

Your
Wedding
at
Trinity



We are delighted that you have chosen to begin your life together as one at Trinity. God's word says, "the two shall become one flesh" and we take joy in providing the setting for your special day.

Included in this booklet are the guidelines, expectations and fees associated with hosting your wedding at Trinity. We clearly explain what you can expect from us and what we expect from you, the bride and groom. This will remove any confusion and assist us both in providing a ceremony which honors the couple, their guests, the church and most importantly it will honor God.

Setting the Date:

Contact the Church office with two or more dates in mind for your special day. We will tentatively book these dates, confirming one upon approval of the pastor and receipt of your "marriage information form" (page 11). Active, contributing members may schedule their wedding more than six months in advance. Non-members may not reserve the Church more than six months before the date of their wedding. While this can be challenging, it is the only way to be fair to members of Trinity's Church family, those who worship regularly and support the mission and ministry of God through Trinity. Should you select a date that is already reserved by another bridal party, we will work to accommodate both. On those occasions, the time for each wedding is limited to four hours. Traditionally the wedding rehearsal is the evening before the wedding. This date will be reserved at the same time your wedding date is confirmed. Weddings do not take place at Trinity during Holy Week (the week before Easter), or when in conflict with other Church activities. Normally, the officiating Pastor will be identified when the wedding is scheduled. However, in cases when a wedding is scheduled more than 6 months in advance, we can commit to the date, and will identify the officiating Pastor closer to the date of the wedding.

Pre-Marital Counseling

Though the wedding ceremony is very important, the marriage extends through the rest of your days together on this earth. Therefore our hope is that you will prepare well for your future, too. The Pastor will not preside at a wedding that has not had adequate planning and preparation, therefore, pre-marriage counseling is required. Couples will take the Prepare/Enrich inventory online, the result of which will be used during counseling. There is a \$29 administrative fee paid online prior to taking the inventory. Once the results are received, you will be contacted to set up your two 90-minute counseling sessions. All appointments must be kept and completed prior to the wedding. Please plan accordingly. Remember, our goal is that you prepare for your wedding day and for your life together.

Wedding Coordinator

All weddings at Trinity require the use of our Wedding Coordinator. She is a valuable asset to your wedding. And will be present on your wedding day, assuring that the

ceremony runs smoothly. Once your wedding has been scheduled, she will be your point of contact for all questions pertaining to your wedding. Her contact information is on the “wedding checklist” page of this booklet. She will have been notified of your tentative dates.

Music

Please contact the Minister of Music as soon as your date has been reserved. He/she should be your first option for music out of courtesy to the his/her position in the Church. If he/she is not available, arrangements will be made for another organist/keyboardist. Any outside musician, whether vocal or instrumental, must be approved by the Minister of Music. When selecting your music, remember that your wedding ceremony is a service of worship. Instrumental and vocal music is not entertainment or background music but is praise music to God. Our Minister of Music will be glad to assist you in your music selection. Final approval of all music rests with the Pastor and the Minister of Music.

Wedding Rehearsal

The wedding rehearsal is important to ensure that all components of the ceremony will happen in an organized manner. Please be on time for the rehearsal and that all participants are present. These include the couple, the best man, the maid or matron of honor, the bridesmaids, the groomsmen, ushers, parents, readers, acolytes, and the musicians. If you plan on having vocal or instrumental music, special arrangements should be made so that the soloist or other instrumentalists and the organist can practice at an alternate time.

Outside Clergy

A Pastor from Trinity officiates at all weddings here. If the bride or groom wishes to invite another member of the clergy to participate in the service, the Pastor from Trinity must be consulted first. If it is mutually agreed upon, the Pastor from Trinity will extend an invitation to the guest pastor.

Wedding License

An informational recording is available at the Sarpy County Clerk’s office (402-593-2351). The office is located at 1210 Golden Gate Drive, Suite 1118. Your license is valid for a period of one year from the date of issue and is valid in any county in Nebraska. You must bring your county paperwork to the Church office no later than the Wednesday before your ceremony to allow for processing

Wedding Service

The Christian wedding service is a time for joyous celebration. The conduct of all participants in the service should be in keeping with the solemnity of the service. The Pastor reserves the right to exclude any member of the wedding party from participating in the service or to halt the service when members of the party or any guests in the church are not conducting themselves properly.

Holy Communion

The liturgy of Holy Communion emphasizes several important themes: the centrality of Christ in your relationship; God's love; unity; and forgiveness. If you want to include Holy Communion please notify the wedding coordinator at least one month prior to your wedding, to ensure time to prepare.

Scripture

Readings from Scripture are an important part of every Christian wedding. Your selection is unlimited; however, the following are readings that many couples have found meaningful. We suggest you read each of these together (perhaps as a daily devotional) and pick those which are most meaningful for you. It is traditional to have at least two readings:

Old Testament

Genesis 1:26-31; 2:18-24
Ruth 1:16-17
Song of Solomon 2:10-17; 8:7
9)
Psalms 33, 100, 117, 127, 128,
136 and 150
Galatians 5:22-26
Isaiah 60:19-22; 63:7-9

Gospel Lessons

Hebrews 13:1-6
Matthew 19:4-6
Matthew 22:34-40
Mark 10:2-9
John 2:1-10
John 17:11, 15-19

New Testament

Romans 12:1-3, 9-13
1 Cor. 12:31-13:13
Philippians 1:27-2:5, 4:4-7 (8-9)
Colossians 2:6-7; 3:12-17
1 Peter 1:13-16, 22-25
1 Peter 3:8-9
2 Peter 1:3-11
2 Peter 3:11-15a
1 John 2:12-17
1 John 4:7-12
1 John 3:18-24

Vows

Page five starts the wedding service to be used at Trinity. You may choose from any of the four options for vows. (see pages 5 and 7) If you would like to write your own vows or edit those in this booklet, you must have your changes available at the last counseling session.

Printed Program

As you prepare your program, remember that you are planning a service of worship. The *Lutheran Book of Worship* is a good resource for your planning. The wedding service from this hymnal is listed on page seven. During your counseling sessions the pastor will discuss with you the nature and form of the marriage service you desire. The presiding pastor must give final approval before having your bulletins printed.

Decorations

All decorations should be tasteful and appropriate to the occasion. No permanent holders (nails, glue, permanent tape, etc.) should be used when affixing decorations to the pews. Nothing may be placed on the baptismal font or the altar. Real flower petals may not be used since they could stain the carpet or runner. The Wedding Coordinator must approve the placement of decorations.

Alcohol and Smoking

Alcohol use is not permitted on Trinity Church property at any time. Members of the wedding party who appear severely hung-over, or who have been using alcohol the day of the wedding will not participate in the wedding. Smoking is prohibited indoors. We request that smoking happens far from the entrances to the building. All trash from smokers must be picked up and disposed of properly.

Photography

Respect for the Worship Service of Marriage and the Sanctuary shall be observed. Photos may be taken before the service and will cease at least 30 minutes prior to set service time. The Chancel is a place of worship and not a photo studio. Therefore, all pictures will be taken in front of the communion railing. No appointment or furnishings may be moved for your photos. Processional pictures may be taken from the front of the Church, however, the photographer must be out of the aisle before the bride arrives at the front of the church. No flash pictures will be permitted during the wedding service. Respect must be shown at all times for the Sanctuary and symbols of the faith therein. Any questions should be referred to the Wedding Coordinator.

After the Ceremony

Throwing rice or bird seed is inappropriate to our Christian setting. We encourage the use of bubbles to celebrate the couple's exit from the church.

Personal Assistant

Please assign someone (not from the wedding party) to be your personal assistant. They will be responsible for collecting any personal items left at the end of your ceremony. Remind them to check in dressing areas, youth room, fellowship hall, narthex, restrooms and sanctuary. The name of your assistant must be given to the wedding coordinator at the rehearsal.

Receptions

You are welcome to use our Fellowship Hall for your rehearsal and/or reception. If doing so, please contact the Church office. You will be sent the reservation form which includes guidelines and the responsibilities you would hold as hosts. If you desire the pastor's attendance at any events other than the wedding service, please remember to send an invitation. Please note that we do not allow alcohol to be consumed or served at Trinity.

Final Thoughts

We encourage you to prepare not just for your wedding day but for your marriage. Worship weekly, read and discuss God's word, prayer often, serve others, give of your time and your talents doing all of these things together. You will be setting a foundation of discipline that will carry you through the good and bad times that will come in the years ahead.

A well-planned wedding service is a positive beginning for a happy life together. We encourage you to plan carefully and prayerfully. Any issue not covered in this manual is to be resolved at the discretion of the officiating Pastor.

Wedding Service from the Lutheran Book of Worship to be Used at Trinity

You may choose from the four vow options listed or you may write your own with pastoral approval

Marriage

Please Stand

1. *The bride, groom, and wedding party stand in front of the minister. The parents may stand behind the couple.*

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

C: And also with you.

A: 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 [name] and [name] and grant that they, rejoicing in all your gifts, may at length celebrate with Christ the marriage feast which has no end .

Please be Seated

2. *One or more lessons from the Bible may be read. An address may follow. A hymn may be sung.*

A: 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.

P: [Name] and [Name], if it is your intention to share with each other your joys and sorrows and all that the years will bring, with your promises, bind yourselves to each other as husband and wife.

Please Stand

3. *The bride and groom face each other and join hands. Each, in turn, promises faithfulness to the other in these or similar words:*

Vows Option 1 (other options begin on page seven)

I take you, [Name], to be my wife/husband 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.

4. *The bride and groom exchange rings with these words:*

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

5. *The bride and groom join hands, and the minister announces their marriage by saying:*

P: [Name] and [Name], by their promises before God and in the presence of this congregation, have bound themselves to one another as husband and wife.

C: Blessed be the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit now and forever.

P: Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

C: Amen.

Please be Seated

6. *The bride and groom kneel.*

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.

C: Amen.

7. *The parents may add their blessing with these or similar words; the wedding party may join them:*

May you dwell in God's presence forever; may true and constant love preserve you.

8. *The bride and groom stand.*

Please Stand

A: Let us bless God for all the gifts in which we rejoice today.

P: Lord God, constant in mercy, great in faithfulness: With high praise we recall your acts of unending love for the human family, for the house of Israel, and for your people, the Church. We bless you for the joy which your servants, [Name] and [Name], have found in each other, and pray that you give to us such a sense of your constant love that we may employ all our strength in a life of praise of you, whose work alone holds true and endures forever.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray for [Name] and [Name] in their life together.

P: Faithful Lord, source of love, pour down your grace upon [Name] and [Name], that they may fulfill the vows they have made this day and reflect your steadfast love in their life-long faithfulness to each other. As members with them of the body of Christ, use us to support their life together; and from your great store of strength, give them power and patience, affection and understanding, courage, and love toward you,

toward each other, and toward the world, that they may continue together in mutual growth according to your will in Jesus Christ our Lord .

C: Amen.

Other intercessions may be offered.

A: Let us pray for all families throughout the world.

P: Gracious Father, you bless the family and renew your people. Enrich husbands and wives, parents and children, more and more with your grace, that, strengthening and supporting each other, they may serve those in need and be a sign of the fulfillment of your perfect kingdom, where, with your Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God through all ages of ages.

C: Amen.

9. When Holy Communion is celebrated, the service continues with the Trinity.

10. When there is no Holy Communion, the service continues with the Lord's Prayer:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

OR

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, keep you in his light and truth and love now and forever.

C: Amen.

Options for Vows

Option 1: (on page five)

Option 2: I take you, [Name], to be my wife/husband, and these things I promise you: I will be faithful to you and honest with you; I will [obey], respect, trust, help, and care for you; I will share my life with you; I will forgive you as we have been forgiven; and I will try with you to better understand ourselves, the world, and God; through the best and worst of what is to come, until death parts us.

Option 3: I take you, [Name], to be my wife/husband. I promise before God and these witnesses to be your faithful husband/wife, to share with you I 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.

Option 4: [Name], I take you to be my wife/husband from this time onward, to join with you and 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 my being until death parts us.

Hymn of Praise

"I will sing the story of your love," Canticle 16

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, our creator and redeemer, as you gladdened the wedding at Cana in Galilee by the presence of your Son, so bring your joy to this wedding by his presence now. Look in favor upon [Name] and [Name], and grant that they, rejoicing in all your gifts, may at length celebrate the marriage feast which has no end with Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Psalms and Lessons

"The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord" (Ps. 33:5)

"Happy are they who delight in the commandments of the Lord" (Ps. 112:1)

"They are no longer two but one" (Matt. 19:6)



Fees (Suggested honoraria)

- Church Center Sanctuary** - \$200 (payable to Trinity)
- Family Life Center Sanctuary** - \$300 (payable to Trinity)
- Breakage Deposit** - \$100 (payable to Trinity)
- Pastor** - \$200
- Organist - \$150
- Audio Technician (if needed) - \$50
- Wedding Coordinator - \$100
- Custodial Fee - \$50 (payable to Trinity)

***The fees for the Pastor, Breakage and Sanctuary are not required for active, contributing members. Non-members, to reserve your wedding date, please include with the Marriage Information Form, separate checks for the Sanctuary and Breakage Deposits. The breakage deposit will be returned in the week following the wedding if there are no problems.*

The wedding coordinator will have specific names to whom each check should be made

MARRIAGE INFORMATION FORM

Make a copy and return as soon as possible.

Date and Time Requested for Ceremony: _____ # of Guests: _____

Date and Time Requested for Rehearsal: _____ Pastor Requested: _____

Bride's Information

Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Bride's Address: _____

Bride's Phone #: _____ Secondary #: _____

Bride's E-mail Address: _____

Groom's Information

Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Groom's Address: _____

Groom's Phone #: _____ Secondary #: _____

Groom's E-mail Address: _____

I have read this wedding packet and agree to requests and requirements established within.

Bride's Signature _____

Groom's Signature _____

Date Signed _____

Office Use Only

_____ On Calendar

_____ Confirmed with Pastor

_____ Confirmed with Wedding Coordinator

_____ Confirmed with Organist

_____ Form to Pastor, Wedding Coordinator and Organist

_____ Prepare/Enrich Scheduled

_____ Counseling Scheduled

_____ Wedding Program Approved

_____ Wedding License Received and Processed

_____ Fees Received

Trinity Wedding Checklist

- ❑ Contact the Church to schedule date and time for your wedding. Non-Members can only schedule 6 months in advance of wedding.
- ❑ Complete and submit copy of the “information form” on page 9 to the Church office.
- ❑ Your “Prepare Enrich” pre-marital inventory will be scheduled by the Church office about 6 months prior to your wedding date and you will receive email notification when it is available to take online.
- ❑ Call the church to schedule dates and times for pre-marital counseling. (This is scheduled after you have taken the online survey.)
- ❑ Contact Wedding Coordinator to schedule meeting.
- ❑ Contact Interim Minister of Music and Worship for music selection, coordination of technology, selecting musicians, etc.
- ❑ Approve outside clergy with the Pastor, if applicable.
- ❑ Approve wedding service with the Pastor **before** you print your program.
- ❑ Bring marriage license to church office.
- ❑ Attend wedding rehearsal.
- ❑ Get married.

Contact Information

To schedule your wedding

402.339.3788

www.trinitylife.org

Erik Boye

Senior Pastor

prerik@trinitylife.org

Gene Walden

Interim Minister of Worship and Music

402.339.3788

Dorrie Blodgett
Wedding Coordinator
402.592.1011

Julie Kasun
Wedding Coordinator
402.679.5100

CEREMONY DETAILS

Please write legibly - This form will be used when you meet with the Wedding Coordinator

Decorating time and date: _____ Pictures time and date: _____

Photographer: _____ Videographer: _____

Keyboardist: _____ Vocalist(s): _____

Musicians: _____

Distributes flowers: _____ Handles gifts: _____

Unity Candle _____ Altar Candle _____ Other candles _____ Communion _____

Ushers

1. _____ 4. _____

2. _____ 5. _____

3. _____ 6. _____

Personal Attendant: _____ Guestbook: _____

Candle Lighter(s): _____

Music to Seat Parents: _____

Misc. Seating:

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Groom's Grandparents:

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Bride's Grandparents:

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Groom's Parents:

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Bride's Parents:

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____

Names _____ Ushered by _____ Seat _____



Unity Candle: _____

Song: _____

How will attendants process? _____

Attendant Song: _____

Bridesmaids

- 1. Maid of Honor _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. Flower Girl & Age: _____
- 8. Helper for flower girl: _____

Groomsmen

- 1. Best Man _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. Ring Bearer & Age: _____
- 8. Helper for ring bearer: _____

Bride's Song: _____

Other: _____

Lesson reader (if not the pastor): _____

Lesson(s): _____

Names to be used in the vows: _____

How will your guests exit?

Receiving line, couple usher guests out, other _____

Other considerations: _____

Please bring this form to your meeting with the Wedding Coordinator. She will be able to answer any questions you may have about your wedding at Trinity.



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

330 W. Halleck
Papillion, NE 68046-2500
339-3788