



A Church Wedding

A Ministry of Peace Lutheran Church

1011 12th Ave N
Fargo, ND 58078

p. (701) 232-7166

peacelutheran@fargopeace.org
fargopeace.org

Paperwork

This form and your deposit MUST be turned in for you to have your date reserved.

Ceremony Date: _____ Time of Ceremony: _____

Unlock doors by _____ (AM/PM) on day of ceremony Expected number of guests: _____

Reception will be held at: _____ Reception Time: _____

Rehearsal Date: _____ Rehearsal Time: _____

Arrival time of Florist: _____ Arrival time of Photographer: _____

Groom:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Birth Place: _____

Birth Date: _____

Children **(Yes / No)**

If yes, names and ages: _____

Church Membership and Address: _____

Address after marriage:

Bride:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Birth Place: _____

Birth Date: _____

Children **(Yes / No)**

If yes, names and ages: _____

Church Membership and Address: _____

Bridal Party Names:

Best Man: _____

Maid/Matron of Honor: _____

Attendants: _____

Ushers: _____

Ring Bearer: _____

Flower Girl: _____

Accompanist: _____

Other Musicians: _____

Soloist(s): _____

Candle Lighters: _____

Reader(s): _____

Programs? **(Yes / No)** Gift Table? **(Yes / No)**

Table Attendants: _____

Choosing a Church Wedding

Why a Church Wedding?

Marriage is a gift of God, intended for the joy and mutual strength of those who enter it and for the well-being of the whole human family. God created us and blessed humankind with the gifts of companionship & the capacity to love.

Wedding ceremonies can happen anywhere. Your desire to be married at Peace Lutheran Church, with a pastor, indicates that the distinctiveness of a Christian wedding rite is important to you. Since you are asking to be married at Peace Lutheran Church, your marriage service is primarily that of a worship service, consistent with the Christian view of worship as expressed in our hymnal *The Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book*.

Preliminary Decisions

The couple should decide these matters before going ahead with complete plans for the wedding.

The following are requirements for a wedding held at Peace Lutheran Church.

The Wedding Date & Time; The Rehearsal Date & Time

Call the church office at (701) 232-7166 to set the date for your wedding. This should be done as early as possible to avoid conflicts on the church schedule. Have an alternative date in mind, in case the church is in use or the pastor is not available on the first date selected. Have the time of day for your wedding in mind when you call as this will facilitate securing the date. Only one wedding reception per day can be held at the church. The pastor and your wedding coordinator will be in charge of the rehearsal. This usually takes about an hour; we run through the ceremony twice.

Pastor

The Pastor of this congregation is responsible for the worship that happens here at Peace, including wedding ceremonies and will be glad to assist you in planning and officiating at your wedding. If it is your desire to include a pastor other than that of Peace Lutheran Church, you need to discuss this at your initial meeting. Couples are required to meet with the pastor officiating the wedding. Couple should contact the pastor at least 4-6 months prior to the wedding to schedule pastoral visits (this time includes planning of the ceremony as well as follow-up from premarital counseling).

Pastor Cassie Anderson pastor@fargopeace.org

Wedding Consultant/Coordinator

After you have secured your wedding date with the church office and paid your building use fee, a wedding coordinator will contact you to assist you with your questions and planning as needed. Please read over this guidebook carefully before meeting with your coordinator. Complete the marriage information form in this guidebook soon after securing your date, and mail the form to the church office; the pastor and wedding coordinator will each receive a copy. The wedding coordinator will help you with the practical pieces of your rehearsal and wedding day and be responsible for opening and closing the church for all the wedding activities – rehearsal, day of event, etc.

Accompanist

Please contact our accompanists if you would like a musician to play for your ceremony. If our organists are not available you may bring in another musician; however, the organ settings are not to be changed in any way. Our church musicians are also able to help secure other musicians (vocalists, strings, etc.) if desired. Please note, accompanist/musician fees are paid directly to the musicians and not included in the wedding fees listed in this booklet. Please discuss appropriate payment with the individuals when making initial arrangements.

Dr. Jean Hellner (organ & piano) : jhellner01@gmail.com

Brayden Drevlow (organ & piano) : brayden@braydendrevlow.com

Custodian

A custodian will handle reasonable clean up after the wedding parties when you have left the church. We will always have a custodian on call for any situation that may arise. *If excessive cleaning is required, it will be billed to you at a rate of \$25 per hour.*

Sound Tech

The sound technician at Peace Lutheran Church will help ensure that speakers, instrumentalists, vocalists, and any recorded music will be amplified clearly to your guests. They attend both the rehearsal and ceremony, to ensure coordination of sound needs.

Reception Coordinator

You may choose to have your rehearsal dinner or wedding reception at Peace Lutheran Church. Please inform the wedding coordinator if this is included in your plans; the wedding coordinator will help you contact members who are on the committee.

Premarital Counseling

Couples being married at Peace Lutheran Church are required to participate in pre-marriage counseling. For non-members & members, we have arranged for LifeWorks Counseling Services Inc., a faith-based counseling service, to provide this counseling. Couples are responsible to cover the fee for LifeWorks services, which ranges from \$149-399, depending on the counseling session you choose (online, in-person, individual). Couples should contact Lifeworks at least 4-6 months prior to the wedding to scheduling this counseling/retreat. www.lovecommitsucceed.com

LifeWorks is offering extra digital counseling options due to Covid-19

Members can also speak with Pastor Cassie about additional premarital counseling options.

Wedding Fees

Fees are to be paid, in full, to the church office two weeks prior to the wedding.

Non-members are required to secure their wedding date with a \$200 non-refundable deposit.

Fee for members \$ 675

Fee for non-members \$ 975

If excessive cleaning is required, it will be billed to you at a rate of \$25 per hour. If damages occur, you will be billed for the repairs.

Please note, the above fee does not include the accompanist, soloists premarital counseling, or fees with having rehearsal dinner and/or reception at Peace.

Peace Accompanist \$175

Soloist fee set by soloist.

Premarital Counseling \$149-399, depending on program used.

Reception Coordinator \$200

Rehearsal Dinner/Reception \$variable by needs.

If you have any questions about these policies and fees, or if cost presents a hardship to you, please contact the church.

Helpful Building Information

- 300 guests will fit comfortably on the main level of our sanctuary.
- 400 guests will fit comfortably in our sanctuary including our two balconies.
- The center aisle is 55' long.
- There are 17 pews on each side of the aisle that are used for ceremonies. Each pew sits 8 persons.
- The gift table is a 72" x 30" long table and is 29" high.
- The guest book table is a round table 42" in diameter and 29" high.
- There are 12 aisle candles, two candelabras, plant stands, and pew bows available, if you desire.
- The Unity Candle Stand is for your use. However, *you must purchase your unity candle set*. Please test your candles on the stand before your wedding day.
- The altar paraments must remain in the sanctuary and colors cannot be changed.
- No flowers or decorations are allowed on the altar, piano, or organ. We will be happy to accommodate you with stands and other options for your decorations.
- No property may be removed from the church.
- Never touch any mechanical systems on the church grounds; please advise your entire wedding party that they **SHOULD NOT TOUCH** any mechanical system in the church. The church staff is aware when the sanctuary is hot or cold, and work to have it at a comfortable temperate. Due to the age of our building and system, excessive adjustments can cause outages and it may not be possible to repair the outage before your ceremony.
- We are a dry campus. The use of alcoholic beverages before, during, or after the rehearsal and ceremony is prohibited on church grounds (including building and parking lot).
- The church is a non-smoking facility.
- No flash photography during the ceremony.
- No fireworks are allowed.

Resources for the Ceremony

The Wedding Rehearsal

The wedding rehearsal is important in order that everything will be done, “decently and in order” (1 Corinthians 14:40) during the ceremony.

Rehearsal date and time are usually set in consultation with the pastor. The rehearsal will last approximately 1 hour. Please ensure that all the participants are present and on time. Members of the wedding party who should be in attendance are: the couple, parents of the bride and groom, best man, matron/maid of honor, bridesmaids and groomsmen, flower girl, ring bearers, ushers and candle lighters. Grandparents are most welcome at rehearsal since they will be ushered in during the ceremony, and it is helpful if they go through the rehearsal.

Please bring the marriage license to the rehearsal.

Your coordinator will incorporate your ideas for the wedding procession, the order of ceremony, and receiving line during the rehearsal. This is an excellent opportunity to smooth over all the details and make certain that all is how you wish for your special day.

Please contact your accompanist and soloist to let them know of the time of rehearsal as they should also be at rehearsal, as well as the time of the wedding.

Sample Order of Ceremony

Gathering

Prelude

Lighting of Candles (Optional)

Processional

Declaration of Intention

Prayer of the Day

Word

Scripture Lessons (usually two or three)

The Wedding Message

Hymn of the Day/Solo

Marriage

Marriage Vows

Giving of Rings

Lighting of Unity Candle (optional)

Solo

Acclamation

Marriage

Blessing

Prayers

(Communion may be added here)

Lord's Prayer

Sending

Sharing of the Peace (optional)

Blessing

Presentation of Couple

Recessional

Postlude

Possible Marriage Texts

We ask that as you prepare for your wedding, that you use this list as a simple Bible study and that you print out and then look up and make some notes about each one of these scriptures. When you come to your second meeting with the pastor we ask that you have spent some time with this list choosing which scripture will be very appropriate to you and your own special relationship, faith, and calling.

Psalm 9:1-2	Genesis 2: 18-24	Philippians 4: 4-7
Psalm 33	Song of Songs 2:8-12	Mark 10: 42-45
Psalm 100	Song of Songs 2:10-13	John 2: 1-10
Psalm 117	Song of Songs 8:6-7	John 15: 9-12
Psalm 127	Isaiah 63: 7-9	1 John 4: 7-12
Psalm 128	Matthew 19: 4-6	Colossians 3:12-17
Psalm 136	Mark 10: 42-45	Ruth 1:16
Psalm 150	I Corinthians 13	Jeremiah 29:11-13
Genesis 1: 26-31	Ephesians 5: 21-33	Romans 12:9-12

Wedding Vows

1. I, name, 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.
2. In the presence of God and this community, I, name, take you, name, to be my *wife/husband*; 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.
3. 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 & with all my being.
4. I, name, do take you, name, to be the *husband/wife* of my days... the companion of my house, the *father/mother* of my children, the friend of my life. We shall bear together whatever trouble and sorrow life may lay upon us, and we shall share together whatever good and joyful things life may bring us. With these words and all the words of my heart I marry you. I bind my life to yours.
5. In the presence of God and this congregation, I (name) take you (name) to be my wife/husband, for better or worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health to love and to cherish until death parts us. This is my solemn vow.
6. I take you, name, to be my wife/husband, and these things promise you: I will be faithful to

you And honest with you; I will respect, trust, help, 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 the worst if what is to come, as long as we live.

7. I take you name to be my *husband/wife*. I thank God for you and for this moment when we celebrate our love and the beginning of life together. Throughout the years I shall cherish and trust you, be honest and faithful to you, at all times. I shall seek to encourage and inspire you. In both joy and sorrow I shall hold you close and tell you that I love you. Our place shall be one place; our life one life; our love one love, for I shall share with you all I have and all I am unto eternity.
8. I, name, give myself to you, name to be your *husband/wife*. I promise... to love you with all that is in me, to encourage you in your spiritual and emotional growth, to support whatever you do, and to cherish all that you are.

Giving of Rings

1. Name, I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.
2. Name, 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 for Your Wedding

Your marriage ceremony is a worship service, so we ask for thoughtfulness in selecting the music for your ceremony. Peace Lutheran Church does not require the authorization of your wedding music selection, but urges you to use care and respect in your choices. The pastor and accompanist are able to help you make musical selections. You may be required to purchase music for your accompanist or soloist. The church staff adheres to copyright laws.