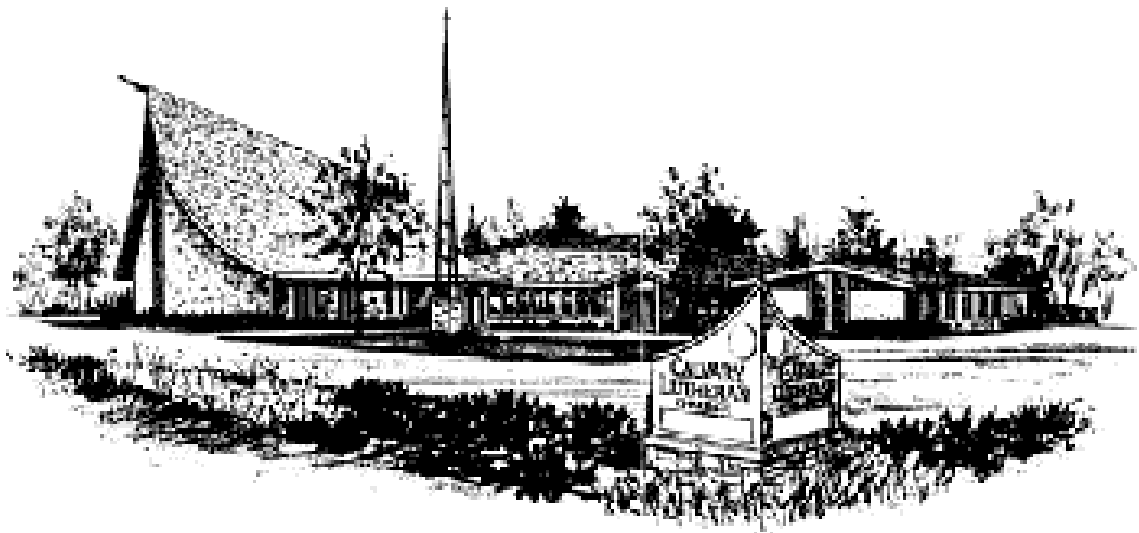


# WEDDING HANDBOOK



## **CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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# Congratulations!

We celebrate your engagement and are very excited for you to begin the process to be married at Calvary Lutheran Church. What an exciting time!

This booklet will:

- Introduce the recommended policies and procedures at Calvary. Just a few of them are intended to limit your choices or desires. All of them are intended to let you know what is most appropriate.
- Inform you of the people who are available to help you plan your wedding including the pastor, director of music and wedding hostess. You will also find information regarding arrangements that need to be made, including premarital sessions and applying for a marriage license.
- Share information including options for music, marriage vows, and scripture readings.

It is our hope, more than anything, to make your wedding day as special as possible so that the day of your marriage is filled with happiness, love, and faithfulness.

After your wedding, continue to worship regularly at Calvary or at a Christian church close to you. In all the things you will now be doing together, put church at the head of your list. Pray together. Read the texts used at your wedding as a basis. Begin to establish a time and place for family devotions. Many devotion resources are available. Be alert to opportunities for enriching your marriage. Events such as ENCORE, Marriage Encounter weekends, books, and couples communication workshops can be very worthwhile investments toward a healthy marriage. Join the fellowship of your church. Be active together in the church's activities. Make your church a place where you and your children may grow in grace and live in peace. May the Savior's love hold you and bless you in your love for one another!

Sincerely,

Philip M. Nybrotten  
Senior Pastor

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# Contacts

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<b>Wedding Hostess Coordinator</b> Jan Lukasik	262-781-5319	<a href="mailto:clukasik@wi.rr.com">clukasik@wi.rr.com</a>
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<b>Lutheran Social Services</b>	414-671-5939	<a href="http://www.lsswis.org">www.lsswis.org</a>
<b>Waukesha County Clerk</b>	262-548-7010	<a href="http://www.waukeshacounty.gov">www.waukeshacounty.gov</a>

## Fee Schedule

All fees should be paid before the rehearsal.

	Member	Non-Member
Use of the Sanctuary (Seats Approx 400)	No Charge	\$250
Pastor	*Honorarium	\$250
Organist	\$200	\$200
Soloists	\$75	\$75
Instrumentalists	\$75	\$75
Use of candelabra (2)	\$35/candelabra	\$35/candelabra

\* Suggested honorarium is \$200 payable to the pastor.

## Timeline/Schedule

Completed	Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>At least 6 months in advance</b> Call the church office to reserve the desired ceremony date and arrange for an initial meeting with the pastor.
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>Initial meeting with the pastor</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>Arrange for pre-marriage workshop with LSS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>Meet with the organist and other musicians</b> Arrange ceremony music
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>Six – Thirty six days before the wedding</b> Apply for marriage license
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>Pick-up the marriage license</b> Bring the marriage license to the church 3-5 days before the wedding.
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>Final meeting with the pastor</b> Complete and review the ceremony and scripture readings. Bring a draft of your ceremony bulletin to this meeting.
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>Meet with the wedding hostess</b> Finalize the ceremony and rehearsal details. Bring the completed wedding party/hostess detail forms and a draft of the ceremony bulletin.
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<b>Rehearsal</b> Bring final bulletins to the rehearsal for the wedding hostess and pastor. All fees should be paid at this time.

# Guidelines and Suggestions

## Christian Weddings

A wedding is, first of all, an opportunity to worship our God who is the source of life and the gracious giver of gifts--including the gift of love. The principles of worship observed in planning a Christian wedding service include:

- ✝ The Christian wedding service is a service of worship.
- ✝ The Christian wedding service is a public service. It belongs to all members of the congregation and the whole Christian community.
- ✝ The Christian wedding service is corporate worship in that everyone is involved in the worship of God.
- ✝ The Christian wedding service proclaims God's good news.
- ✝ The Christian wedding service celebrates God's goodness and God's grace.

As is true in every aspect of life, certain actions, decisions, and practices are more appropriate than others. In a Christian wedding service, the same is very much the case. The purpose of the service is to worship God. It is a particular joy for a man and woman to promise their lifelong love and faithfulness to each other within the context of a worship service.

## The Date

Call the church office to set the date for your wedding. Do this as far in advance of the wedding as possible, at least 90 days in advance. A letter of confirmation will be sent to you once the date has been approved. We have a 5:00 p.m. Saturday evening service at Calvary. For that reason all decorations, photography, videography, guests, and members of the wedding party must leave the sanctuary by 4:00 pm.

Please be aware that unforeseen situations such as funerals may arise. Your wedding date and time will not be compromised, yet it may become necessary to dress in an area other than the one originally planned or to briefly delay the placement of your wedding decorations. If an occasion such as this should arise, we will notify you as soon as possible.

## Paraments and Other Seasonal Decorations

Paraments for the current church season when the wedding is scheduled will be displayed in the sanctuary. Should there be seasonal decorations in the chancel and/or nave area, these will remain in place for the wedding.

## Pew Decorations, Candles and Aisle Runners, Rice/Birdseed

Pew decorations may be used and they are at the expense of the wedding party. There are 13 pew backs on each side of the sanctuary. The church provides altar candles. Additional candles and candelabra are available; however, a fee will be charged for candelabra candles. The bride and groom are responsible for placing the candelabra in the sanctuary and returning them to the store room following the ceremony. Please discuss this with the pastor and wedding hostess. All wedding decorations such as candles, ribbons, etc. need to be removed immediately following the ceremony. For safety reasons, aisle runners are not permitted because the floor is wooden and sloped. Throwing of rice or birdseed is not allowed inside or outside of the church.

## **Flowers**

Altar and chancel flowers should be real. After the wedding, the flowers are sometimes left for weekend worship, taken home by the wedding party, or delivered to a nursing home. If you wish to leave them for the weekend services, please sign the flower chart in the narthex.

## **Receiving Line**

It is appropriate to have a receiving line following the service in the narthex of the church. It is important to give careful thought to who would be in the receiving line. This will be discussed with the wedding hostess.

## **Guest Pastor**

We are always open to other Christian pastors being involved in the marriage service especially when there is a relationship with the couple. The guest pastor should consult with the pastor at Calvary to determine the appropriate roles each will have for the marriage service. In a rare instance where Calvary's pastor is not available, other arrangements must be made to schedule a guest pastor.

## **Photographer/Videographer**

**No flash photography is to be taken after the processional and must wait for the beginning of the recessional.** It is suggested that you mention this to your guests in your service bulletin. The photographer may take pictures during the ceremony without using a flash and must remain no closer than the back half of the church. The only requirement for a videographer is that there is no movement of video cameras during the service. The movement of photographers or videographers is very distracting to the marriage ceremony.

## **Wedding Service Bulletins**

The use of service bulletins at the wedding is helpful to your guests. It should contain the order of service, special music, and names of people in the wedding party. The bulletin covers can be ordered from several sources including Augsburg-Fortress Publishing House, a local Christian book store, internet sources, or a personal design. All information regarding your service should be given to the pastor to review. Printing of bulletins is not provided at Calvary. Please bring your bulletins to the rehearsal, if not sooner, so the pastor and hostess can review the ceremony details.

## **Dressing Area, Food, and Beverages**

On the day of the wedding, dressing areas are available, if desired. Please designate someone to clear clothing and other articles from the dressing rooms. It is best to do this before the wedding service begins. Do not leave valuables in the rooms because the doors cannot be locked. Please remember that the church is not responsible for lost articles. Arrangements for opening the church are discussed with the wedding hostess. If food and beverages are brought in for the wedding party, please keep this to a minimum and arrange for someone to clean-up after it is served. **Please confine food and beverages to the dressing rooms or Fellowship Hall. It is not allowed in the sanctuary or narthex. No alcoholic beverages** are allowed on the church property for rehearsals, the ceremony, or reception in the Fellowship Hall. This includes the parking facilities.

## **The Rehearsal**

The wedding rehearsal time and date should be chosen and verified when the wedding date is confirmed. The wedding rehearsal is of extreme importance in assuring all concerned will be at ease and that the ceremony will be conducted properly. The pastor will explain the processional, recessional, order of service, and significance of the ceremonial aspects employed. The pastor

and wedding hostess will be available to answer any “last minute questions” you may have. Make sure that ALL who are involved in your wedding party, including your parents and ushers, are present. The organist may be present at the rehearsal; however, it is usually more practical and conducive for the organist and soloist to arrange their practice time together outside of the rehearsal with the wedding party. The rehearsal takes place in the church, therefore all involved are expected to act and dress accordingly. The rehearsal is a preparation for worship. **Please Be Prompt!** It is expected that you will arrive at least 15 minutes before the rehearsal time. Being late is discourteous to those who have made an effort to be on time. Make sure everyone knows the date and time of the rehearsal and prepares to arrive promptly.

## Resources

### **Director of Music/Organist**

When planning the music for your wedding, please consult with Calvary's Director of Music regarding all musical selections intended for the wedding ceremony. Our Director of Music will be glad to assist you in providing appropriate musical suggestions and accommodating additional musicians in the service. Calvary's organist will be happy to provide the desired music for this joyous occasion and to accompany musicians as needed.

### **Wedding Hostess**

Calvary Lutheran Church provides the services of a wedding hostess as a gift of the congregation and is meant to express quality Christian hospitality. The hostess will meet with you to answer questions you may have regarding use of the church and facility. You will be contacted by the wedding hostess to arrange a meeting to discuss the details of the wedding such as the rehearsal and ceremony schedule, procession details, arrangement of flowers and candles, seating of guests, location of the receiving line, etc. The wedding hostess will be present at the wedding rehearsal and the wedding ceremony to ensure that the details of your wedding happen smoothly and orderly.

### **Pre-Marriage Workshop**

It is not only recommended **but required** that every couple married at Calvary participate in some form of pre-marriage counseling. The recommended process is to work with Lutheran Social Services who conduct workshops throughout the year. You may receive a brochure from the church office or call **Lutheran Social Services**, 414-671-5939, or visit their website, [www.lsswis.org](http://www.lsswis.org), to obtain workshop dates and locations. Premarital counseling may also be accomplished through other agencies, through employee assistance programs, and denominational offerings. Please consult the pastor no matter what option seems best for you.

### **The Marriage License**

Wisconsin law requires that couples apply for a marriage license at least six (6) days in advance of the wedding, due to the five (5) day waiting period. Both must be present to obtain the license. Both need certified copies of birth certificates and proof of residence to acquire the license. Please bring the license to the church 3-5 days before the wedding so preparation of the document can be completed prior to the wedding. Below is information regarding the requirements of Waukesha and Milwaukee counties. Please call them directly or visit their websites for the most current information and requirements.

#### **Waukesha County**

A couple may not apply more than 36 days in advance. The marriage license fee is \$105. This must be paid in cash. If you have any questions concerning the marriage laws and fees in Waukesha County, it is suggested you **contact the county clerk at 262-548-7010 or visit their website at [www.waukeshacounty.gov](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov)**.

#### **Milwaukee County**

A couple may not apply more than 30 days in advance. The marriage can take place the same day that the license is issued. **The marriage license fee is \$100.** This must be paid in cash. The five (5) day wait can be waived for an additional fee. If you have any questions concerning the new marriage laws and the fee in Milwaukee County, it is suggested you **contact the county clerk at 414-278-4068.**

# The Wedding Ceremony

## The Order of Worship

Your pastor and organist will work with you to plan the order of worship for your wedding ceremony. They will make sure the service is God-directed and Christ-centered. They will help in assuring that the service is meaningful and meets the traditions of the Lutheran Church.

Whether you choose a very simple service or perhaps a more elaborate one, your pastor will prove most helpful in ideas and suggestions. The following describes the basic order of worship used. This is meant as an outline and can be enhanced in many ways by the involvement of other people in the ceremony such as: the reading of scripture, special music (solo or congregation), lighting of the unity candle, etc. A worksheet can be found at the back of this handbook to assist in planning your wedding ceremony worship service.

<b>Prelude Music</b>	During this music, the wedding guests are being seated, including the seating of the family of the wedding party
<b>Processional</b>	Entrance of the wedding party
<b>Greeting</b>	Given by the pastor
<b>Invocation</b>	Inviting and acknowledging the presence of the Triune God
<b>Prayer</b>	Recognizing God's presence at this time and continued involvement in marriage
<b>Scripture Readings</b>	Many times read by significant people to the bride and groom. A list of suggested scripture readings follows
<b>Meditation</b>	A special message of God's grace and hope given by the pastor
<b>Statement of Intent</b>	Places the exchange of vows in the proper Christian perspective
<b>Exchange of Vows</b>	The "active ingredient" of the marriage service. Many times formatted by the bride and groom from suggestions provided in this booklet
<b>Exchange of Rings</b>	The rings are a tangible sign of love and faithfulness.
<b>Marriage Pronouncement</b>	Sealing the marriage in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit
<b>Blessings</b>	The newly married couple receives blessings from God
<b>Prayers</b>	Calling on God to supply the newly married couple with the gifts they need for marriage
<b>Benediction</b>	A final blessing
<b>Recessional</b>	The wedding party exits
<b>Postlude</b>	The guests exit

**Communion** Some couples may want to include Holy Communion. This is an option and not required. It seems most appropriate when both the wedding party and guests are primarily practicing Christians and from denominations who celebrate a practice of "open communion."

## **Scripture Readings**

The selection of readings is very important for the worship service, the wedding couple and guests. Scripture readings enhance the atmosphere of the wedding service, communicate the Good News of God and emphasize the specifics of Christian love and marriage. As an engaged couple, it is good to spend time with the following list and a Bible to select those readings that have particular meaning for you.

It might also be appropriate for you to select a reading from another source besides the Bible. Perhaps a poem, selection from a book, or a portion of an article seems appropriate or is meaningful to your relationship. Remember that a way of involving more people who are important to you in the marriage service is to ask if they might read a scripture lesson or a reading.

## **Old Testament**

Genesis 1:26-28, 31a - Male and female, God created them  
Genesis 2:4-11, 15-24 - The fulfillment of marriage  
Genesis 2:18-24 - Two in one flesh  
Genesis 24:48-51, 58-67 - Isaac loved Rebecca  
Numbers 6:24-26 - God's blessing on God's people  
Joshua 24:14-15 - A statement of commitment  
Ruth 1:16-18 - A wonderful pledge  
Song of Solomon 2:8-10, 14, 16a, 8:6-7a - Love is strong as death  
Ecclesiastes 2:1-8 - A time for all things  
Jeremiah 31:31-32a, 33-34a - I will make a new covenant  
Psalm 5:23, 25, 33, 34, 37, 67, 84, 91, 100, 112, 127, 128  
Proverbs 1:33, 3:5-6, 30: 8-4, 31:10-12

## **Epistles**

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39 - Who will separate us from Christ's love  
Romans 12:1-2, 9, 18 - Offer your bodies as living sacrifices  
Romans 14:19  
I Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20 - Your body is a temple of the Spirit  
I Corinthians 12:31, 13:8a - Nothing profits without love  
Ephesians 3:14-19 - Christian love  
Ephesians 5:2a, 21-33 - This mystery of Christ and His Church  
Philippians 2:1-10  
Colossians 3:12-17 - Love, the bond of perfection  
I Peter 3:1-9 - Be sympathetic and love the brothers  
I John 3:18-24 - Our love is to be real and active  
I John 4:7-12 - God is love  
Revelation 19:1, 5-9a - Happy those invited to the wedding

## **Gospels**

Matthew 5:1-12 - Rejoice for your reward will be great  
Matthew 5:13-16 - The light of the world  
Matthew 6:33  
Matthew 7:21, 24-29 - The house built on rock  
Matthew 19:3-6 - What God has united, man must not divide  
Matthew 22:35-40 - The greatest commandment  
Mark 10:6-9, 13-16 - No longer two but one body  
John 2:1-11 - The wedding feast at Cana

John 6:68

John 15:9-12 - Remain in my love

John 15:12-16 - My commandment, love one another

John 17:20-26 - May they be completely one

### Wedding Vows

Another way of personalizing the marriage service is through the selection of the vows (promises) to one another. The vows are normally spoken to one another with the prompting of the pastor. Below are printed vows that you can choose from or work with. These vows are intended to serve as suggestions. You are invited to work them in such a way to make them appropriate for you.

- ♥ I take you \_\_\_\_\_ to be my wife/husband  
I promise to be faithful to you  
in good times and in bad  
in sickness and in health.  
I will love you and honor you all the days of my life.
  
- ♥ I take you \_\_\_\_\_ to be my wife/husband  
to have and to hold from this day forward  
for better for worse  
for richer for poorer  
in sickness and in health  
to love and to cherish,  
and with the help of God  
I promise to be faithful to you as long as we both shall live.
  
- ♥ I take you \_\_\_\_\_ to be my wife/husband.  
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 long as we both shall live.
  
- ♥ I take you \_\_\_\_\_ to be my wife/husband  
from this time onward,  
to join with you 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  
as long as we both shall live.
  
- ♥ I take you \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

- ♥ I take you \_\_\_\_\_ 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 through the best and the worst of what is to come as long as we both shall live.
  
- ♥ \_\_\_\_\_, today I take you as my husband/wife.  
I promise to love you, and to sustain you in the covenant of marriage.  
This means I promise to be with you regardless of our material standing and regardless of our physical health.  
I expect nothing in this world except that my love for you will grow stronger and deeper rather than decreasing as the years wear upon us.  
This is my pledge I make to you on this our wedding day.  
And it will last for as long as we both shall live.
  
- ♥ I \_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_, just as you are, above all others, and however you may change, to share my life as long as we live.
  
- ♥ In the name of God, I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my husband/wife.  
I offer you my strength and my support. I pledge my loyalty and faith.  
I offer my hope. I will trust, respect and encourage you.  
I give you my love in all the circumstances of life, as long as we both shall live.
  
- ♥ I take you, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my husband/wife from this day forward,  
To join with you and share all that is to come,  
And I promise to be faithful to you until death parts us.
  
- ♥ In the presence of God and this community,  
I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my husband/wife;  
To have and to hold from this day forward,  
In joy and in sorrow, in plenty and in want, in sickness and in health,  
To love and to cherish, as long as we both shall live.  
This is my solemn vow.

### **The Meaning of Rings**

In God's holy ways we are given reminding tokens. Following that precedence you will exchange rings. These rings are of the most precious metals, suggesting the most precious relationship on earth, that of Christian love and marriage. Furthermore, the ring is endless until it is broken by an outside force, which fittingly represents the permanence of the marriage until it is broken by the outside force of death.

\_\_\_\_\_, I give you this ring, as a token of my love, and I pledge you my loyalty and devotion, as long as we both shall live.

OR

\_\_\_\_\_, I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow. With all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## Music in the Ceremony

The purpose of music in any worship service is to assist the people in worship. Consequently, it is important that a valid criterion be understood when selecting the music.

Although it is possible to worship without music, it is unusual to picture your wedding not including musical selections. When music is incorporated into worship, it is an integral part, not just an added attraction. Therefore the wedding ceremony music should serve the purpose of worship: directing our thoughts to God.

The music should express the joy, dignity, and reverence of the wedding. Whether it is performed by organ, choir, congregation, vocal soloists, or instrumentalists, music is a means to praise God and experience his love.

Issues arise over the discrepancy between sacred and secular music. Songs that contain no reference or vague allusions to the Christian faith and love have no place in Christian worship. Though a specific song may have importance to you as a couple, it is inappropriate to select music that is not Christian in spirit and which express no reference to God, love, and faith. A more appropriate place for secular music or special songs is at the wedding reception.

### **The Processional and Recessional**

In weddings where music is not an integral part of the service, it is still recommended that music accompany the processional and recessional of the wedding party. Music compliments the arrival of the wedding party and allows an added level of comfort for the people processing into the ceremony. Establishing the mindset of worship and happiness for the occasion is achieved through the selection of sacred music. It is for these reasons that secular pieces, operatic selections, and theatrical love songs are unsuitable for the ceremony. The “Bridal Chorus” (Here Comes the Bride) from *Lohengrin* by Wagner and the “Wedding March” by Mendelssohn from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* are purely secular in nature and have nothing to do with Christian worship.

Volumes of music appropriate for the marriage service have been compiled and offer selections that can reinforce the dignity and reverence of your wedding. The following list offers good suggestions for beginning your search. Please contact the organist as soon as possible to select your music and to become familiar with various selections. Here are some suggestions for the processional and recessional.

- “Trumpet Tune in D Major” - Purcell
- “Trumpet Voluntary in D Major” - Purcell
- “Tocatta in F Major” - Buxtehude
- “Processional in G Major” - Handel
- “Selections from Water Music Suite” - Handel
- “Thanks Be to Thee” - Handel
- “Psalm XIX” - Marcello
- “Psalm XX” - Marcello
- “Processional in G Major” - Stanley
- “Canon in D” - Pachelbel
- “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” - Ellsasser
- “West Minister Abbey Hymn” - Purcell
- “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” - Bach
- “Rigaudon” - Campra

“Now Thank We All Our God” - Karg - Elert  
“Rondeau” - Mouret  
“Prelude in Classic Style” - Young  
Others may be available through the Director of Music.

### **Special Music for the Wedding Ceremony**

The tradition of congregation hymns is an excellent way of providing your guests with an opportunity to participate and worship with you. Following is a list of hymns you may choose to incorporate into the wedding service. Soloists may also find this compilation useful.

### **Lutheran Book of Worship Hymns**

<b>Hymn #</b>	<b>Title</b>
163	“Come Holy Ghost, God and Lord”
166	“All Glory Be to God on High”
253	“Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”
*287	“O Perfect Love”
*288	“Hear Us Now, Our God and Father”
*289	“Heavenly Father, Hear Our Prayer”
315	“Love Divine, All Love Excelling”
320	“O God, Our Help In Ages Past”
343	“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”
354	“Eternal God Before Your Throne”
370	“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”
473	“Come Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire”
481	“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”
518	“Beautiful Savior”
534	“Now Thank We All Our God”
551	“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”
552	“In Thee Is Gladness”

\* indicates from marriage section in hymnal.

Communion hymns 196-226 are listed in the *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Other seasonal hymns and hymns of praise may also be appropriate. Hymns from other resources such as Christian Copyright Licensing International are also available.

### **Special Selections**

The following list contains examples of music appropriate for a Christian wedding that both enhance the worship atmosphere and communicate an accurate depiction of Christian love. More selections can be discussed with the organist.

- “In This Very Room” - Garrus
- “Wedding Prayer” - Dunlap
- “Wedding Prayer” - Ault
- “The Lord’s Prayer” - Malotte
- “On Eagle’s Wings” - Joncas
- “The Gift of Love” - Hopson
- “Gather Us In” - Haugen
- “Beginning Today” - Ducote
- “Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place” - Wolfe
- “Entreat Me Not to Leave Thee (Song of Ruth) - Gounod
- “And On This Day” - English
- “I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry” - Ylvisaker
- “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” - Bach
- “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” - Irish Hymn
- “O Jesus, Joy of Living Hearts” - Brahms
- “Jesus, Shepherd, Be Thou Near Me” - Bach

If you choose to have a soloist, be sure to ask him or her early enough and consult with the organist regarding what music may be sung. Soloists should plan to rehearse with the organist prior to the wedding date unless recorded accompaniment is used.

### **Instrumental Music**

The use of instrumentalists as soloist or in combination with the hymns or wedding party can be very effective when tastefully employed. Flute, guitar, violin, trumpet, or harp are often used at weddings and can be accompanied on piano or organ by the organist.

## Ceremony Worksheet

<b>Prelude Music</b>	
<b>Processional</b>	
<b>Pastor's Greeting</b>	
<b>Invocation</b>	
<b>Prayer</b>	
<b>Scripture Readings</b>	
<b>Meditation</b>	
<b>Statement of Intent</b>	
<b>Exchange of Vows</b>	
<b>Exchange of Rings</b>	
<b>Marriage Pronouncement</b>	
<b>Lighting of Unity Candle(Optional)</b>	
<b>Blessings</b>	
<b>Communion (Optional)</b>	
<b>Prayers</b>	
<b>Benediction</b>	
<b>Introduction of couple</b>	
<b>Recessional</b>	
<b>Postlude</b>	

**Wedding Party**  
(Complete for meeting with hostess)

**PARENTS/STEP-PARENTS ATTENDING:**

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**WEDDING PARTY:**

Maid and/or Matron of Honor:

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Best Man (men):

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Bridesmaids:

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Groomsmen:

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Flower girl(s):

Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Ring bearer(s):

Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Ushers:

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Reader(s):

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Special Musician(s)/Soloist:

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Accompanied by:  Organist/Pianist  Recorded  
(Please bring to church early to test the sound system)

# Ceremony Details

(Please review and complete as you are able for the meeting with hostess)

**HOSTESS ARRIVING AT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wedding Party contact** \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bride/bridesmaids:**  dressing at church  arriving at \_\_\_\_\_

**Groom/groomsmen:**  dressing at church  arriving at \_\_\_\_\_

**Musicians** arriving at: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs:  Microphone  Music stands  Chairs \_\_\_\_\_

**Florist:** \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Arriving at: \_\_\_\_\_

Altar flowers  Pew decorations  Memory candle  Unity candle

Pinning flowers:  Florist  Family  Hostess  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Photographer:** \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Arriving at: \_\_\_\_\_

Pictures:  before  after ceremony

**Videographer:** \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Arriving at: \_\_\_\_\_

**Candles to be lit by**  Ushers  Hostess

Bulletins to be given to guests by:  Greeter  Ushers  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Book

Contact to gather bulletins, guest book, flowers, belongings after ceremony:

\_\_\_\_\_

Special transportation: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reserved pews: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PROCESSION OF PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS:**

Music selection: \_\_\_\_\_

- Grandparents of Groom  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Grandparents of Bride  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Step parents Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Mother of Groom Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Mother of Bride Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
- Unity tapers lit by:  Mothers  Ushers  Hostess  Others

**ENTRANCE OF WEDDING PARTY:**

- Pastor enter with groom/groomsmen
- Music selection: \_\_\_\_\_
- Flower girl(s) / Ring bearer(s)  Before bridesmaids  After bridesmaids
- To sit with: \_\_\_\_\_
- Bridesmaids process:  Alone  Escorted by groomsmen from the back/meet half way up aisle  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Music selection: \_\_\_\_\_
- Bride escorted by:  Father  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**CEREMONY**

- Readings: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Copies for pulpit
- Congregational Hymn: \_\_\_\_\_  
 LBW  WOV  NTF  Other-please supply copy
- Copies for wedding party at altar rail
- Unity candle lighting Music: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Roses for Mothers
- Communion Music: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECESSIONAL**

- Wedding Party
- Flower girl(s)/Ring Bearer(s)  
 Before bridesmaids  After bridesmaids  No recessional
- Parents of Bride: Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
- Parents of Groom: Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
- Grandparents of bride: Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
- Grandparents of groom: Escorted by: \_\_\_\_\_
- Ushers to release guests  Bride/Groom to release/greet guests  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVING LINE:**  Narthex  No receiving line  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
To include: \_\_\_\_\_