



# Creating a Free Family Website with WordPress

Carla S. Cegielski  
genresearcher@gmail.com  
www.cscgenealogy.com

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## Workshop Preparation

Please bring a laptop to the workshop. You may attend without a computer but you will get more out of the workshop if you are able to follow along on your own computer. We will access *WordPress.com* through the browser interface. While WordPress.com is accessible using a tablet, it looks and acts differently on a mobile device. The use of a tablet or any other mobile device will not be supported in this workshop.

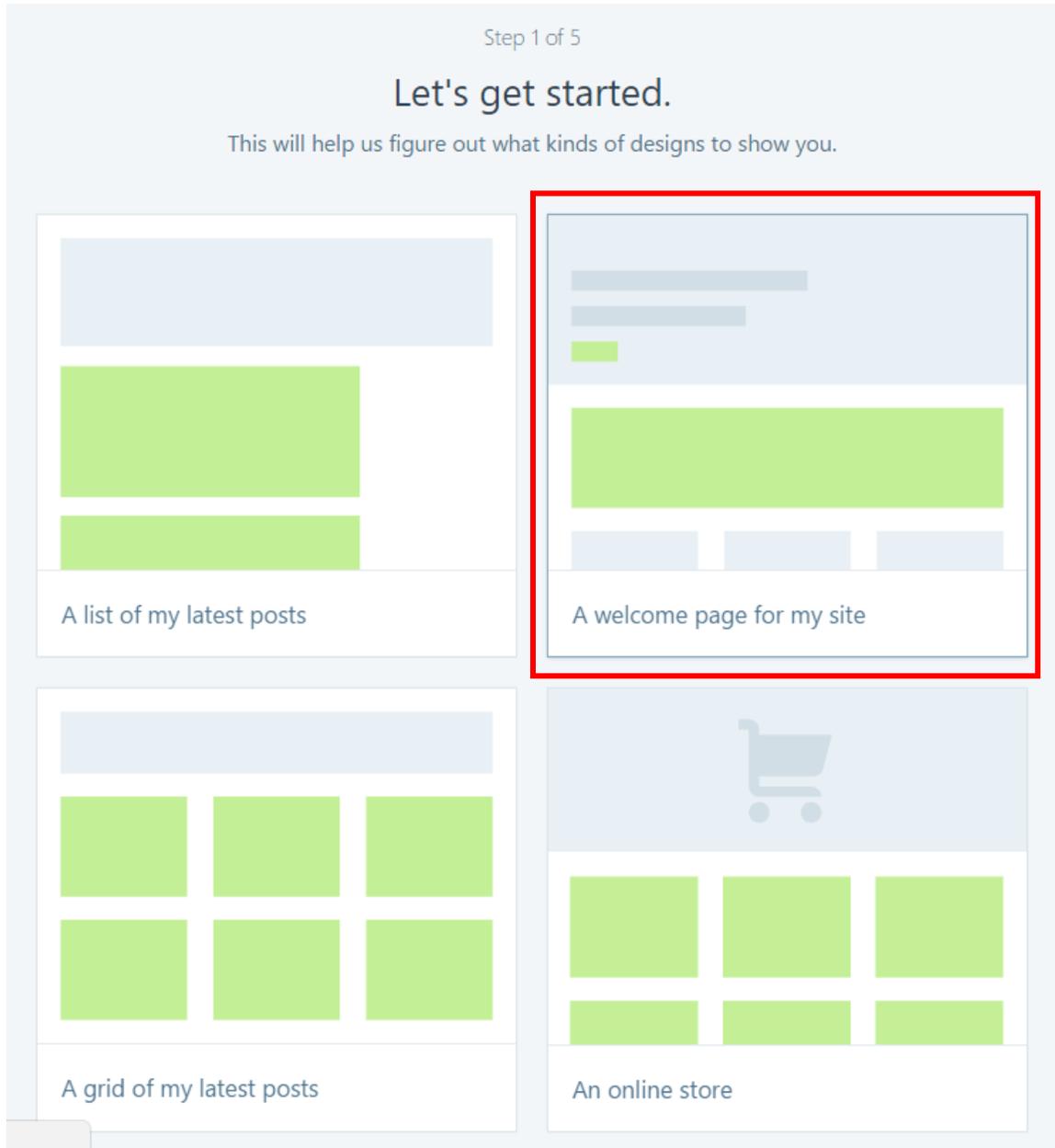
If you plan to follow along, you will need to set up a WordPress.com account **before you come to the workshop**. If you already have a WordPress.com account, skip to **Adding a New Site to an Existing WordPress.com Account** on page 6 of this handout.

## Setting up a new WordPress.com account

1. Go to <https://WordPress.com>. This screen changes frequently so it may not look exactly like this when you visit the website. The **Get Started** option will always be available somewhere on this page. Click on **Get Started**.



2. Choose “A welcome page for my site. [I have marked this option in red]”



3. Click on **Skip for Now** at the bottom of the page. If you accidentally choose a theme, don't worry about it. We will change it at the workshop.

WordPress.com Sign Up Log In

Step 2 of 5

### Choose a theme.

No need to overthink it. You can always switch to a different theme later.

**Harmonic**

**Dara**

**Gateway**

**Affinity**

**Karuna**

**Pique**

**Shoreditch**

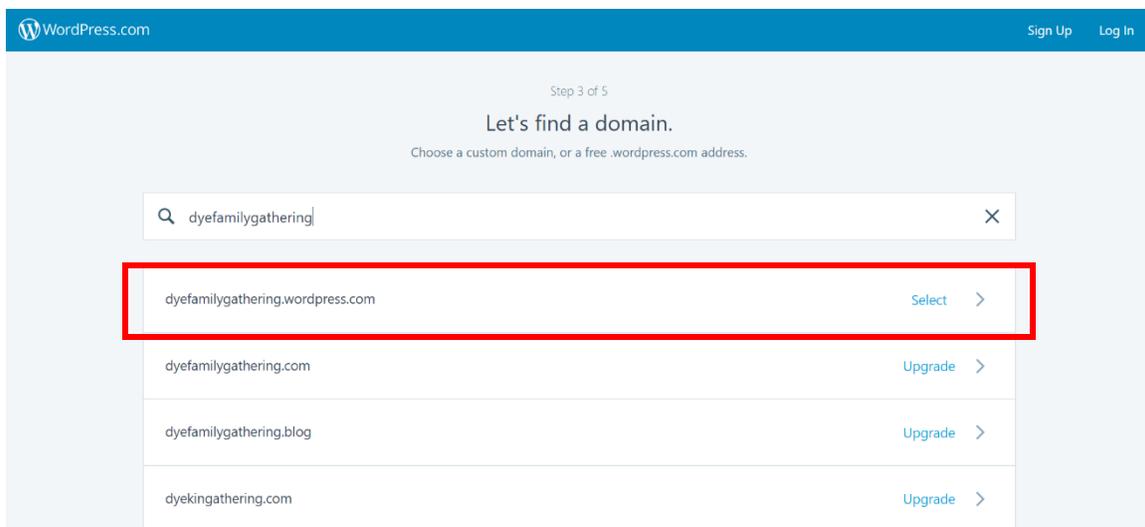
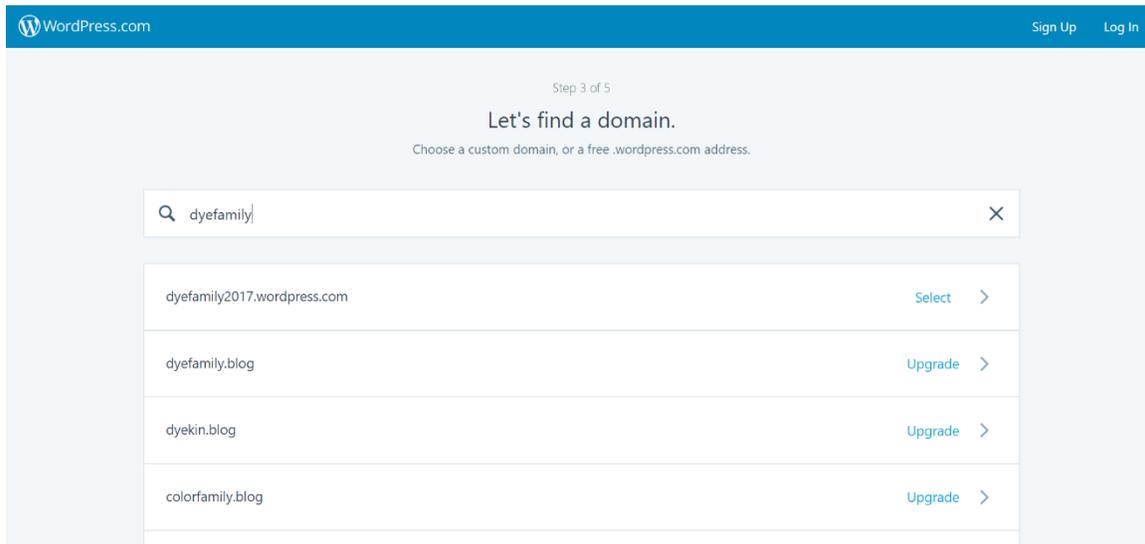
**Edin**

**Goran**

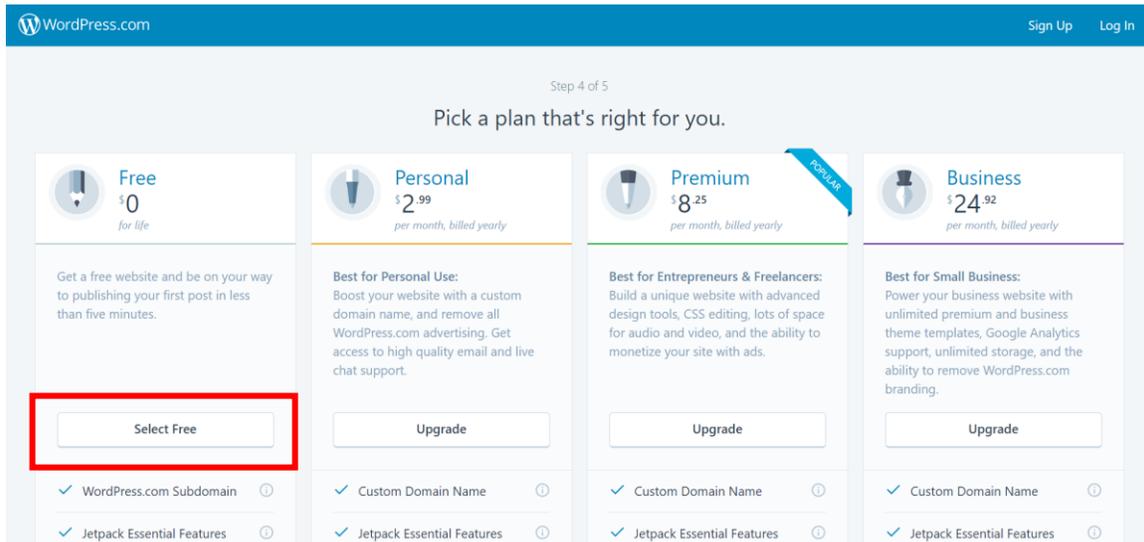
← BACK **SKIP FOR NOW** →

4. Choose your preferred domain name. Your site will have the url *yourdomain.wordpress.com*. If your preferred url is already in use, WordPress will suggest other options. Choose one of the suggested options or keep trying variations until you get a url you are satisfied with.

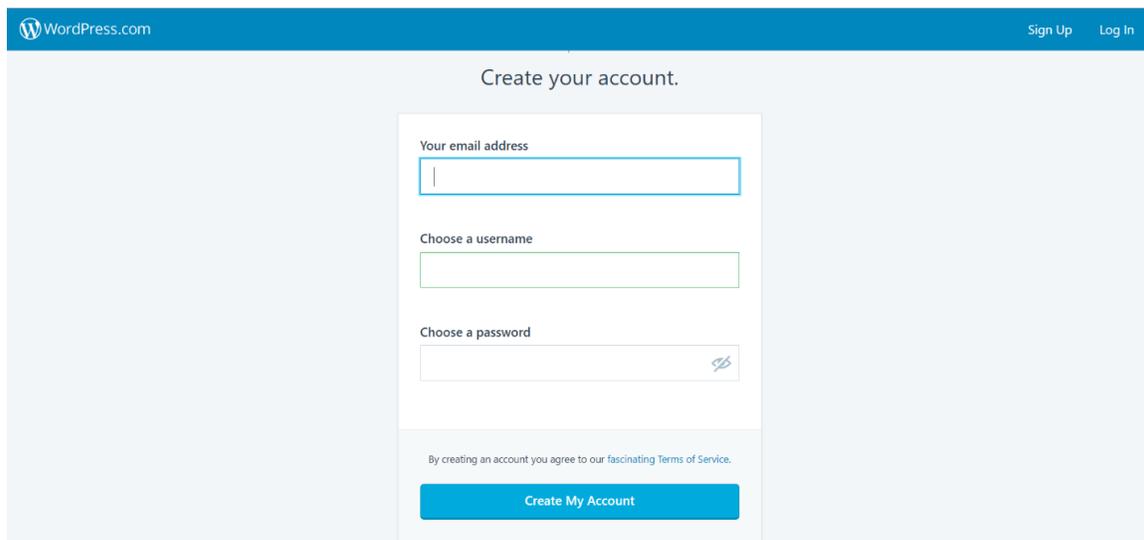
In the example below, my preferred url *dyefamily.wordpress.com* was unavailable. WordPress offered *dyefamily2017*. I changed my request to *dyefamilygathering* and it was accepted.



5. Select the Free Account option.



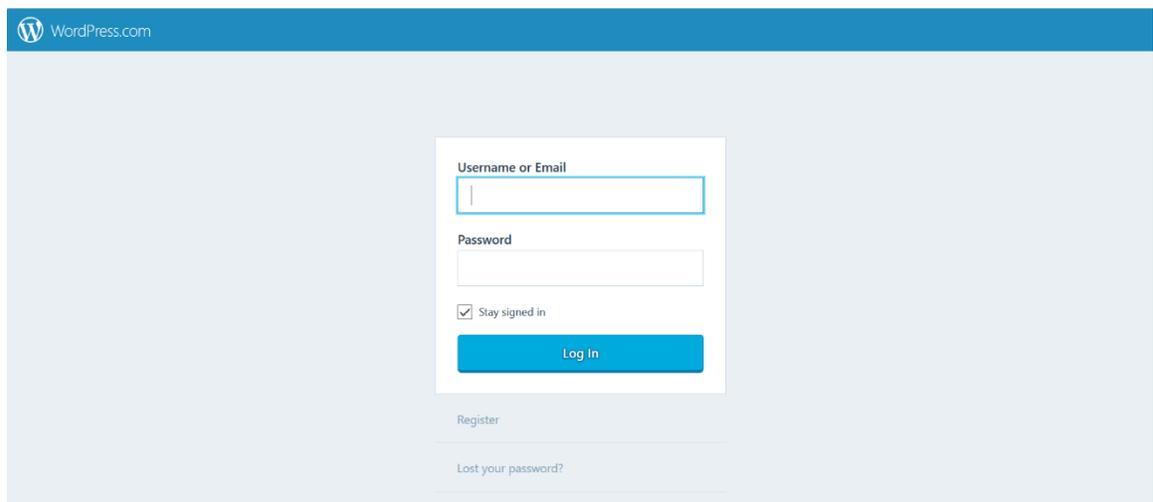
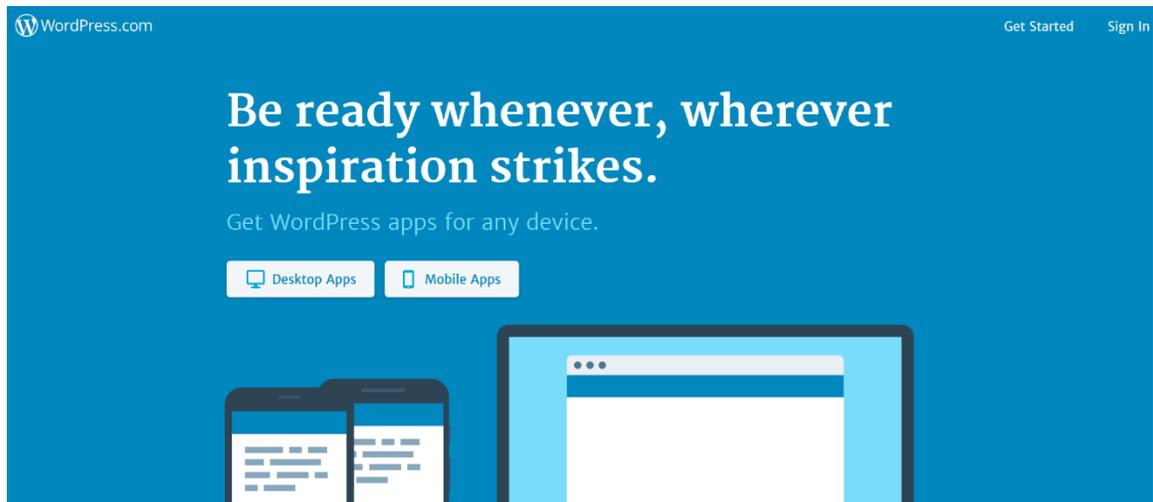
6. Create your account by entering your email address, username, and a password. Your email address will not be visible on your website, but you need a valid email address for communicating with WordPress.com. Choose any username you like. For tips on creating a secure password, visit <https://en.support.wordpress.com/selecting-a-strong-password/>.



7. WordPress.com will send you a confirmation email. Click the link to activate your account. You are now prepared for the workshop.

# Adding a New Site to an Existing WordPress.com Account.

1. Log into *WordPress.com*



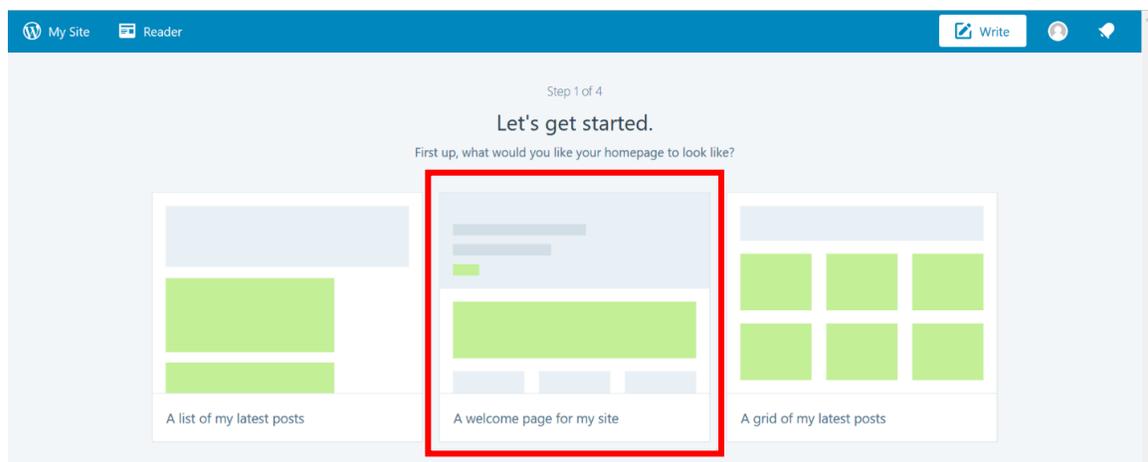
2. Click on My Site on the top toolbar.



3. Scroll to the bottom and choose Add New Site.



4. Choose “A welcome page for my site.”



5. Click on **Skip for Now** at the bottom of the page. If you choose a theme, don't worry about it. We can change it at the workshop. [I have marked this option in red.]

WordPress.com Sign Up Log In

Step 2 of 4

### Choose a theme.

No need to overthink it. You can always switch to a different theme later.

**Harmonic**

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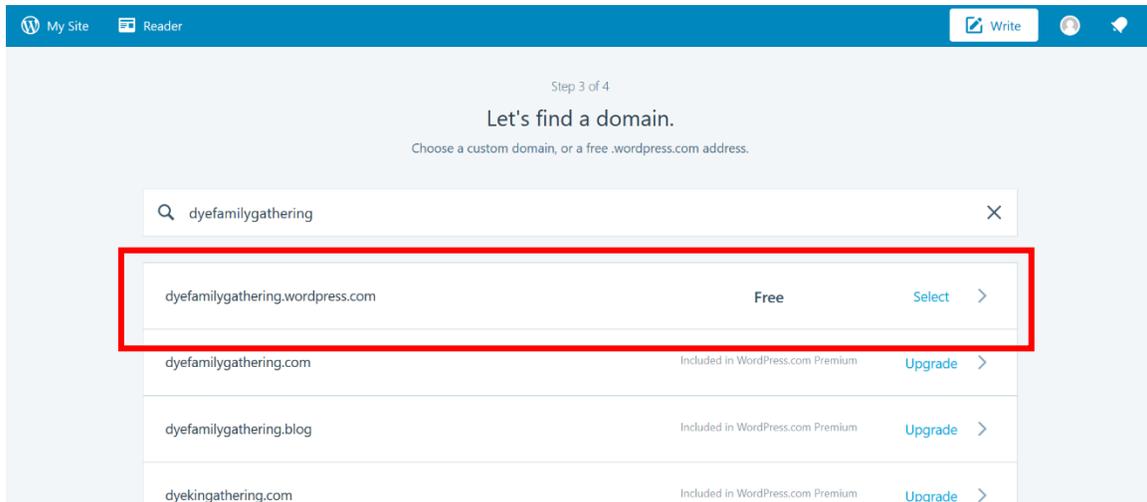
**Edin**

**Goran**

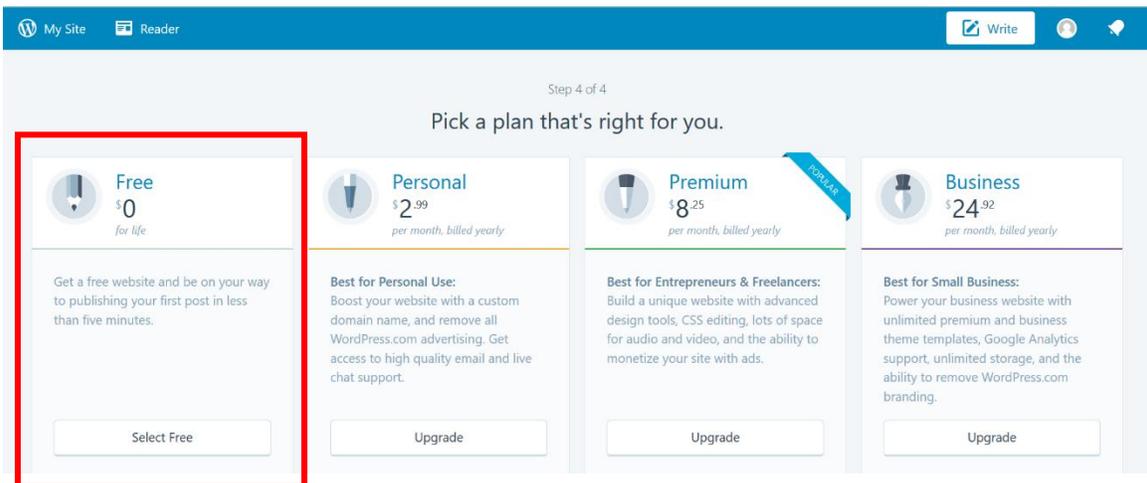
← BACK **SKIP FOR NOW** →

6. Choose your preferred domain name. Your site will have the url *yourdomain.wordpress.com*. If your preferred url is already in use, WordPress will suggest other options. Choose one of the suggested options or keep trying variations until you get a url you are satisfied with.

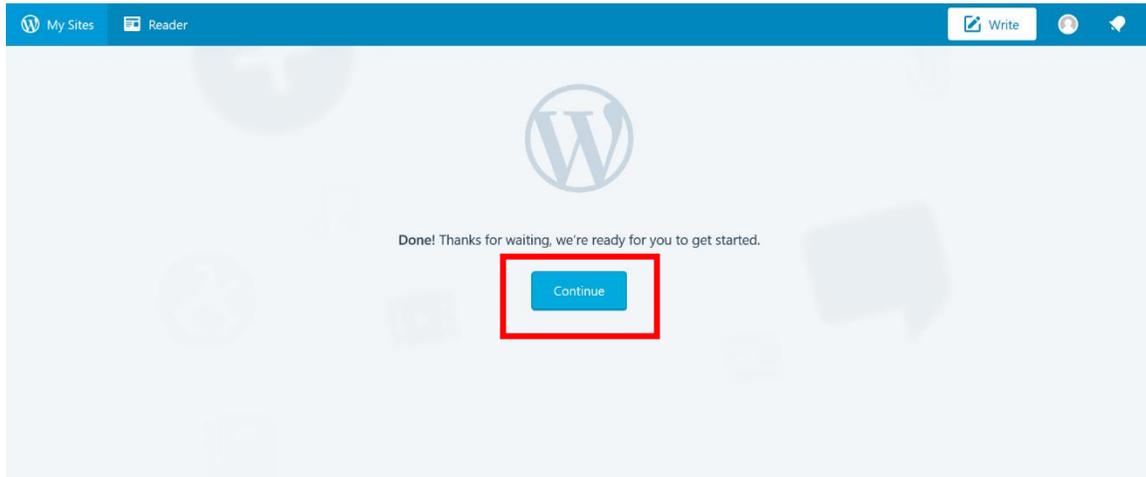
In the example below, my preferred url *dyefamily.wordpress.com* was unavailable. WordPress offered *dyefamily2017*. I changed my request to *dyefamilygathering* and it was accepted.



7. Select the Free Account option.



8. Your site has been created. Click on the Continue button.



You should see a screen like this. You are now prepared for the workshop.

