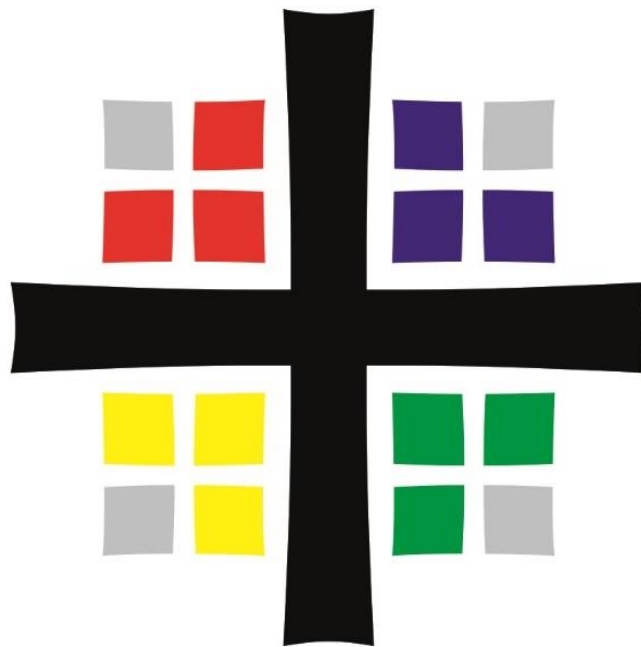


Your Wedding at First Lutheran Church

Mission Statement: "As faithful disciples, we serve God and welcome all people with open hearts."



402 South Court Street
Fergus Falls, Minnesota, 56537
(218) 739-3348
firstlutheranchurchff.org

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding and marriage!

And the greatest of these is love...

We value you as individuals and as a couple. We are interested in investing in the two of you and in your preparation for your wedding ceremony, but most importantly, in your marriage.

We at First Lutheran are interested in providing the most hospitable and Christ centered environment possible for you both, your families, and your guests. We hope your wedding day is a 'day to remember' as you begin this lifelong marriage journey together.

- We invite you to commit to attending worship regularly.
- We encourage you to engage in the life and mission of First Lutheran through faithful stewardship and service.
- We promise to pray for you as 'a part of' the faithful membership of this community.

While there are many details in these pages, the center of it all is celebrating the love and commitment you have for one another as people of God. Thank you for inviting us to walk with you in faith.

Blessings,

First Lutheran Church Council and Staff

GETTING STARTED

Reserve Church with Deposit

- Call the church office 218 739-3348 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday to confirm that the date you want to have your wedding is available.
- The fee schedules for members and for nonmembers of First Lutheran Church are located on the next to the last page of this wedding booklet.

Meet with Pastor

- Call to set up your first meeting with the presiding pastor at least six months prior to your wedding.
- You will complete a marriage information form and also a pre-marital inventory called Prepare/Enrich. This inventory is an effective tool in stimulating discussion and looking at the strengths and growth areas of a relationship.
- The publisher of this inventory charges \$35 for processing a couple's responses and a link will be sent for payment.

Contact Wedding Coordinator

- Three (3) months prior to your wedding, you need to contact the wedding coordinator.

Arrange for Music

- Call Keith Melberg, organist, at (218) 205-4619 to see if he is available to play for your wedding or to get his approval for another organist.

POLICIES

Location

- Because the marriage service is first and foremost a worship service, it is expected that your wedding will be held in the church.
- However, if you have obtained the pastor's agreement to perform your wedding at a site other than the church, be aware that the church building will not be reserved as a backup.

Church Building and Property

- Throwing rice, grain, bird seed, or confetti is not permitted inside or outside the church. Discuss alternate ideas with the wedding coordinator.
- Smoking is not allowed in the church building—only outside, away from the building, by ashtray.
- Lost articles or wedding gifts are not the church's responsibility. Be sure to tell your wedding party that they are responsible for their personal items.
- Arrangements for wedding gifts brought to the church should be discussed with the wedding coordinator.

Pastor

- If you would also like to have a friend or family member who is a pastor involved in your wedding, please speak to the pastor about it when you book your wedding.
- The marriage celebration is a worship service and should be so structured to glorify God in music, word, and liturgy. Thus, any final decisions regarding the music, worship, and liturgy rest with the presiding pastor.
- The wedding coordinator will assist at the rehearsal and at the wedding to keep them running smoothly and on schedule.
- The presiding pastor reserves the right to postpone or refuse to perform a marriage if, in the course of the pre-marital preparation, it is deemed that extra counseling is needed. This is a rare occurrence.
- If you would like the pastor to say grace at your rehearsal dinner and/or reception, please make your request in advance so that the pastor can be in attendance and prepared.

Music

- Music must be approved by Keith Melberg, First Lutheran organist, if he is playing for your wedding or by the pastor, if Keith is not playing.

- Please see the music section of this booklet for further details regarding music arrangements and selections.

Photography and Videotaping

- Flash pictures are not allowed during the service (after the processional).
- Non-flash pictures may be taken from the balcony or the rear of the church, or the sides, during the service.
- Video cameras may be used.
- Please inform your guests in your wedding program that First Lutheran does not allow flash pictures during the service (after the processional) and video cameras can only be used in the balcony.
- If you would like a sound recording, provide a flash drive.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

Wedding Service and Rehearsal

- Meet with the couple and/or parent as needed to discuss details of the wedding and the information in this booklet.
- Be present one hour before the beginning of the wedding service to assist as needed. If you desire the coordinator to be present earlier, this may be negotiated in advance.
- Have marriage license to church office at least two weeks in advance.
- Wedding Coordinator will ensure marriage license is signed, sealed, copied, and delivered.

Wedding Reception at First Lutheran

- Meet with you to arrange and plan the reception.
- Make arrangements with the custodian for placement of tables and chairs.
- Supervise and assist in the kitchen and with clean-up.
- Be on hand to answer any questions the caterers and waiters/waitresses may have.
- Needs to be catered and wait staff provided.

WEDDING SERVICE

Things to Consider

- Plan and write your own vows, liturgy, and prayers if you so desire.
- Use family and friends to be lectors (readers) or intercessors (prayer leaders).
- Invite your parents to lay on hands in a blessing.
- Unity Candle
- Celebrate Holy Communion as part of the wedding feast; options should be discussed with the presiding pastor.

Customary Order of Service

(optional items are in parentheses)

PRELUDE

GATHERING

Processional – Music Title and Composer
Greeting
Declaration of Intention
Prayer of the Day

WORD

(*Music)
Scripture Readings – Two or three scripture readings are proclaimed.
Response – **Thanks be to God.** * May include a sung acclamation, hymn, song or psalm.
Sermon
(*Hymn of the Day – Music Title and composer)

MARRIAGE

Exchange of Marriage Vows
Exchange of Rings
Announcement of Marriage
(Unity Candle/Sand Ceremony/ Giving of Flowers/etc.)
(Music)
Marriage Blessing
Prayers of Intercession
(Communion)
Lord's Prayer

SENDING

Blessing
Introduction of Couple
Recessional
Postlude

BULLETIN

- First Lutheran does not print wedding bulletins.
- If you are planning to have a bulletin printed for your wedding, you should have it approved by the presiding pastor prior to printing.

MUSIC

The music you select should contribute to the spirit of worship and express God's love and your response in praise and thanksgiving. Therefore, music selections must be approved by the First Lutheran Church organist.

- If you need a soloist, you may contact the church office or wedding coordinator for suggestions. However, it will be up to you to contact the soloists and to discuss their fees with them.
- Keith Melberg, organist for First Lutheran, has numerous compositions suitable for processionals and recessionals. It will be up to you to contact him for his services or to get his approval for another organist.

DECORATING

Sanctuary

- The sanctuary seats approximately 350 people.
- The aisle length is 75 feet from the entry into the sanctuary to the bottom of the steps leading to the chancel, or altar, area.
- Tacks or tape of any kind should not be used to hold decorations on the pews. Fish line works great.

Chancel (or Altar) Area

- Flowers, candles, and candelabras must be placed in their designated locations on the altar, on pedestals, and at the bottom of the chancel steps.
- Only fresh flowers, not artificial flowers, are allowed on the altar.
- Altar rail is available.
- The Unity Candle may be in front of the pulpit or the lectern.
- The colors of the paraments cannot be changed specifically for a wedding but must follow the color dictated by the church calendar. However, they could be taken down.
- Decorating may be done the day before your wedding, or after the rehearsal, or the day of your wedding.

WEDDING RECEPTION

Fellowship Hall and Kitchen Information

- The Fellowship Hall has a maximum seating capacity of 250 for all guests to be seated at one time.
- For more than 250 guests, additional separate rooms would need to be opened.
- Round tables, which can each comfortably seat eight people, will be provided by the church.
- Rectangular tables, which can be used as serving tables or a head table, will be provided by the church.
- Folding chairs will be provided by the church.
- The custodian will be responsible for setting up the tables and chairs to your specifications and for removing them after your reception.
- All paper products, napkins, and decorations, will be your responsibility to provide.
- Use of the Fellowship Hall and kitchen includes all dishes, cups, glasses, silverware, serving pieces (bowls, platters, salt and pepper shakers, sugar and creamers, coffee servers, water pitchers, etc.), potholders, dish cloths, dish towels, and paper towels.
- Kitchen equipment includes dishwasher, stoves, refrigerators, and coffee pots.

Catering

- The church is not able to cater wedding receptions.
- You will need to make your own arrangements for catering the food for your reception.
- You or your caterer will be responsible for setting up, serving, and cleaning up.

Pastor

- If you want the presiding pastor and pastor's spouse to attend your reception, please extend them an invitation at least a month in advance so that they can plan to attend.
- If you would like the presiding pastor to say grace before you and your guests eat, please make your request at least a month in advance so that the pastor can be in attendance and prepared.

DEPOSIT AND FEE SCHEDULE For First Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls MN

The church will be reserved for your wedding when the non-refundable deposit is received.

- The deposit for the wedding is \$100.00 for members of First Lutheran Church and \$200.00 for non-members of First Lutheran Church.
- The deposit will go towards the following fees as set by the First Lutheran Church Council:

SERVICE	CHURCH MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Use of Sanctuary & Narthex	\$0.00	\$200.00
Use of Chapel	\$0.00	\$200.00
Use of Fellowship Hall	\$0.00	\$200.00
CUSTODIAN		
Wedding Service	\$100.00	\$150.00
Wedding Reception	\$200.00	\$200.00
Sound Operator Wedding Service	\$ 50-75.00	\$50-75.00
WEDDING COORDINATOR		
Wedding Service	\$150.00	\$250.00
Wedding Reception	\$150.00	\$250.00
Organist	\$150.00	\$250.00
Pastoral Services	\$150.00	\$250.00
Prepare/Enrich	\$ 35.00	\$35.00

Make checks payable to First Lutheran Church except for the sound operator, wedding coordinator, organist, custodian and pastor. Checks for these people should be made out directly to the individuals involved and then given to the Wedding Coordinator.

Check List

For First Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN

- ___ Fill out Wedding Information Form
- ___ Reserve Church (date, time, and deposit fee)
- ___ Secure reception site.
 - ___ If reception is at the church, be sure the Fellowship Hall and kitchen are reserved and pay deposit fee.
 - ___ If reception is at the church, secure a caterer
- ___ Six months prior to wedding, make appointment to meet with pastor
- ___ Contact wedding coordinator three months in advance
- ___ Five months prior to wedding, contact organist, Keith Melberg, for his availability (218)205-4619
 - ___ If another organist is to be used, contact Keith for his approval
- ___ Have wedding bulletin approved by pastor prior to printing (one month in advance)
- ___ Two weeks prior to wedding or sooner, bring marriage license and fees to church office

Scripture Readings

As the service indicates, one or more Bible lessons help us understand marriage in the context of God's creative love for us. These can be read by the pastor or by someone of your choosing. Consider some of the following suggestions or select a favorite Bible story of your own:

Genesis 1:26-31	Humankind made in God's image
Genesis 2:18-24	God creates Adam & Eve for each other
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	A time for every purpose
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	Two are better than one
Tobit 8:5-7	Let us live together to a happy old age.
Song of Solomon 2:10-13	Love in the Spring
Song of Solomon 8:7	Unquenchable love
Isaiah 63:7-9	God's love for His people
Jeremiah 31:31-32, 33-34	I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
Matthew 5:13-16	You are the light of the world.
Matthew 7:21, 24-29 (shorter version ends at verse 25)	The wise build their houses on rock.
Matthew 19:4-6	What God has joined together
Matthew 22:35-40	Two great commandments
John 2:1-10	Jesus at the wedding in Cana
John 15:9-12	Love one another
John 15:12-16	There is no greater love than this.
John 17:20-26 (shorter version ends at verse 23)	I pray that they may be one.
Romans 8:31-35, 37-39	If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 12:1-2	A living sacrifice to God
Romans 15:5-7	Live in harmony with each other 1
Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20	Glorify God in your body.
1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Paul's hymn of love
Ephesians 3:14-21	God the source of love
Ephesians 5:21-23	Marriage reflects Christ's love for the church
Colossians 3:12-17	Clothe yourself with heartfelt mercy.
1 Peter 3:1-9	Be likeminded, sympathetic, loving to one another
1 John 3:18-24	Let us love in deed and in truth.
1 John 4:7-12	Let us love one another, for love is of God.
Revelation 19:1, 5-9	This is the wedding day of the Lamb!

A Psalm may also be used between readings. This is an opportunity to involve members of the congregation. Consider the following Psalms.

Psalm 33	A joyful song to the creator
Psalm 67	A thankful prayer for God's blessing
Psalm 91	God's faithfulness
Psalm 100	Praise to God, the Creator and Shepherd
Psalm 111	Thanks to God for his acts
Psalm 127	Success depends on God's blessing
Psalm 128	The blessing of home
Psalm 136	The litany of praises
Psalm 150	A grand doxology

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

Because the pastors are responsible for officiating at the services, it is required that all music be approved by them. If you can answer "yes" to the following questions, the music is probably appropriate:

1. Does the music text reflect praise and/or thanksgiving to God?
2. Is it based on, or does it reflect, a scriptural theme?
3. Would this song be appropriate for a regular worship service?

Processional Music Suggestions:

Air (from Suite No. 3)	J. S. Bach
Air (from Water Music)	G.F. Handel
Andante	G.F. Handel
Andante	John Stanley
Andante religioso (from Sonata IV)	Felix Mendelssohn
Aria	G.F. Handel
Arioso	J. S. Bach
Canon in D	Johann Pachelbel
Hymn to Joy	Beethoven (var. arr.)

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	J. S. Bach
Largo G.F.	Handel
March	Franz Josef Haydn
March in C	Henry Purcell
March Romaine	Charles Gounod
Prelude from Te Deum	Marc-Antoine Charpentier
Prince Eugen's March/Southwark Grenadiers' March	Anonymous
Processional	G.F. Handel
Processional (from the Water Music)	G.F. Handel
Processional (The St. Anthony Chorale)	Franz Josef Haydn
Processional (Trumpet Tune in C)	Henry Purcell
Psalm 19 (The Heavens Declare)	Benedetto Marcello
Rigaudon	Andre Campra
Rigaudon	Georg Bohm (arr. Biery)
Rondeau	Jean Joseph Mouret (arr. Bish)
Thaxted (Jupiter from The Planets)	Gustav Holst
The St. Catherine	John Barrett (arr. Biery)
Thine Is The Glory (Judas Maccabeus)	G.F. Handel
Trumpet Tune	Henry Purcell
Trumpet Tune and March	Jeremiah Clarke
Trumpet Tune Duet	Jeremiah Clarke
Trumpet Tune in F Major	David N. Johnson
Trumpet Voluntary	Henry Purcell
Trumpeting in B Flat Major	James Melby
Voluntary	John Stanley
Voluntary in C Major	Henry Purcell

Congregational Hymns:

All Are Welcome	ELW 641
All People That on Earth Do Dwell	ELW 883
Blest Be the Tie That Binds	ELW 656
For the Beauty of the Earth	ELW 879
Gather Us In	ELW 532
Holy God, We Praise Your Name	ELW 414
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee	ELW 836
Let All Things Now Living	ELW 881
Lord of All Hopefulness	ELW 765
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling	ELW 631
Morning Has Broken	ELW 556
Now Thank We All Our God	ELW 839-840
O God beyond All Praising	ELW 880
O Holy Spirit, Enter In	ELW 786
Oh, Worship the King	ELW 842
Praise and Thanksgiving	ELW 689
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	ELW 858-859
This Is a Day, Lord, Gladly Awaited	ELW 586
We Praise You, O God	ELW 870
Will You Let Me Be Your Servant	ELW 659

* Sources: ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Vocal Suggestions:

A Wedding Blessing	Mark Hayes
All Things Bright and Beautiful	John Rutter
Be Thou With Me	J.S. Bach
Bless the Broken Road	Hummon/Boyd/Hanna
Bless the Lord, O, My Soul	G.F. Handel
Blessing	Katie Moran Bart
Bridal Prayer	Roger Copeland
By My Side	Thomas J. Porter
Come and Journey With Me	David Haas
Covenant Hymn	Gary Daigle
For the Beauty of the Earth	John Rutter
Go Light Your World	Chris Rice
God Causes All Things to Grow	Chapmann/Green
Grow Old With Me	John Lennon
How Beautiful	Twila Paris
I Will Be Here	Steven Curtis Chapman
In This Very Room	Ron & Carol Harris
In Your Power	Bobby Springfield (arr. Hayes)
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	J.S. Bach
Jesus, Shepherd, Be Thou Near Me	J.S. Bach
Lord, May Their Lives	J. Robert Carrol
Love Is the Sunlight	David Haas
Love Will Be Our Home	Steven Curtis Chapman
Make Us One, Father	Paul Johnson
Morning Has Broken	Cat Stevens
My Song Will Be For You Forever	David Haas
O Perfect Love	Robert E. Kreutz
Our Love Will Stand	Mark Hayes
Prayer of St. Francis	Allen Pote
Put On Love	Laura Bergquist
Shine On Us	Michael W./Deborah D. Smith
Sing of the Lord's Goodness	Ernest Sands
Sing Out Earth and Skies	Marty Haugen
Song of Community	Mark Hayes
The Gift of Love	arr. Hal Hopson
The Greatest of These Is Love	Mark Hayes
The Prayer	Sager & Foster
The Servant Song	Richard Gillard
This Is The Day	Scott Wesley Brown
Time for Joy	Gerry Limpic
Together	Roger Strader (arr. Krogstad)
Wedding Prayer	Fern Glasgow Dunlap
When God Made You	Carswell/O'Brien
When Love Is Found	text: Brian Wren
Where There is Love	David Haas
Wherever You Go	David Haas
You Raise Me Up	Graham/Lovland

Recessional Music Suggestions:

A Festal Fanfare	J.S. Bach (arr. Thompson)
Allegro	G.F. Handel
Allegro (from Voluntary III)	anonymous
Allegro (from Water Music)	G. F. Handel
Allegro maestoso e vivace (from Sonata IV)	Felix Mendelssohn
Allegro Moderato (from Trumpet Voluntary)	William Goodwin
Allegro Moderato (from Trumpet Voluntary)	Henry Heron
Andante (from Trumpet Voluntary)	John Travers
Andante (from Voluntary IV)	anonymous
Concerto in a minor	Bach/Vivaldi
Fanfare	Nicolas Jacques Lemmens
Finale from Concerto No. 5	G.F. Handel
God of Grace	arr. Paul Manz
Hornpipe	G.F. Handel
Hymn to Joy	Beethoven (var. arr.)
Jubilatio	Stanley Vann
Minuet gothique	Boellmann
O Be Joyful	Elizabeth Hill
Praeludium in G Major	J.S. Bach
Praise to the Lord	Walther
Prelude & Fugue in Bb	J. S. Bach
Prelude & Fugue in C	J. S. Bach
Prelude & Fugue in F	J. S. Bach
Prelude in Classic Style	Gordon Young
Psalms 19 (The Heavens Declare)	Benedetto Marcello
Rondeau	Jean Joseph Mouret (arr. Bish)
Sinfonia from Solomon	G.F. Handel (arr. Maynard)
Spiritoso & Allegro (from Voluntary VII)	anonymous
Spring (from Four Seasons)	Antonio Vivaldi
The Emperor's Fanfare	Antonio Soler
Thine Is The Glory	G.F. Handel
Toccatina	Theodore DuBois
Toccatina In Seven	John Rutter
Triumphal March	Nicolas Jacques Lemmens
Trumpet Tune	Henry Purcell
Trumpet Voluntary	Henry Purcell
Trumpet Voluntary	John Stanley
Trumpet Voluntary	Thomas Sanders Dupuis
Trumpeting in B Flat Major	James Melby
Voluntary	John Stanley
Voluntary in A	William Selby
Voluntary in C Major	Henry Purcell
Voluntary in D	John Alcock