

Weddings

Trinity Lutheran Church

**Wedding Handbook † Policies and Procedures**

4795 N Highway 94  
Saint Charles, Missouri 63301



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## A message From Pastor Thomas about Your Marriage

Congratulations! On behalf of Trinity Lutheran Church, I rejoice with you at this special time and am looking forward to assisting you in planning a Christ-centered marriage and wedding ceremony.

My main concern for you is twofold. First and foremost, I am concerned about your eternal life and salvation. I am also committed to fostering preparations that lead to a lifelong, God-pleasing marriage for you that includes all the good things God intends for husbands and wives. Therefore, choices made regarding the service are made in accordance with scripture, wedding etiquette, and our church policies and practices.

I hope the information in this book will make the planning of your ceremony a little easier. May God bless your planning, preparations and your future life together.

### Contact Information

Reverend James Thomas	636-250-3350	<a href="mailto:jthomas@trinityof.org">jthomas@trinityof.org</a>
Mrs. Cindy Wehmeyer (Church Secretary)	636-250-3350	<a href="mailto:cwehmeyer@trinityof.org">cwehmeyer@trinityof.org</a>

Trinity Lutheran Church Address: 4795 N Hwy 94 - Saint Charles, MO 63301  
Trinity Lutheran Church Website: [www.trinityorchardfarm.com](http://www.trinityorchardfarm.com)

### This Is a Christian Marriage Service



The difference between having your wedding in our church as opposed to going to the courthouse is that you are asking for a Christian wedding ceremony within a Lutheran worship service. That is the only type of marriage service performed here.

The secular society in which we live sees marriage as a contract between the couple and the State. We understand marriage to be a lifetime commitment made between one man, one woman, and God. Pastor Thomas will be acting as both, an official of the State and of the Church. As an official of the State, he is authorized to legalize your marriage. As the pastor of the Church, he is given a commission to join you in sacred marriage according to God's holy ordinances and to add the blessings of God and God's Church.

These vows are witnessed before God and His people. God Himself ordained marriage. *“The man shall be united to his wife and they shall become one flesh.”* (Genesis 2:24) Jesus Himself is the center of their bond.

### **Who Can Be Married At Trinity?**

In most cases, wedding ceremonies are performed for couples where at least one person is a member of this congregation. Exceptions may be made for members of other congregations of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod when there are circumstances that prevent a wedding at their church.

While we agree that our worship sanctuary is a beautiful building, we do not make it available to couples because of its beauty, but rather because here they can begin their lives together as husband and wife on the only firm foundation that will give them strength and a true source of love.

Occasionally, Pastor may agree to do a wedding for someone who is in the process of becoming a member. That being said, no one should pretend to be interested in membership simply for the sake of having their wedding at Trinity.

### **Marriage Policy**

The marriage policy Trinity Lutheran Church, a member congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, is and always has been consistent with the Synod’s beliefs on marriage. We believe that marriage is a sacred union of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24-25), and that God gave marriage as a picture of the relationship between Christ and His bride the Church (Eph. 5:32). The official position of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as set forth in 1998 Res. 3-21 (“To Affirm the Sanctity of Marriage and to Reject Same-Sex Unions”), is that homosexual unions come under categorical prohibition in the Old and New Testaments (Lev. 18:22, 24; 20:1; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; 1 Tim. 1:9-19) as contrary to the Creator’s design (Rom. 1:26-27). These positions and beliefs can be found on the LCMS website, along with other statements, papers and reports on the subject of homosexuality and same-sex civil unions and “marriage.” Pastor Thomas will not officiate over any marriages inconsistent with these beliefs, and our church property may not be used for any marriage ceremony, reception or other activity that would be inconsistent with our beliefs and this policy.

### **What About Living Together Before Our Marriage?**

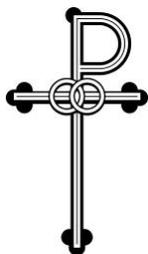
Some think it makes sense to live together as a “trial marriage.” On the surface it seems that there are many good reasons to cohabit that would improve the quality of marriage. It is more economical and if it doesn’t work out then one simply moves out. Many researchers around the world have looked at this issue and thought the same thing. But they found out that

cohabiting creates significantly less stable marriages. Their studies concluded that cohabiting is more of a trial divorce than a trial marriage. Research shows that marriages preceded by cohabitation are twice as likely to end in divorce, with the divorce rate going from 50% to almost 80%. It also showed that couples who lived together are more likely to have affairs and are also more self-centered than concerned about the well-being of each other or the family.

“But we’re different, this won’t happen to us!” True, each couple is different and unique. But that does not make them immune from the effects of living together. Research shows that 8 out of 10 couples that cohabited before marriage thought divorce would not happen to them. But it did.

All of this we say to you in love and honesty. We really are interested in helping you experience all that God has for you in a faith relationship with Him.

### **What About Being Sexually Active Before Our Marriage?**



Talking frankly with you about sex is not only responsible on our part, but important to your future marriage. As God’s people, we want to deal with this situation with all the love and concern that Jesus Himself showed. It was important to Jesus because He wanted the very best for people’s happiness in marriage. God Himself was the one who created sex. He did so as a wonderful gift. But He knew also that the gift could be used against people.

Instead of something designed as an expression of giving oneself to a spouse, it can be distorted. It can be used for manipulation. It can make people feel like objects instead of honored as loved ones. It can become something filled with lust instead of love.

The Bible is very clear that sex should be enjoyed exclusively in marriage. We are not naive, we recognize that in less than 10% of couples getting married, both the husband and the wife are virgins when they marry. If you are currently sexually active, on God’s behalf, we ask you to repent. That literally means “change your mind.” Admit to God your sin. Trust in the forgiveness that Jesus purchased for you on the cross. Receive that forgiveness. Have a new mindset. Choose to abstain until marriage. God will bless that choice. Chastity allows you to build a stronger relationship and focus on primary relationship issues. If you have setbacks and failures, don’t give up. Keep on giving it to the Lord in confession and receiving His power that comes from forgiveness.

We ask you to consider this:

God’s Word is very clear about maintaining sexual purity before marriage,

*“Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.” Hebrews 13:4*

The good news is that God has provided a way for forgiveness, renewal and restoration for you and your future spouse. The Word of God says, *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9*

Jesus Christ made forgiveness possible for us by dying on the cross in our place. When we confess our sin in Jesus’ name, His word says that *“If anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ.” 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Remember, the time of engagement is short compared to a lifelong marriage.

### **Scheduling the Wedding**

You will want to set the date and hour for your wedding as far in advance as possible. Contact Pastor Thomas at 636-250-3350 to determine available dates. It is a good idea to have an alternate date and time in mind in case the church is in use or Pastor is not available on the first date selected.

If you are planning a wedding outside of the church building and would like Pastor Thomas to officiate, you will follow the same process as for an on-site wedding.

### **Preparing for Your Marriage**

Couples being married at Trinity are expected to participate in pre-marriage counseling. Trinity Lutheran sees its ministry to couples contemplating marriage in a holistic sense; not merely providing a place and a ceremony for the wedding, but as an opportunity to help them prepare for their new life together. These sessions are conducted by Pastor Thomas with each couple according to a convenient schedule for all parties involved.



*Premarital Classes*

In addition to discussing and planning the scripture readings, music, and other aspects of your wedding ceremony, Pastor Thomas will also administer a pre-marriage preparation inventory ([www.zoescore.com](http://www.zoescore.com)) .

We believe that these sessions are very important in helping you prepare for a God pleasing, happy marriage and that these sessions will be a great benefit to not only the wedding planning process, but also to your relationship.

## Fees

Pastor Thomas does not charge a fee to marry you. There is also no charge to be married in the Trinity sanctuary. Honoraria gifts are left up to the couple.

Cost for janitorial service to clean after the ceremony is \$50. A separate check made payable to “Trinity Lutheran Church” and earmarked “wedding clean-up” should be returned to the church secretary along with the marriage license.

## Marriage License

Couples must secure a license to marry from the state of Missouri. A marriage license in Saint Charles County is obtained at:

The Office of Barbara J. Hall  
Recorder of Deeds  
St. Charles County Administration Building  
201 North Second Street, Suite 338  
St. Charles, MO 63301  
636-949-7505

There is a fee and both of you need to be present to apply for the license. For more information you can visit their website at:  
<http://recorder.sccmo.org>

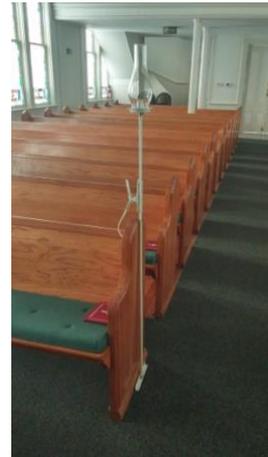
**The marriage license must be received in the church office at least 1 week prior to your wedding date.**

## Guiding Principles

When choosing attendants, keep in mind there is only enough room at the altar area for about seven people on each side.

The sanctuary & balcony can seat about 240 people. There are 14 pews on the pulpit side and 13 pews on the baptismal font side. The back pew and front pew on each side are shorter, which allows for wheelchair seating. If you place bows or ribbons on the ends of the pews, they must be secured with something other than tape. Taping removes the varnish. Please inform your florist.

Aisle candelabras are available for your use. We have 16 that can be used free of charge. You are responsible, however, for purchasing the 6” candles that are needed and washing and returning the globes the week following your ceremony.



There are four sets of two windows on each side of the sanctuary. Each individual windowsill (16 total) measures approximately 34½” and is 6” deep. Please note that the last set of windows on the baptismal font side is over the basement staircase and not easily accessible.

If you are buying or renting an aisle runner, the length of the aisle is 50 feet from the base of the chancel step to the back. The aisle is 49½” wide at its narrowest point. If your florist will not be securing the runner, you will need to have someone in charge of securing it at the base of the chancel steps. Large straight pins like corsage or boutonniere pins do the best job of holding it in place.



If you choose to have a unity candle, you may use the table that we have to display it on, or you are welcome to bring one of your own. You will be responsible for purchasing the candles.

The church has two candle holders for this purpose that you are welcome to use if you so choose.



## Facility Usage

All conduct of the wedding party and families should honor and glorify God.

**No food or beverages are allowed in the sanctuary.**

**NO alcoholic beverages are allowed on the church premises in connection with the wedding or rehearsal. This includes the parking lot. Furthermore, we strongly suggest that the entire wedding party abstain from alcohol before the service.**

We ask that no rice, birdseed, or confetti be used.

## Flowers

If using a florist, you are responsible for making the arrangements with them directly.



All flowers placed on the altar are placed to the glory of God. Therefore, they must be live plants or cut flowers. All other arrangements may be artificial.

The gold altar vases are available for you to use. We have two sets. Both have liners in them that will need to be given to your florist. Liners can be picked up the week of your wedding after the last Sunday's worship. It is not mandatory that these vases be used for altar flowers.

If you wish to leave the flowers on the altar for the following Sunday, please indicate that on your Marriage Information Form. If you choose to leave them, we ask that you place them in the flower cooler in the church basement. We ask that altar centerpieces be kept long and low so as not to hide the altar cross.

If you have a flower girl that will drop flower petals, we recommend using silk petals as live petals can stain objects they come in contact with.

## Scripture Selection

The Order of Worship will be discussed in your consultations with Pastor. Part of your conversation will concern the selection of scripture passages to read during the wedding service. We encourage you as a couple to select scriptures that help to set the tone for your wedding and your marriage. Following is a list of **possible** scripture readings:

### Scripture

Genesis 1:26-28

Genesis 2:7, 18-24

Ruth 1:16-17

Psalms 100

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9-10

Song of Solomon 2:10-13

Song of Solomon 8:6-7

Isaiah 63:7-11

Hosea 2:18-23

Matthew 7:24-27

### Message

*Woman and man created in God's image*

*They shall become one flesh*

*Loyalty*

*His steadfast love endures forever*

*A time for every purpose*

*A threefold cord is not quickly broken*

*Love in the spring*

*Unquenchable love*

*As a bridegroom decks himself*

*I will betroth you to me in faithfulness*

*Build your house upon the rock*

Matthew 19:4-6	<i>What God has joined let no one separate</i>
Matthew 22:35-40	<i>Two great commandments</i>
Mark 10:1-9 (13-16)	<i>The two shall become one</i>
John 2:1-11	<i>Jesus' miracle at the wedding in Cana</i>
John 15:9-12	<i>Abide in My love</i>
Romans 8:31-35, 37-39	<i>God's everlasting love</i>
Romans 12:1-2, 9-13	<i>Present your bodies as a living sacrifice</i>
Romans 15:5-7	<i>Live in harmony with each other</i>
1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 7:4-5	<i>Glorify God in your body</i>
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13	<i>The greatest of these is love</i>
Ephesians 3:14-21	<i>God, the source of love</i>
Ephesians 5:1-2, 22-33	<i>Walk in love as Christ loved us</i>
Ephesians 5:21-33	<i>Marriage reflects Christ's love for the church</i>
Philippians 1:9-11	<i>A prayer for overflowing love</i>
Philippians 4:4-7	<i>Rejoice in the Lord always</i>
Colossians 3:12-17	<i>Put on love which binds everything together</i>
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8	<i>God has called us in holiness</i>
Hebrews 13:1-8	<i>Let marriage be held in honor among all</i>
1 John 2:15-17	<i>Do not love the world</i>
1 John 3:18-24	<i>Perfect love casts out fear</i>
1 John 4:7-12	<i>Let us love one another</i>
Revelation 19:6-9	<i>His Bride has made herself ready</i>
Revelation 21:1-5	<i>The holy city prepared as a bride</i>

A psalm may also be used between the lessons. This may be a good opportunity to involve the assembled guests. Here are a few for consideration that can be found in the Lutheran Service Book:

Psalm 33	<i>A joyful song to the Creator</i>
Psalm 67	<i>A thankful prayer for God's blessings</i>
Psalm 91	<i>God's faithfulness</i>
Psalm 100	<i>Praise to God, the Creator &amp; Shepherd</i>
Psalm 111	<i>Thanks to God for His acts</i>
Psalm 117	<i>A worldwide call to praise</i>
Psalm 127	<i>Success depends on God's blessing</i>
Psalm 128	<i>The blessings of home</i>
Psalm 136	<i>A litany of praises</i>
Psalm 150	<i>A grand doxology</i>

### **Can a Friend or Relative Do the Readings?**

A friend or relative who is on the Clergy Roster of the LCMS may preach and/or share in presenting parts of the liturgy. Pastor Thomas will be responsible for leading the "Rite of the Marriage Covenant."

## Music

Music plays an important role in your wedding service. It is important to keep in mind that your Christian wedding is a worship service. The music you choose should reflect your belief that God is the author of your love for each other. Since music selections are expected to complement the Christian tone of your ceremony, pop chart hits are generally not appropriate. Music selections must be approved by Pastor Thomas.

You might consider the singing of hymns for part of your service. The *Lutheran Service Book* (LSB) hymnal is accessible in all of the pews.

Live musicians are the preferred mode for music. However, in an extreme situation, an exception may be made to play recorded music. The couple will need to provide CD(s), CD player, and an operator.

PLEASE NOTE: Despite its popular usage, *Wagner's Wedding March* is not an acceptable music selection for a Christian wedding. The song comes from a German opera, *Lohengrin*, written under the Nazi's, depicting pagan worship and marriage rites. Also, *Mendelssohn's Wedding March* from *Midsummer Night's Dream* is not in keeping with the intent of a worship service to praise and thank God.

How will you know if a vocal selection is an acceptable one for your wedding? If you can answer "yes" to these three questions, it's probably appropriate:

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

Listed below are some possible processional pieces:

Canon in D- Pachelbel  
Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring - Bach  
March (from Occasional Oratorio) - Handel  
Prince of Denmark's March (Trumpet Voluntary) - Clarke/Purcell  
Processional in C - Hopson  
Processional (from Water Music Suite) - Handel  
Trumpet Tune in C - Lau  
Solemn Processional (from Water Music) - Handel  
Wedding Processional and Air - Bach/Leupold

Listed below are some possible recessional pieces:

Allegro (from Symphony #4) - Boyce  
Allegro Maestoso (Water Music ) - Handel  
God of Grace arr. - Manz

Hornpipe (from Water Music) - Handel  
Psalm 19 - Marcello  
Prelude in Classic Style - Young  
Now Thank We All Our God - Post  
Rigaudon - Campra  
Trumpet Tune - Clarke/Purcell  
Trumpet Finale - Manfredini/Wolf

Listed below are some possible vocal selections:

A Nuptial Blessing - Proulx  
Love - Van Dyke  
The Greatest of These - Moe  
Wedding Hymn (Ptolemy) - Handel  
Wedding Prayer - Dunlap  
On Eagle's wings - Joncas  
My Heart Ever Faithful - J.S. Bach  
The Gift of Love - Arr. Hopson  
And Now We Join - Halvarson  
All The Glory - Gaither  
Author of Love - Clark  
Where There is Love - Haas  
Wedding Song - Stookey  
Two Candles - Salisbury  
God, A Woman, and a Man - Green  
Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us - Bradbury  
Household of Faith - Lamb/Rosasco  
Parents Prayer - Davis  
Irish Blessing - Stookey  
In This Very Room - Harris  
The Prayer - Sager & Foster



Listed below are some hymn selections from the Lutheran Service Book:

919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus  
822 Alleluia! Let Praises Ring  
861 Christ Be My Leader  
497 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord  
408 Come, Join in Cana's Feast  
905 Come, thou Almighty King  
736 Consider How the Birds Above  
525 Crown Him with Many Crowns  
691 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing  
922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing  
860 Gracious Savior, Grant Your Blessing  
940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

- 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
- 924 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing
- 859 Lord, When You Came as Welcome Guest
- 700 Love Divine, All Love Excelling
- 706 Love in Christ Is Strong and Living
- 823 May God Bestow on Us His Grace
- 695 Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels
- 465 Not All the Vault of Heaven Resounds
- 895 Now Thank We All Our God
- 858 O Father, All Creating
- 395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright
- 862 Oh, Blest the House
- 811 Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices
- 863 Our Father, by Whose Name
- 805 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
- 790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
- 813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng
- 709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is
- 561 The Tree of Life
- 795 Voices Raised to You We Offer
- 516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying
- 941 We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God
- 845 Where Charity and Love Prevail



### **Musicians**

Trinity has two organists who accompany for weddings. If you would like one of them to play for your wedding you will need to contact them. Their names and phone numbers are listed below:

Mrs. Helen Feuerhahn - 636.940.0116  
Mrs. Sandy Macke - 636.439.8808

Church organists are not paid by the church for special services. While we don't charge a fee, we suggest that an honoraria gift of at least \$125 be made to the organist. Payment is to be made by the wedding couple to the organist no later than the date of the rehearsal.

You will be responsible for finding instrumentalists and vocalists, if you choose to have them.

### **Pictures/Videos**

To preserve the sacredness of the worship service and for the sake of intimacy for the bride and groom, the taking of flash pictures by anyone during the service is forbidden. We can re-enact any part of the ceremony



for pictures after the service. Time exposures from the balcony during the ceremony are permitted. During the ceremony, camera and video technicians should remain stationary - no movement is permitted near the altar.

We ask that photographers and videographers consult with Pastor Thomas at least one hour before the service regarding the placement of equipment.

### **Bulletins**

The choice of whether or not you have a bulletin is yours. The church secretary will provide you with the service information, if you choose to include it, to complete the bulletin.

### **Rehearsal**

The purpose of the rehearsal is to walk through the wedding service. Your rehearsal should take place one or two days before your wedding day. **Rehearsals can be fun if everyone is on time.** The rehearsal itself should take no longer than an hour.

Every member of the wedding party, if possible, should attend the rehearsal; don't forget to include the grandparents and parents of the couple as well as the ushers.

Your musicians may wish to practice before or after the rehearsal.

If you are having a rehearsal dinner and wish to include Pastor Thomas & Melissa, please invite them well in advance.

### **Pre-Ceremony**

The bride/groom and her/his attendants may use the church basement or the parsonage to get ready. Both facilities have a full-length mirror and restrooms. Food for the wedding party may be set up in the kitchen area of both locations.

### **Post Ceremony**

You will want to make arrangements with someone to make sure the sanctuary is ready for church on Sunday. This person/people will need to remove all flowers and decorations, the aisle runner, make sure all personal items are out of the dressing areas and bathrooms, and clean-up any food that was brought in for the wedding party.

## Crucifer and/or Acolyte

We ask that you only select people for either of these two roles who have completed fifth grade or higher. The church has robes for acolytes if you wish to use them. Acolytes (*candle lighters*) should practice lighting the candles before the wedding rehearsal is finished.

## Ushers

Depending on the size of your wedding, you will want to give consideration to the number of ushers you select.

The duties of the ushers are as follows:

Attend the rehearsal so instructions and directions can be given to them.

Arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the wedding.

The usher will escort the lady on his arm, the gentleman will follow. If there are two ladies, it is customary to offer your arm to the oldest one.

The ushers will be informed by the bridal party as to how many pews they would like reserved for the immediate families.

The usual procedure is to seat the groom's parents on the right side of the main aisle and the bride's parents on the left. It is not always necessary to have the guests seated this way. Ushers should take care to direct guests to either side to balance seating.

The grandparents of the bridal couple may be ushered in if desired. Next, the parents of the groom are ushered down the main aisle and seated. The mother of the bride is last to be ushered in and seated. When the ceremony is over, the ushers will escort out the parents of the couple, in reverse order of the processional (i.e., bride's parents first, then groom's parents, etc. Escorting the grandparents is optional.

## Newsletter Announcement

If you wish to have your marriage announced in Trinity's monthly newsletter, please email a picture of the two of you that will copy well to the church secretary at: [cwehmeyer@trinityof.org](mailto:cwehmeyer@trinityof.org)

## 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.

**Trinity Lutheran Church  
Wedding Planning Worksheet**

**Bride** \_\_\_\_\_ phone# (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
address \_\_\_\_\_  
birth date \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ church membership \_\_\_\_\_ active? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_  
what are your church membership plans after your wedding? \_\_\_\_\_  
previous marital status: never married \_\_\_ divorced \_\_\_ annulled \_\_\_ widowed \_\_\_  
number of previous marriages: \_\_\_\_\_ if divorced, state reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
father's name \_\_\_\_\_ mother's (maiden) name \_\_\_\_\_  
occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
employer \_\_\_\_\_

**Groom** \_\_\_\_\_ phone# (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
birth date \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ church membership \_\_\_\_\_ active? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_  
what are your church membership plans after your wedding? \_\_\_\_\_  
previous marital status: never married \_\_\_ divorced \_\_\_ annulled \_\_\_ widowed \_\_\_  
number of previous marriages: \_\_\_\_\_ if divorced, state reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
father's name \_\_\_\_\_ mother's (maiden) name \_\_\_\_\_  
occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
employer \_\_\_\_\_

**Future Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wedding Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time** \_\_\_\_\_

**Rehearsal Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time** \_\_\_\_\_

rehearsal dinner location \_\_\_\_\_

**Reception location** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wedding Bulletins?** yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ will you need service information from secretary? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

**Florist** \_\_\_\_\_ delivery time \_\_\_\_\_

will you be using Trinity's vases? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ will flowers be left on the altar for Sunday? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

**Candles?** aisle yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ using Trinity's? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ unity yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ using Trinity's stand? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

using Trinity's table yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ **Aisle runner?** Yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

**Photographer** \_\_\_\_\_ start time \_\_\_\_\_

**Videographer** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organist** \_\_\_\_\_

**Soloist** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wedding Coordinator** \_\_\_\_\_

**Person responsible for clean-up** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer in church on** \_\_\_\_\_

## Service Planning Worksheet

### ATTENDANTS

Best Man \_\_\_\_\_ Maid/Matron of Honor \_\_\_\_\_

How many other attendants? Groomsmen \_\_\_\_\_ Jr. Groomsman \_\_\_\_\_ Ushers \_\_\_\_\_ Bridesmaids \_\_\_\_\_

Jr. Bridesmaid \_\_\_\_\_ Flower Girl \_\_\_\_\_ Ring Bearer \_\_\_\_\_

WHO WILL GIVE THE BRIDE AWAY \_\_\_\_\_

HOW DO YOU WISH TO BE ADDRESSED (ex. "James" or "Jim") \_\_\_\_\_

RESERVED SEATS How many pews on each side to reserve? Bride \_\_\_\_\_ Groom \_\_\_\_\_

*(The next section will be filled out when you meet with Pastor Thomas)*

\_\_\_\_\_ p.m. to \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. Pre-service ushering of guests

\_\_\_\_\_ p.m. to \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. Pre-service music

Pre-service music selections:

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\_\_\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will check with the bride to see if she is ready.

\_\_\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher in the bride's grandparents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher in the groom's grandparents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher in the groom's parents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher in the groom's step-parents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher in the bride's mother \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher in the bride's step-parents. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Light the aisle candles \_\_\_\_\_ altar candles \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Usher(s) \_\_\_\_\_ will pull the aisle runner

\_\_\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will ring the bell

\_\_\_\_\_ Procession of the wedding party

\_\_\_\_\_ Groom enters at the side with Pastor Thomas and waits at the front of the church

\_\_\_\_\_ Groom is escorted in by his parents

\_\_\_\_\_ Groomsman wait in front while the bridesmaids walk down the aisle alone.

\_\_\_\_\_ Groomsmen & bridesmaids walk in together

\_\_\_\_\_ Bridesmaids walk down halfway and are met by groomsmen and escorted to the front

\_\_\_\_\_ Attendants walk in together while the best man and groom wait at the front, maid of honor walks in alone

Processional Music Selections

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Order of Procession

Bridesmaids	Groomsmen
Flower Girl (s)	Ring Bearer (s)

Crucifer

Bride & Escort

- Bride escorted by father
- Bride escorted by both parents

**THE CEREMONY**

- The Invocation and statement explaining a Christian marriage.
- The verse for the service \_\_\_\_\_
- The Adoration of the Triune God
  - Psalm \_\_\_\_\_
  - Hymn/Solo \_\_\_\_\_
- The Prayer of the Day

- The Word of God
  - Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_
  - Epistle \_\_\_\_\_
  - Gospel \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn/Solo \_\_\_\_\_

- The Wedding Address
- The Rite of the Marriage Covenant
- The Pledges of Mutual Consent

- Traditional
- Other

- The Solemn Vows of Marriage
  - Traditional
  - Other

- The Exchange of Rings
- The Marriage Blessing

Hymn/Solo \_\_\_\_\_

- Unity Candle
- The Prayers

- The Benediction
- Presentation of flowers to parents
- Presentation of the new couple

How do you wish to be presented? (e.g. Mr. & Mrs. Tom Smith) \_\_\_\_\_

Will there be a kiss? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

- The Recessional

Recessional Music Selections

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\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher out the bride's parents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher out the groom's parents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher out the bride's grandparents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_\_\_ will usher out the groom's grandparents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Usher out the wedding guests

Usher \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ Couple yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

\_\_\_ Receiving Line

\_\_\_ Receiving line at church \_\_\_ Receiving line at reception

Who will be in the receiving line and in what order? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

