



**Your
Wedding
at
Christ Lutheran Church**

11194 36th Street North

Lake Elmo, MN 55042

651-777-2881

Website: www.christlutheranlakeelmo.org

Email: christlutheranchurch@comcast.net

Congratulations!

As you prepare for your wedding at Christ Lutheran, it is our privilege to assist you in planning not only for the wedding ceremony, but also for your married life together. It is a time to praise God for the gift of marriage and the gift of family.

It is with this in mind that we present to you this Wedding Guide to assist you in planning a Christian wedding service. A Christian wedding is a worship service in which the bridal couple has invited their guests to join them in asking for God's blessing on their marriage.

It is our hope that the service will be a meaningful occasion for you and your guests.

Schedule Your Wedding

We ask that the you contact Christ Lutheran's Administrative Assistant to check on the availability of the church. If the date and pastor are available, you will be asked to fill out the Wedding Reservation Form with a \$100.00 payment to reserve the church.

Our pastor must officiate at all Christ Lutheran weddings. If you desire to have a guest pastor as part of your wedding ceremony, please advise the Christ Lutheran pastor immediately.

We will schedule only one wedding on a given day at the church.

Weddings are not normally scheduled on the following days:

New Year's Eve & Day	Holy Week	Memorial Day	Easter
Independence Day	Labor Day	Christmas Eve & Day	Thanksgiving

Weddings are conducted for those who have been members of Christ Lutheran for one year, whose parents are members, or those who have a significant relationship with the church.

Policies and Requirements

Pre-marriage counseling

Couples married at Christ Lutheran Church will need to participate in pre-marital counseling. Pre-marriage counseling is valuable to each couple as it offers tools and a road map that will help couples with the best start to their marriage. During pre-marriage counseling the couple will strengthen their relationship and develop good communication and conflict resolution skills.

This pre-marriage counseling is conducted by John Bragstad, LMFT, who is in Lake Elmo just off of Highway #5, phone number is 651-308-1200. Couples will work with John using two inventory tools called Prepare Marriage Inventory and the Keirse Personality Sorter. They will spend an extended period of time with John looking at their relationship strengths and growth areas. John will call the pastor when the session is completed. Couples will have an opportunity to explore any areas talked about with John as they meet with the pastor to plan the worship service and get to know one another.

Fee Schedule

To **schedule** your wedding a deposit of \$100 is required.

Facility use fee: \$0

Custodian Fee: \$90 \$140 (w/ reception in lower level)

Wedding Coordinator: \$150

Pastor Fee: \$200

Organist, soloists and instrumentalist: Fee is set by individuals

Pre-marriage counseling (for members and non-members)

3 hour session with Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, John Bragstad \$225.00

Prepare /Enrich Tool (Done online) \$ 29.95

Payment policy:

Fees for the wedding coordinator, custodian, facility use and pastor are to be paid **at/by the wedding rehearsal**. When paying by check, make it out to the individual concerned and place in envelope provided and return the envelopes to the wedding coordinator.

General Information

1. The length of the center aisle is **75** feet. The sanctuary will accommodate **260** people comfortably.
2. The church has a large unity candle stand for anyone who wishes to use it. If you choose to keep candles, you must purchase your own. If candles are purchased, the sizes are:
 - a. Large candle must not have more than a 3” diameter base.
 - b. Side candles must be 7/8” with a fluted base.
3. The Altar Guild takes care of the altar candles and the candelabra near the altar.
4. The church flower vases are available for use; however, the liners are not to be removed from the church. Your florist can provide liners or vases.
5. The church has 2 wedding banners that are available for your use, or you may provide your own.
6. It is your responsibility to decorate and remove decorations immediately following the wedding ceremony.
7. The church can be open 4 hours before the scheduled wedding for pictures. All pre-wedding photos should be completed at least one-half hour prior to the service. No flash photography can be done during the ceremony. If you wish to take pictures after the ceremony, please communicate that to the wedding coordinators.
8. Videotaping is allowed if it does not interrupt or distract from the service. Please discuss your plans with the officiating pastor.
9. If you plan to have the wedding reception at Christ Lutheran Church, the lower level of the church is available only for church members. It will accommodate 150 people for a reception with food. It'll be necessary for you to have a caterer or family members serve food and refreshments. An additional custodial fee is charged (see Fee Schedule).
10. You are responsible for contacting the organist, soloist and any other musicians you desire for your wedding. All music for the wedding should be discussed with the pastor before your final decision is made. Secular music is not appropriate. You need to arrange meetings with the organist and musicians, most of whom will have large repertoires of music from which you can make your selection. Financial arrangements are made between you and those you contract.
11. The bulletin is your responsibility. Various bulletin covers are available from local printers and church supply stores. The pastor must review the service with you before you print your final bulletin. See the sample program.

Scripture Readings

Scripture readings provide a foundation for worship. It is a way to make your service special and unique. Scripture may be read by a member of the wedding party, relative or friend of the pastor. A list of suggested readings is provided below.

Suggested Old Testament Readings:

Genesis 1:26-31	Genesis 2:18-24	Song of Solomon 2:10-13
Song of Solomon 8:6-7	Isaiah 63:7-9	Jeremiah 31:31-34
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	Song of Solomon 4:9-16	Psalms 33, 34, 100, 103, 150

Suggested readings from the letters in the New Testament:

Romans 12:1-2	Romans 8:31-39	Romans 12:1-2, 9-18
1 John 4:7-12	I Corinthians 12:31-13:13	Colossians 3:12-17

Suggested Gospel readings:

Matthew 7:21,24-29	Matthew 22:35-40	John 2:1-10
Matthew 5:13-16	John 15:9-12	Mark 12:28-31
John 15:12-17	Mark 10: 6-9	

Feel free to choose other Scripture passages or appropriate readings that have special meaning to you.

Music Options

You may schedule a meeting with the organist and hear various musical selections. Here is a list of a few suggestions/options. You may bring musical pieces of your choice to be discussed for use in the service as well. You may choose to have selections played on organ or piano.

Processional Music (walking in):

- 1) Canon in D -Pachelbel
- 2) Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring-J.S. Bach
- 3) Bridal March/Bridal Chorus- R. Wagner
- 4) Trumpet Voluntary-Purcell
- 5) Various pieces arranged by Lori Line

Recessional Music (walking out):

- 1) Trumpet Tune in D Major-Purcell
- 2) Wedding March - Mendelssohn
- 3) Prelude in Classic Style-G. Young
- 4) Trumpet Voluntary-G. Young
- 5) Rondeau-J. Mouret
- 6) Allegro Maestoso-G. F. Handel

Sample Bulletin

The Celebration of Marriage Uniting

Bride

And

Groom

Month, Day, Year

Christ Lutheran Church

Lake Elmo, MN

Prelude
Special Music (optional)
Processional
The Service of the Word
Greeting
Prayer
Special Music (optional)
Scripture Readings
Homily
Special Music (optional)
The Rite of Marriage
The Promises
The Gift of Rings
Marriage Announcement
Lighting of the Unity Candle (optional)
Special Music (optional)
The Blessing
The Prayers
The Lord's Prayer
Benediction
Introduction of the Couple
Postlude

The Wedding Party	
Parents	Parents of the Bride Parents of the Groom
Grandparents	Grandparents of the Bride Grandparents of the Groom
Maid of Honor	Sister of the Bride
Best Man	Brother of the Groom
Bridesmaids	Friend of the Bride Sister-in-law of the Groom
Groomsmen	Friend of the Groom Brother of the Bride
Flower Girl	Niece of the Bride
Ring Bearer	Cousin of the Groom
Ushers	Friend of the Couple Cousin of the Groom
Reader	Uncle of the Groom
Hosts	
Guest Book Attendant	
Soloist	
Organist	
Minister	Pastor Julie Rogness

Wedding Coordinator's Checklist:

To assist you in planning, here are the things we are responsible for as wedding coordinators:

1. Prior to rehearsal:

- A. Fees collected
- B. Meet/communicate with bridal party
- C. Meet/communicate with pastor

2. Rehearsal:

- A. Tour of church (if desired)
 - 1. Dressing rooms, kitchen, bathrooms.
 - a. bride's party.....Fireside room
 - b. groom's party...lower level
 - 2. Set up of narthex.....guest book, etc.
- B. Ushers...
 - 1. communicate duties to ushers
 - a. usher in guests/bulletins
 - b. usher in family
 - c. process in/ enter from front
- C. Procession of wedding party
 - 1. order, speed, etc.

3. Wedding Day

- A.. Open church...check temp, arrange for deliveries, check dressing rooms.
- B. Keep in constant communication with bride-needs, questions, etc
- C. Pictures-keep on schedule
- D. Check sound system
- E. One hour before:
 - 1. Light candles if no acolyte
 - 2. Last minute check on sanctuary.
 - 3. Pictures done 30 minutes before ceremony.
 - 4. Check with bridal party.
 - 5. Be available for questions/problems
 - 6. Bulletins/ushers ready
 - 7. Communicate with personal attendant
- F. 15 minutes before...
 - 1. Line up parents/grandparents
 - 2. Line up wedding party
 - 3. Greet late comers and have "plan" for them
(those coming in 5 minutes before processional)
 - 4. Start on time.
- G. After wedding has begun, monitor narthex for late comers and disruptions.

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Pastor:

Julie Rogness clcpastor@comcast.net 651-777-2881

Organist:

Roxanne Rosell rrosell@isd622.org 651-714-8244

Wedding Coordinators:

Joyce Kisch jkisch14@gmail.com 651-426-4203

Vicki Meister vkisch@aol.com 651-351-5085

John Bragstad-Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist 651/308-1200

www:jbragstad.com

email:bragstad2@frontiernet.net

Custodians:

Rena and Dennis Stewart 651-439-1826

Church Administrative Assistant:

Vicki Meister 651-777-2881
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