



## WEDDING GUIDE

2021

Peace Lutheran Church

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# Table of Contents

Welcome.....	3
Contacts.....	3
Membership.....	3
Setting the date.....	4
Pastor Meetings.....	4
• Ceremony Planning	
• Counseling	
• Marriage License	
Ceremony.....	5-6
• Liturgy	
• Readings	
• Officiants	
• Music	
• Decoration and Florist	
• Photography and A/V	
Rehearsal.....	7
Building Use.....	7
Fees.....	8

# Peace Lutheran Church

Congratulations on your upcoming marriage! We are delighted that you are considering being married at Peace Lutheran Church.

Our responsibility with couples to be married in our church is to help you understand the blessings of a Christian wedding service and to prepare you for a lifetime of a faithful and faith-filled marriage. Since you have chosen to get married in a Christian church, your wedding service will be a worship service with God as the central focus. We think it's wonderful that you and your fiancé have come to this point in your relationship and that it is more wonderful still that you will receive God's blessing in this setting on the day of your wedding.

Peace has established the guidelines in the booklet in order to make your wedding ceremony as memorable, meaningful and stress free as possible. Please read through this booklet carefully. The information should be used as a resource throughout planning, preparation and on the wedding day.

We are look forward to helping you prepare for your wedding and marriage.

## Contact Information

8600 East Bush Lake Road  
Bloomington, MN 55438  
952.944.6510  
[www.peacebloomington.org](http://www.peacebloomington.org)

## Membership

It isn't necessary to be a member of Peace to be married at Peace, but fees vary for members and non-members.

## Setting the Date

If you are ready to schedule a date for your wedding, please call the church at 952.944.6510 to speak to either Pastor Mark Nelson or Pastor Joe Orner about available dates. All weddings are in the Sanctuary and will be scheduled on a first-come, first served basis and are subject to the availability of the pastors.

We do not schedule weddings on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Holy Week or Easter Sunday.

Our Sanctuary seats 275 people.

The wedding date will be guaranteed once the Wedding Contract & Information Sheet and the non-refundable \$100 deposit is received. The Wedding Contract & Information Sheet is available in this booklet or online at [peacebloomington.org/About/Life Events](http://peacebloomington.org/About/Life%20Events).

## Pastor Meetings

Once the date is secured, you will schedule a few meetings with the Pastor for ceremony planning and pre-marriage counseling.

### Ceremony Planning

Couples can expect to meet with the pastor 2-3 times in order to plan the ceremony and participation in pre-marital counseling.

### Pre-Marriage Counseling

Couples will complete the pre-marital relationship inventory called Prepare/Enrich and review the inventory with the pastor.

### Marriage License

You will need to obtain a marriage license from the state. There is a minimum five-day waiting period and the license cannot be applied for more than six months in advance. The license should be given to the officiating pastor one week prior to the wedding. The pastor is responsible for obtaining signatures, completing the license and mailing it to the County Courthouse.

# Ceremony

The wedding service at Peace Lutheran Church is a Christian act of worship and the symbolism, music and language combine to express faith in Jesus Christ.

## Liturgy

Our ELCA tradition provides the setting and as such, the use of the ELCA liturgy is required. This liturgy will recommend the order of the ceremony, and the marriage vows. The vows must use wording from the liturgy or use similar words. Other promises should be discussed and approved by the pastor.

## Readings

The pastor will provide possible Scripture readings for the couple to consider. There will be no more than three readings in the service, one of which must be a Gospel reading.

## Officiants

An actively serving pastor of Peace Lutheran Church will preside at all weddings. Outside clergy may participate in your wedding ceremony with permission from your Peace wedding pastor. Please discuss with your pastor prior to making an arrangements with outside clergy.

## Music

Since the wedding ceremony is considered to be a service of worship, the role of music in the service is to inspire, uplift and enhance the ceremony. Some music is very suitable for this purpose and other music may not be as suitable. Secular music must be discussed with and approved by the pastor and musician.

All music during the ceremony will be live. Peace has two musicians who will play, depending upon availability.

Any non-Peace musician will need to work with the pastor Peace musician to plan music for the ceremony.

## Decorations/Florist

The couple is responsible for any and all arrangements with a florist. Please make them aware of the following guidelines.

- The use of nails, screws, or wire to secure decorations is not permitted.
- Flowers are to be delivered and set up at least one hour prior to the ceremony.
- Flowers cannot be delivered before the day of the ceremony as Peace does not have a cooler in which to store them.
- The use of real rose and flower petals are not permitted as the petals may stain the carpet.
- Two floral arrangements may be placed in the altar area. Stands of various heights are available for use.
- Because the altar is a sacred place, no flowers may be place directly on the altar.

## Photography and Videography

The couple is responsible for any and all arrangements with the photographer/videographer. Please make them aware of the following guidelines.

A wedding ceremony is a holy service and therefore, professional and amateur photographers and videographers must not distract any member of the bridal party or the wedding guests during the ceremony.

- The building will be open 2 hours prior to the ceremony and 1 hour after the ceremony ends.
- Photographs may be taken at these times however, it must end 30 minutes prior to the ceremony. The altar area may not be adjusted or rearranged. Any other furnishings, i.e. chairs that are moved, must be returned to their original position at least 30 minutes before the ceremony.
- Flash photography can only be used during the processional and recessional.
- The photographer cannot move up and down the center or side aisles during the ceremony. Non-flash photographs can be taken from the back of the sanctuary provided the photographer and camera are quiet and do not disrupt the ceremony or the guests.
- Equipment cannot be connected to the sound system and lighting is not to be changed.

## Rehearsal

Wedding rehearsals are typically scheduled for the evening before the wedding. The purpose is to help the wedding party and participants learn and practice their respective roles in the ceremony. Please make sure to have your wedding party, ushers, readers and parents in attendance 15 minutes before the scheduled rehearsal time.

## Building Use

Apart from a funeral or memorial service, your ceremony will be the only event taking place on that day. The church will be open two hours prior to the ceremony and one hour after the ceremony.

Peace will set up dressing rooms for the bride and the groom. We suggest that these rooms are emptied prior to your ceremony so that none of your personal items are lost, stolen or left behind. You are expected to appoint someone to oversee the clean-up of the dressing areas so that they are returned to their original condition. Peace is not responsible for any lost or stolen property.

Please also make arrangements for the removal of any flowers or decorations that you wish to keep.

The nursery is not available for weddings.

Food and non-alcoholic drinks are allowed in these dressing rooms. No food or drink are allowed in the Sanctuary.

For the safety and enjoyment of the wedding party and the guests, smoking, alcohol or mood-altering chemicals and firearms are not allowed on the premises of Peace Lutheran Church. Any offenders will not be allowed to participate in the rehearsal or wedding ceremony.

Peace is a smoke-free facility.

# Fees

A non-refundable facility deposit of \$100 is due upon reserving the date. All other fees are due at the rehearsal.

## Member

	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Payable to:</u>
Facility and Sound:	\$250	Peace Lutheran
Pastor:	\$300	Pastor
Musician:	\$250	Musician
Prepare Inventory:	\$35	Online
Optional Fabric Décor:	\$250	Peace Lutheran

## Non-Member

	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Payable to:</u>
Facility and Sound:	\$500	Peace Lutheran
Pastor:	\$300	Pastor
Musician:	\$250	Musician
Prepare Inventory:	\$35	Online
Optional Fabric Décor:	\$250	Peace Lutheran



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