

Statement of Intent

1. We recognize that we are God's children because God has created us. Jesus His Son has won salvation for us, and God's Spirit has given faith and united us to Christ through baptism.
2. We desire to be married in the Church because we believe that marriage was created, not by the state nor by human society, but by God for His children (St. Matthew 19:3-9)
3. We believe the Holy Bible which tells us that the love of husband and wife for each other must be a picture of the divine, unselfish, and everlasting love which exists between Christ and His Church (Ephesians 5:22-33).
4. We also believe that when God gives children to a Christian husband and wife, both husband and wife must act together, raising these children as God's children in order that such offspring may grow in trust and love for the Triune God (Ephesians 6:4), and in willingness to serve other people.
5. Because we want our marriage to be a picture of the love of Christ for His Church, we promise to support one another; and to use the assistance of our pastor and church, especially if ever our marriage should become seriously strained with difficulties.

Signed _____ Bride

Signed _____ Groom

Officiating Clergyman, The Reverend _____

Date _____

Please Note:

1. Pastor Thomas performs the weddings at Trinity Lutheran Church.
2. Pastor Thomas's goal is to build marriages based on commitment and a lifelong covenant only to be separated by death.
3. Pastor Thomas sees marriage as a **God-pleasing union of a man and a woman** and the wedding day as a joyous **worship** service. He desires to be a part of your solid preparation and memorable day.
4. Pastor Thomas **is not required** to marry people if it violates his spiritual and/or doctrinal convictions.
5. Pastor Thomas **is not required** to marry people against his better judgement or the better judgment of the Trinity Lutheran Church Elders.
6. Pastor Thomas will not marry anyone where there is a violation of this policy.