

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding. We are excited to celebrate your wedding day with you. Your intention to have a church wedding means that you see your marriage as a step taken before God. Your wedding ceremony is a worship service in which Jesus remains the central focus, and the Word of God and prayer receive their rightful place. While there is room for flexibility in a church wedding, we ask that you review the following guidelines to help ease planning your special day.

THE CHURCH – THE HOUSE OF GOD

The privilege to be married in the church is ordinarily accorded only to those couples where one or both parties are communicant members of the church. Because you plan for your wedding to be solemnized in the church, it is assumed that the entire ceremony will be regarded as a sacred service. Since this is the case, the conduct of all persons concerned should be proper and respectful at all times, both at the rehearsal and at the wedding.

MEETING WITH THE PASTOR

You should arrange to meet with a First Lutheran pastor at least two months prior to the wedding. Several meetings will be required.

LICENSE

MINNESOTA LAW requires that the marriage license be purchased at least five days before the wedding – and the wedding must be performed within six months of purchase. Once you've received the license and looked it over, please bring it to the church office so the forms may be completed and the information entered into our records.

THE CHURCH BUILDING

SMOKING is not permitted in the building and **ALCOHOL** is not allowed to be consumed in the building or on the church premises.

MUSIC FOR THE CEREMONY & PROGRAMS

The instrumental and vocal music should be of a sacred nature. Since music for a marriage service is to glorify God and edify all people, it should contribute to the reverent spirit of worship. Jesus Christ should be at the center of the music chosen. Please seek the help of the officiating pastor when selecting your music. The officiating pastor must approve all music prior to finalizing it with your musicians and printing ceremony programs.

ORGANIST/SOLOIST

You are responsible for finding an organist/soloist and paying any fees associated. Please contact your organist/soloist early. The church office has a list of organists/soloists that you can use. The organist will help you choose processionals, recessionals, solos and hymns if you wish.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

The wedding coordinator will assist you in preparing the church, providing supervision of dressing areas, providing guidance for the ushers, assisting with the timing for the procession, and any last minute details or emergencies. In addition, the wedding coordinator is responsible for locking and unlocking the facility. We encourage you to reach out to the wedding coordinator prior to the wedding to discuss specifics.

ALTAR PARAMENTS

The color of the altar, lectern, and pulpit paraments are used to recognize the season the church year and we are NOT able to change them. If you desire a certain color on the altar for your wedding, please check with the church office for the date(s) of when a particular color will be in place.

UNITY CANDLE

If you are providing your own unity candle, please drop it off one week prior to the wedding at the church office. The church will provide the two oil-filled side candles.

CHANCEL FLOWERS:

We have two sets of vases for placing flowers in the chancel. This includes two table and two floor vases. You may choose to use either or both sets. The vases have liners and flowers should be arranged in them. The vases are made of brass and should not be touched by human hands, as they tarnish easily.

If the florist is not from Glencoe, it is the responsibility of the bridal couple to take the vase liners, in their wooden boxes, to the florist several days before the wedding. When your florist delivers the flowers, they will be asked to leave the flowers in the cooler in the hallway near the Altar Guild room. Members of the Altar Guild will place the flowers in the chancel prior to the start of photographs or the wedding.

Your florist can expect to receive an information letter from the church office. The letter includes specific information designed to give the florist an understanding of the preferences and procedures at First Lutheran Church.

If you would like your wedding flowers to remain in the Chancel for Sunday worship, please notify the church office. Flowers are to be stored in the cooler following the wedding ceremony and then picked up following the 10:30 AM service Sunday or anytime the following week. Please bring your own containers to transfer the flowers from the church's vases.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Objects on the altar are not to be moved or touched with bare hands. They are made of brass and tarnish easily. If the unity candle stand or other brass pieces need to be moved, gloves should be worn. The candles on the altar are not to be burned. If the kneeling rail or chancel chairs are moved, it is the responsibility of the photographer to return them to their original place.

Your photographer can expect to receive an information letter from the church office. The letter is designed to give them an understanding of the preferences and procedures at First Lutheran Church.

DECORATIONS

For fire safety reasons, decorations must not be attached to the brass pieces, which include altar vases, floor vases, candelabras and the unity candle stand. Decorations may be attached to the end of the pews. Please use ribbons or tape that will not ruin the pew finish to attach the decorations. It is the responsibility of the florist or the wedding couple to place these shortly before the ceremony and to remove them shortly after the ceremony.

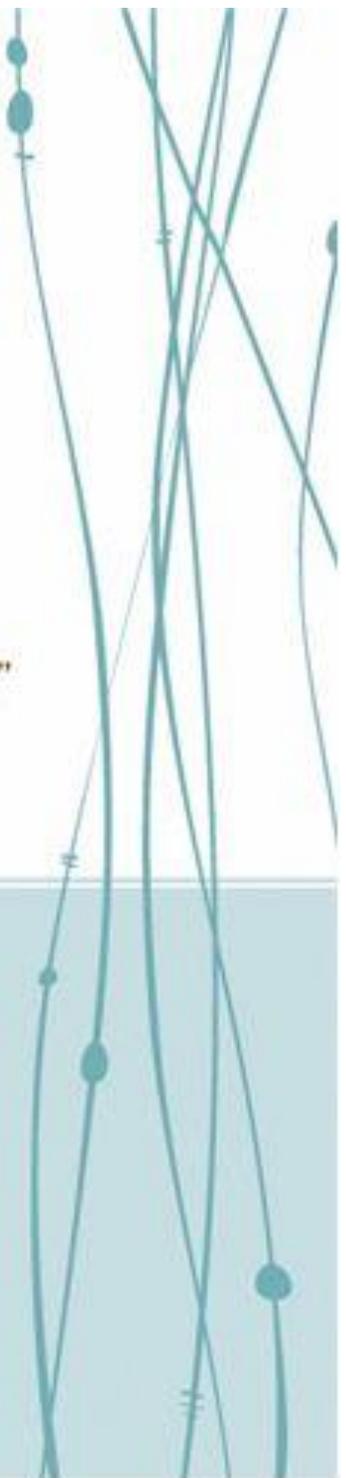
For various safety reasons, rice and/or flower petals cannot be used inside or outside of the church building.

DISCLAIMER

First Lutheran Church is not responsible for any injuries that result from adornments such as aisle runners, pew decorations or other items brought here for weddings.

FEES

All fees are required to be paid in full prior to the wedding date. The total amount due to the church for the marriage ceremony is \$365. A deposit of \$90 is required when you reserve your wedding date with the church office. The remaining \$275 is to be paid in full at least one week prior to the wedding date.



“THEY ARE NO
LONGER TWO,
but one.
THEREFORE WHAT
GOD HAS JOINED
together,
LET MAN NOT SEPARATE.”

MATTHEW 19:6