co-founders of the Unity Movement:

“Love -- the pure essence of Being that binds together the whole human family. Of all the attributes of God, love is undoubtedly the most beautiful. In Divine Mind, love is the power that joins and binds in divine harmony the universe and everything in it Love is an inner quality that sees good everywhere and in everybody. It insists that all is good, and by refusing to see anything but good, it causes that quality finally to appear uppermost in itself, and in all things. Love is the great harmonizer and healer Divine love will bring your own to you, adjust all misunderstandings, and make your life and affairs healthy, happy, harmonious, and free, ‘Love therefore is the fulfillment of the law’ (Romans 13:10)”
(Charles Fillmore).

“Love that fulfills the Law is the great sense of unity that prompts the soul to seek the understanding and practice of that which is for the welfare not only of the beloved, but of all humanity”
(Myrtle Fillmore).

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Reading from St. Paul, I. Corinthians, Chapter 13.

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

