

Wedding Planning
**RESURRECTION
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

L • O • V • E

*is patient & kind. ♦ ♦ It does not envy, it does not
boast, it is not proud. ♦ ♦ Love is not rude; it is not
self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record
of wrongs. ♦ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices
with the truth. ♦ It always protects, always trusts,
always hopes, always perseveres. ♦ Love never fails*

— ♦ 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 ♦ —



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Wedding information

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A Marriage Ceremony At Resurrection

We are pleased that you desire to be married at Resurrection Lutheran Church. We are a worshipping and serving community. This booklet is written as an aid for you as you make decisions and arrangements leading up to your wedding day.

As a community of people, our focus is upon Jesus Christ, the Lord of our lives and of creation. We believe that His life and ministry, His Cross and Resurrection direct our life and hope. By seeking marriage at Resurrection you declare this to be your belief as well.

We also believe these brief statements.

A wedding at Resurrection is worship. This is to say that God is at the center of the covenant you make on your wedding day. People, music, text, and vows, and the shape of worship itself finds its focus in Jesus. The dignity of marriage comes from the fact that you gather among friends to see God's blessing on your new life as husband and wife.

A wedding at Resurrection is corporate. We listen, speak, sing, and pray. We believe there are only participants in your wedding, no observers. The family gathers to praise God for His blessing and to hear you speak promises of fidelity to one another. In truth, God is the audience and we are the worshipers.

A wedding at Resurrection is a time of proclamation. Our message is the Gospel news that God showers forgiveness, love and grace upon our lives through the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Whenever the community gathers, it hears that Word, and it belongs to you as husband and wife.

A wedding at Resurrection is a time of celebration. We gather to celebrate for you, with you, because of you, that Jesus Christ has blessed marriage with possibilities for lived-out grace and forgiveness. We rejoice in worship at God's goodness to you and us and the joy you find in each other.

Pastor Guidelines

- The pastor officiates as presiding minister at all weddings. Should the bridal party desire to have a guest pastor participate in the wedding worship, the officiating pastor will contact the guest pastor to determine what role the guest pastor will have in the worship.
- The officiating pastor conducts the wedding rehearsal.
- It is expected that the wedding rehearsal and ceremony will begin at the appointed hour.
- If Holy Communion is desired, all are invited to commune.
- The Pastor has a right to cancel the wedding if anyone in the wedding party is intoxicated.
- Pastoral Fees, see Wedding Fee List.
- Enrichment/Preparation Sessions are required prior to the wedding ceremony

Details You Should Know

- Building use includes use of facilities for up to 5 hours (to include pre-ceremony activities, the ceremony, and post-ceremony cleanup)
- A Unity Candle Holder, Candelabra, and Plant Pillars are available for your use on site - be sure to discuss this with your Wedding Coordinator if you desire to use any of these items
- Pictures need to be completed 45 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony
- You are responsible for cleaning up the Worship Center and any spaces you utilized immediately after your wedding
- In addition to the Bridal Party and Ushers, you may want to designate one-to-two people to each of the following duties:
 - Event Cleanup
 - Corsage Distributer
 - Childcare
 - Other?

Building & Grounds Usage

Resurrection Lutheran Church praises and thanks our Lord for allowing us to construct a church building which is to be used for the glory of God. As a congregation, we appreciate our church as it provides a center for our worship, programs and activities. We ask that members and guests that are given permission to use our facilities treat them, and the personnel involved, with the utmost respect.

Information regarding room and equipment use:

- **ALCOHOLIC Beverages are NOT permitted on any part of the building or grounds.**
- Any permanent decorations, wall hangings, paintings, landscaping... must be approved by the RLC Council.
- **There will be NO food or beverages in the Worship Center at any time.**
- **Do not tamper with sound, lighting or thermostat systems.**
- Please leave room in the same conditions you found it. Or cleaner than you found it.
- Because of our lack of storage, we ask that you bring what you need with you and take it home immediately after your wedding. **You will need to designate a person to clean up after your wedding.**
- If using the kitchen please **do not leave leftover food** in refrigerator or in cabinets. Take home all leftover food products with you.
- RLC does not loan any equipment, tables, chairs, etc at this time. RLC does not store any personal property for members or non-profit organizations.
- RLC reserves the right to charge a cancellation fee for weddings cancelled within 120 days of the scheduled wedding date
- Blowing bubbles is allowed outside.
- Rose petals are allowed both inside and outside.
- Rice or birdseed is NOT allowed.
- **Glitter is NOT allowed.**
- Altar cloths, banners, chairs, and altar podium are NOT to be removed.
- **Flash Photography is not allowed during the ceremony**

Suggested Order of Service

- 15 minutes of pre-wedding music
 - guest arrive ushered in as they arrive
 - candles lit by designated person
 - altar candles first
 - candles closest to altar then outwards
 - tapers by unity candles
- Wedding party seating order
 - great-grandparents and grandparents
 - groom's parents
 - bride's mother
 - Inform pastor of any special arrangements that may be necessary for physically challenged or blended family seating.
- Wedding Procession
 - bridesmaids
 - maid/matron of honor
 - roll out runner, if applicable
 - flower girl and/or ring bearer, if applicable
 - bride with parents/escort
- Wedding Worship Service
 - The "Marriage Worship" from the Lutheran Book of Worship is the usual form and will be discussed during the counseling sessions with the officiating pastor.
 - Introduction of the Couple: You can be introduced however you want. I will say "It is my privilege to introduce to you, for the first time ...". Now you tell me what comes after the dot-dot-dot.
 - Mr. and Mrs. *Husband's First and Last Name* (Very Traditional)
 - Mr. and Mrs. *Husband's Last Name* (Traditional)
 - His First Name and Her First Name, Joined Last Name (Modern)

If you are hyphenating or not taking one of the others last name we can talk through how you want to be presented as a married couple.

If you have a legitimate title: Doctor, Sergeant, Judge, Senator, Reverend etc that you would like to be introduced as. Please let me know.

Suggested Order of Service Continued

■ Recessional

- bride and groom
- attendants, bridesmaids, & groomsmen
- bride's parents
- groom's parents
- grandparents and great-grandparents
- (candles can be extinguished at this point)
- congregation dismissed, one aisle at a time on each side, slowly to keep receiving line moving
- the bride and groom could dismiss their guests aisle by aisle.

Suggested Readings

Scripture: Choose at least one Gospel text from Matthew, Mark, Luke or John and you are free to choose one more as you like. Think of people who could read these for you as well.

Genesis 1:26-31

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalms 33, 67, 121, 127, 128, 136,
or 150

Proverbs 3:3-6

Song of Solomon 2:10-13

Song of Solomon 8:6-7

Isaiah 43:1-7

Isaiah 63:7-9

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Romans 8:31-39

Romans 12:1-2, 9-18

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

Ephesians 3: 14-19

Ephesians 5:1-2 and 21-33

Philippians 4:4-7

Colossians 3: 12-17

1 John 4:7-12

Gospel text

Matthew 5:1-10

Matthew 5:14-16

Matthew 7:21, 24-29

Matthew 19:3-6

Matthew 22:35-40

Mark 10:6-9

John 2:1-11

John 15:9-12

The Marriage Service

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: Welcome, We have come together in the presence of God to witness the marriage of _____ and _____ to surround them with our prayers, and to share in their joy.

_____ and _____ want to thank those of you who have come a great distance to this very special area of the world they love so much. Thank you for setting aside this weekend to celebrate their love for each other.

_____ and _____ – this is a very special day for the both of you – I want you to take a moment and turn around and look, take a mental picture of the people who have come to support and uphold you in the promises you will make to each other today.

PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Eternal God, our creator and redeemer, as You gladdened the wedding at Cana in Galilee by the presence of your Son, so by His presence now bring your joy to this wedding. Look in favor upon _____ and _____ and grant that they, rejoicing in all your gifts, may at length celebrate with Christ the marriage feast which has no end. Amen

P: The Lord God in His goodness created us male and female, and by the gift of marriage founded human community in a joy that begins now and is brought to perfection in the life to come.

Because of sin, our age-old rebellion, the gladness of marriage can be overcast and the gift of the family can become a burden.

But because God, who established marriage, continues still to bless it with His abundant and ever-present support, we can be sustained in our weariness and have our joy restored.

INTENTIONS:

_____, is your intention this day to share your joys and sorrows and all that the years will bring with _____ and with your promises bind yourself to him as his wife?

_____: “Yes.”

_____, is your intention this day to share your joys and sorrows and

The Marriage Service

all that the years will bring with _____ and with your promises bind yourself to her as her husband?

_____: "Yes."

Family and Friends, will you, by God's grace, give your love and blessing and do everything in your power to uphold and care for _____ and _____ in their life together?

Everyone: "We will."

1ST SCRIPTURE READING –

“-----” - **Congregational Singing** – Words Printed on the back of your program.

GOSPEL READING –

MESSAGE – Pastor Jedidiah

VOWS – Face and hold hands

_____:

I take you, _____, to be my husband/wife and in our life together I promise this: I will be faithful to you and honest with you; I will respect, trust, and care for you; I will be patient with you and forgive you as we have been forgiven. I will share my life with you through the best and worst of all that is to come, until death parts us.

RINGS

I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.

NUPTIAL BLESSING - hand over rings

P: The Lord God, who created our first parents and established them in marriage, establish and sustain you, that you may find delight in each other and grow in holy love until your life's end. Amen

ACCLAMATION OF THE MARRIAGE

P: _____ and _____, by their promises before God and in the presence of this congregation, have bound themselves to one another as husband and wife. Blessed be the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder. And all God's people say: Amen.

The Marriage Service

UNITY CANDLE OR SAND AND SOLO MUSIC -

Mom's give sand to _____ and _____ and the couple pours.

PRAYERS -

Gracious God, We come before you today with glad and joyful hearts as we witness and bless the marriage of _____ and _____. Pour out your blessings on them as they journey with one another throughout life. Let the love that they have for one another be a witness to the love that you have for all. May they continue to grow together, seeking out you. God, you are good, and we pray that you continually grant your goodness, mercy and grace on _____ and _____.

Faithful God, We also ask that you bless the families that have supported _____ and _____, and those that will continue to support them in their marriage. Fill the hearts of all those that are present here today; redeem us, enrich us and renew us, to better serve you and your people.

Healing God, As you bring _____ and _____ together in marriage, bring the entire world together in peace, unity and love. Help us show compassion for our neighbor, and give _____ and _____ the strength to be models of that compassion in their marriage. We lift up to you all those who thirst for your righteousness, as we come together saying the prayer which our Lord taught us saying,

LORD'S PRAYER

“-----” - **Congregational Singing** – Words Printed on the back of your program.

BLESSING

INTRODUCTION OF COUPLE

Suggested Order of Marriage Bulletins

Here is a general order of service - There is flexibility here.

Prelude/Gathering Music

Processional

Prayer - Pastor

Intentions - Couple

1st Scripture Reading - Guest

Song - Congregational Singing

Gospel Reading - Guest

Message - Pastor

The Marriage Vows - Couple

The Exchange of Rings - Couple

Lighting of the Unity Candle/Pouring of Sand

Solo - Musical Guest

Prayers - Pastor or Guests/Family

The Lord's Prayer - Pastor

Song - Congregational Singing

Benediction - Pastor

Introduction of the couple

Recessional

Some Bulletins name the specific musical pieces for preludes, processions, and solos, other bulletins merely list "Prelude" and "Solo"

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Resurrection Lutheran Church is committed to “Meeting you where you are but not leaving you there.” We offer traditional and contemporary worship options, opportunities to serve our neighbors, Bible studies for new Christians and for those who have a more developed faith walk, as well as pastoral care and counseling.



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