



PLANNING A CHRISTIAN WEDDING

at

Queen Anne Lutheran Church

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Whether you are planning a small wedding with only your immediate family and a few close friends or a large, formal wedding, it is important that you give serious attention to the sacred and spiritual aspects, as well as those of a more physical and practical nature. The words of the marriage service, the sacredness of its vows, the music, flowers, apparel and the care you put into the planning of your wedding all combine to make it a happy and memorable occasion.

A wedding in the Lutheran Church is a sacred service of worship. Hence, the prayers, music, sermon, and readings will reflect the Scriptural basis of marriage. Although there are sentimental aspects to every wedding, these are not to overshadow the glorious truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. With these thoughts in mind as you plan your wedding, may your wedding day be filled with Cana joy!

OUR FACILITIES

The beautifully appointed sanctuary of Queen Anne Lutheran Church provides a sacred and appropriate setting for your wedding, with seating up to 200 guests. The use of the sanctuary includes the pipe organ, the floor-stand candelabra, and dressing rooms for both the bride's and groom's parties.

For those who prefer a more intimate setting where the number of guests is not likely to exceed 35, we have the Chapel to offer.

HOW TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR WEDDING

Before setting a definite time and date, it is absolutely necessary that you consult the church office to make certain there is no conflict with other events on the church calendar. This should be done well in advance of the wedding date. A wedding application form is available from the church office. The completed application form must be submitted to

the church office, accompanied by the reservation fee to insure your date. **THE RESERVATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE.** Generally, because of the nature of the season, we do not schedule weddings during the season of Lent.

Before the wedding, the couple will meet with the officiating pastor to discuss the service as well as the confirmation of the time and date. The meeting is designed to present a variety of options, suggestions, and possibilities appropriate to a church wedding. **Couples will also be required to attend pre-marriage counseling sessions.** These sessions help couples examine their commitment to each other and how their faith in Jesus Christ supports and sustains that commitment. These pre-marriage sessions are scheduled throughout the year.

A CHURCH WEDDING

A wedding in the Lutheran Church is a sacred service to praise and thank God that two of God's children have found love in each other. In a wedding service, they publicly declare their life-long love for each other and seek God's continuing support for their life together. For this reason, the wedding service is conducted in a spirit of reverence. The pastor is willing to work with you in planning the service; however, the pastor has the final say in all matters pertaining to the service. From the beginning of the rehearsal to the benediction, everything about the wedding should be planned in such a way that it brings honor and glory to God.

THE WEDDING SERVICE

MUSIC

All arrangements for music must be made with the Cantor (Music Director,) including provisions for the use of a guest organist, soloists, instrumentalists, etc. Soloists, other than those obtained by the Cantor, must provide copies of the music for the organist/pianist in the key in which they will sing. All music must reflect the sacred nature of worship; therefore, secular music has no place in a sacred setting.

The Cantor has numerous selections of marches, ballads, or other suitable music from which to choose. The Pre-service Music will begin fifteen (15) minutes before the service, at which time the ushers will seat the guests. The Music Director fee is still required if a guest organist is used. Typically the Cantor and other musicians are not present at the rehearsal. If you want the Cantor to be at the rehearsal the date needs to be confirmed with the Cantor at least one month in advance.

DECORUM

Since the wedding is a sacred service of worship, no photography, flash or otherwise, will be permitted during the service. Guests are welcome to take photographs of the bridal party as they process, but once the bride reaches the chancel, no photographs will be permitted. The pastor(s) will gladly cooperate in recreating significant parts of the service either before or after the service. The “official” photographer must speak to the pastor before the service. Videotaping of the service is permitted if the videographer speaks to the pastor ahead of time (preferably the day before the service).

Not permitted on the church grounds is the throwing of rice, the strewing of flower petals, alcoholic beverages, or smoking.

FLOWERS

Couples will make arrangements for their own floral decorations after having discussed said arrangements with the Wedding Hostess. All decorations must be in place at least one hour before the service and be removed immediately following the service. Runners are not necessary for the aisle.

WEDDING BULLETINS

Wedding Bulletins serve a useful purpose, as well as providing a memento of the service. Bulletins are available from the church office, with many styles and colors from which to choose. For an extra fee, the church office will type the bulletin. All information must be submitted at least two weeks before the wedding, and the couple must proofread the bulletin contents before printing.

WEDDING HOSTESS

The Wedding Hostess is available to consult with you in any or all matters regarding the details of your wedding: reception, flowers, photographers, caterers, etiquette, etc. She will make arrangements with the custodian to make sure all measures have been taken to open up the facility, as well as to secure it. She will also handle any arrangements necessary with the florist. If you are considering an aisle runner, you will need to tack the runner down every twelve inches.

WEDDING REHEARSAL

The Wedding Hostess will conduct the wedding rehearsal along with the pastor. All immediate members of the family who have a part in the service must be present, and they need to be on time. This includes the parents and grandparents of both the bride and groom, the attendants, groomsmen, bridesmaids, ushers, flower girl, and ring bearer. The rehearsal takes about one hour. **THE MARRIAGE LICENSE IS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE REHEARSAL!** All fees are due at the rehearsal. Checks should be made out to the individual providing the services.

WEDDING FEES

	<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>NON-MEMBER</u>
Reservation Fee (Non-Refundable and Non-Deductible from other fees)	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
Main Sanctuary	No Fee	\$225.00
Chapel	No Fee	\$125.00
Candles for Candelabra (Altar)	\$ 30.00	\$ 55.00
Wedding Bulletins (per 100)	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Cantor (Wedding Only)	\$ 200.00	\$250.00
(Rehearsal)	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
(Additional Soloist Rehearsal)	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
Soloist*	\$125.00	\$150.00
Wedding Hostess	\$100.00	\$150.00
Custodian (Wedding)	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
(Reception)	\$100.00	\$150.00
Pastor	No Fee	\$200.00

* Instrumentalists can be arranged for by the Cantor. Fees will be negotiated. Additional rehearsal fee is required for all soloists not contracted by the Cantor.

THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

The service for the Rite of Marriage is given below as an aid to help you in planning your wedding service. It is offered in skeleton form to help you think through and decide what your service will be like.

Prelude

Procession

Apostolic Greeting

The Wedding Prayer

The Question of Consent or Presentation (optional)

Musical Selection: solo, congregational hymn, etc. (optional)

First Reading from Scripture *

Psalm or congregational hymn or solo (optional)

Second Reading from Scripture

Homily

Mutual Consent Vow Pledge of Faithfulness

Vow Exchange of Rings

Pronouncement of Marriage

Wedding Blessing

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Recession

Postlude

Couples will be asked to select the readings from Scripture from a list of appropriate wedding Scriptures listed on the back of this booklet.

THE CHOICE OF VOWS

There are basically three elements of the vows in a Wedding Service. These include the “mutual consent” vows; the “pledge of faithfulness” vow, and the “exchange of rings” vow. There are several variations of each of these vows which you may wish to consider for your Wedding Service, and for this purpose, they are listed in the categories for you to study:

THE MUTUAL CONSENT VOWS

1. XX, will you have this woman (man) to be your wedded wife (husband), to live with her (him) after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love her (him), comfort her (him), honor her (him), and keep her (him) in sickness and in health, and, forsaking all others, keep yourself only unto her (him), so long as you both shall live? I WILL.
2. XX, will you have XX, here present, to be your wedded wife (husband)? Will you love, honor and cherish her (him), and keep with her (him) this bond of wedlock holy and unbroken till death you do part? If so, declare it before God and this assembly by saying I WILL.
3. XX, will you have XX, here present, to be your wedded wife (husband), to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love her (him), comfort her (him), honor her (him), and keep her (him) in sickness and in health, and, forsaking all others, keep you only unto her (him) so long as you both shall live? I WILL.
4. ARE you XX ready to enter this holy relationship, to accept the responsibilities of husband (wife), to be to XX loving, faithful and helpful, whether in days of success or adversity? I AM.

PLEDGE OF FAITHFULNESS

1. I, XX, in the presence of God and this assembly, take you, XX to be my wedded wife (husband), and promise you my faithfulness, till death us do part.

2. I, XX, in the presence of God and this assembly, take you XX, to be my wedded wife (husband), and promise you my faithfulness in every duty, not to part from you, till death us do part.
3. I, XX, take you XX, to be my wedded wife (husband), to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, to love and to cherish and to honor, till death do us part.
4. I take you, XX, to be my wife (husband) from this day forward, to join with you and share all that is to come, and, with the help of God, I promise to be faithful to you as He gives us life together.
5. XX, I take you to be my wife (husband) from this time onward, to join with you and to share all that is to come, to give and to receive, to speak and to listen, to inspire and to respond, and in all circumstances of our life together to be loyal to you with my whole life and with all my being.
6. I take you, XX, to be my wife (husband). I promise before God and these witnesses to be your faithful husband (wife), to share with you in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, to forgive and strengthen you and to join with you so that together we may serve God and others as long as we both shall live.
7. I take you, XX, to be my wife (husband), and these things I promise you: I will be faithful to you and honest with you; I will respect, trust, help, and care for you; I will share my life with you; I will forgive you as we have been forgiven by Christ; and I will try with you to better understand ourselves, the world, and God; through the best and the worst of what is to come as long as we live.

THE EXCHANGE OF RINGS

1. Receive this ring as a pledge and token of wedded love and faithfulness.
2. With this ring, I thee wed, XX, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

3. This ring I give to you, in token and pledge of our constant faith and abiding love.
4. This ring is a sign of my love and faithfulness!

PRONOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING CLERGY

The clergy pronouncement of marriage comes after the vows, and here, too, are variations in wording from which you may choose.

1. Forasmuch as XX and XX have consented together in holy wedlock and have declared the same before God and this assembly, I pronounce them husband and wife in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. What therefore God has joined together, let no one put asunder.
2. What God has joined together, let not man put asunder. And forasmuch as XX and XX have consented together in holy wedlock and have witnessed the same before God and this assembly, I pronounce them husband and wife in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
3. Forasmuch as XX and XX have consented together in holy wedlock and have witnessed the same before God and this assembly, and have declared the same by the giving and receiving of these rings, I pronounce them husband and wife in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. What therefore God has joined together, let no one put asunder.
4. Since you have promised your love to each other, and before God and these witnesses have exchanged these solemn vows and these rings, which symbolize your genuine and undying love; as a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ I pronounce you husband and wife, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Whom God has joined together, let no one put asunder.

WEDDING SCRIPTURE CHOICES

Please select readings from this list of appropriate wedding Scriptures.

Psalms and Lessons

Psalm 33
Psalm 100
Psalm 117
Psalm 127
Psalm 128
Psalm 136
Psalm 150

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord!

(Ps. 33:5)

Happy are they who delight in the commandment of the Lord!

(Ps. 112: 1)

They are no longer two but one. (Matt. 19:6)

Genesis 1:26-31
Genesis 2:18-24
Song of Solomon 2:10-13
Song of Solomon 8:7
Isaiah 63:7-9
Romans 12:1-2
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13
Ephesians 5:21-33
Matthew 19:4-6
John 2: 1- 10
John 15:9-12

Verse

Alleluia. God himself dwells in us if we love one another; his love is made perfect in us. Alleluia.



Queen Anne

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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