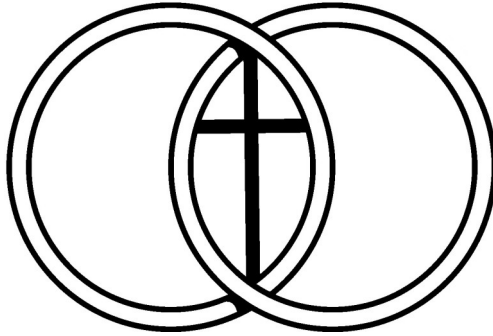


Our Wedding Service



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Fairmont, Minnesota

It is important that you read through this entire booklet.

After determining the services that you plan to use,
fill out the Wedding Questionnaire form and contact the
Wedding Committee Chairman as soon as possible.

*Prices are
subject to change*

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Your Marriage

Your marriage, like all Christian matters, should begin with prayer. The success of your marriage depends upon the Lord; therefore, Christian couples desire His blessings and seek them in prayer. The following prayer is intended for this purpose and can be used both before and after your wedding day.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for creating man and woman to live together to Your glory and their welfare. We thank You for having brought us together; and we pray that our love toward each other may always be rooted in that greater love which You have bestowed upon us by giving Your Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior and Lord. We also pray for a rich measure of Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom which comes from above, that we may always think, say and act according to Your good will.

Give us also the physical, mental and spiritual health for a useful and happy life. When trials or temptations come, sustain us with Your love and teach us to forgive as You daily forgive us. Help us always to correct misunderstandings so that we may always walk together as heirs of the grace of life.

Make us always mindful of the commitments we have made to each other and so guide us by Your Spirit that we may ever keep the vows which we make (made) before Your altar. O Triune God, bless us always with Your Divine Presence, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

ARRANGEMENTS

Church weddings are church services under the direct supervision and control of the pastors whose responsibility it is to see that in every aspect God is glorified and Christian interests are served.

It is therefore important that before any plans are finalized, one of the pastors should be consulted. This should be done as early as possible in order to avoid conflicts in scheduling and other possibly embarrassing situations. If at all possible, such arrangements should be made several months in advance. With our Saturday evening 5:30 p.m. services, weddings can be scheduled no later than 3:00 p.m.

Your pastors will be glad to help you in planning the wedding service; the organist will be glad to discuss music for the service with you.

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastors & Church Secretary (507) 238-9491, ext. 101

OUR PASTORS

Rev. Anthony Bertram C: (507) 399-6293

Rev. Michael Holmen..... C: (507) 236-3605

ORGANISTS: Hannah Northwick, Music Dir..... C: (570) 604-1804

Richard Eyerly H: (507) 238-1802

COUNSELING

In arranging for your marriage, plan for some time with the pastor for premarital counseling. Your pastors will also be glad to provide information on other aspects of the marriage not included in this booklet.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Since there is a waiting period of five days after applying for the license, it is important that the license be secured well in advance. It should be brought to the church office at least a week before the wedding. (Witnesses on the Marriage License must be 16 years of age or older.)

PARTICIPANTS

The wedding service will be conducted by a pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church. If any other Lutheran clergyman is to be involved, the pastor is to be consulted.

If the bridal couple desires an organist other than one of the regular staff organists, this should be cleared with the pastor.

PLANNING YOUR WEDDING SERVICE

It is typical for pastors and church musicians to receive a wide variety of musical requests, particularly at weddings. St. Paul Lutheran Church sets forth these guidelines in regard to vocal music.

1. All music is to be approved by both the Pastor involved and the Director of Music. If there are differences of opinion as to the suitability of a particular selection, the Pastor and Director of Music shall come to an agreement before granting permission to the bridal couples and/or other musicians and interested parties.
2. The Director of Music is to be consulted for each wedding, whether or not he/she is performing at that particular service.
3. Only Christian music will be used at weddings in this church, regardless of where it occurs in the service – before, during, or after the ceremony.
4. “Christian music” is understood to be music in which the lyrics make sufficient reference to the Triune God in Whose Name the couple is to be wed. Sometimes secular lyrics can be rewritten to make a song acceptable. We have no objection to this, as long as copyright laws are not violated.
5. It is appropriate to include congregational singing, thereby involving the guests as participants in worship as well as observers.

Appropriate hymns from *Lutheran Service Book* are:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| No. 858-867 | Section on Marriage and the
Christian Family |
| No. 700 | Love Divine, All Loves Excelling |
| No. 710 | The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want |
| No. 715, 718 | Hymns asking for God's
guidance through life |
| No. 790, 895 | Hymns of praise/thanksgiving |
| No. 922 | Go, My Children, With My Blessing |
| No. 940 | Holy God, We Praise Thy Name |



Marriage Rite

Stand

Processional

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matrimony Address

P Dearly beloved, we are gathered here in the sight of God and before His Church to witness the union of this man and this woman in holy matrimony. This is an honorable estate instituted and blessed by God in Paradise, before humanity's fall into sin.

In marriage we see a picture of the communion between Christ and His bride, the Church. Our Lord blessed and honored marriage with his presence and first miracle at Cana in Galilee. This estate is also commended to us by the apostle Paul as good and honorable. Therefore, marriage is not to be entered into inadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, deliberately, and in accordance with the purposes for which it was instituted by God.

The union of husband and wife in heart, body, and mind is intended by God for the mutual companionship, help, and support that each person ought to receive from the other, both in prosperity and adversity. Marriage was also ordained so that man and woman may find delight in one another.

Therefore, all persons who marry shall take a spouse in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust, for God has not called us to impurity but in holiness. God also established marriage for the procreation of children who are to be brought up in the fear and instruction of the Lord so that they may offer Him their praise.

For these reasons God has established the holy estate that [name] and [name] wish to enter. They desire our prayers as they begin their marriage in the Lord's name and with His blessing.

Sit

***Hymn** _____ *(or Solo)* *LSB* _____

Scripture Readings: Genesis 2:7, 18-24 or Genesis 1:26-28; Ephesians 5:1-2, 22-33; Matthew 19:4-6 or Mark 10:1-9; other of your choice.

After each reading:

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***Hymn:** _____ *(or Solo)* *LSB* _____

Sermon

***Hymn:** _____ *(or Solo)* *LSB* _____

If the wedding party has been seated, they now stand and take their places before the chancel steps.

Declaration of Intent

P [Name of bridegroom], will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony as God ordained it? Will you nourish and cherish her as Christ loved His body, the Church, giving Himself up for her? Will you love, honor, and keep her in sickness and in health and, forsaking all others, remain united to her alone, so long as you both shall live? Then say: I will.

R *I will.*

P [Name of bride], will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony as God ordained it? Will you submit to him as the Church

submits to Christ? Will you love, honor, and keep him in sickness and in health and, forsaking all others, remain united to him alone, so long as you both shall live? Then say: I will.

R *I will.*

Giving of Bride or Bridegroom & Bride by Parents

The Vows

The bridegroom, taking the right hand of the bride and facing her says after the pastor:

I, [name of bridegroom],
take you, [name of bride],
to be my wedded wife,
to have and to hold from this day forward,
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love and to cherish,
till death us do part,
according to God's holy will;
and I pledge to you my faithfulness.

The bride, in the same way, says after the pastor:

I, [name of bride],
take you, [name of bridegroom],
to be my wedded husband,
to have and to hold from this day forward,
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love and to cherish, till death us do part,
according to God's holy will;
and I pledge to you my faithfulness.

The Blessing of the Rings

P Almighty Father, You have generously created all things to serve us for our good. Send Your blessing upon this couple who shall wear these ✝ rings as a constant reminder of their marital fidelity. Grant that by Your mercy they may live

gladly and faithfully in this holy estate; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Exchange of Rings

****Lighting of Unity Candle and Solo***

Pronouncement of Marriage (*the couple kneels*)

P Now that [name] and [name] have committed themselves to each other in holy matrimony, have given themselves to each other by their solemn pledges, and have declared the same before God and these witnesses, I pronounce them to be husband and wife, in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P What God has joined together, let no one put asunder.

C Amen.

Marriage Blessing

P The almighty and gracious God abundantly grant you His favor and sanctify and bless you with the blessing given to Adam and Eve in Paradise, that you may please Him in both body and soul and live together in holy love until your life's end.

C Amen.

Stand

Prayers

P Let us Pray.

Almighty, everlasting God, our heavenly Father, grant that by Your blessing [name] and [name] may live together according to Your Word and promise. Strengthen them in faithfulness and love toward each other. Sustain and defend them in every trial and temptation. Help them to live in faith toward You, in the communion of Your holy Church, and in loving service to each other that they may ever enjoy Your heavenly blessing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P O God, our dwelling place in all generations, look with favor upon the homes of our land. Embrace husbands and wives, parents and children, in the arms of Your love, and grant that each, in reverence for Christ, fulfill the duties You have

given. Bless our homes that they may be a shelter for the defenseless, a fortress for the tempted, a resting place for the weary, and a foretaste of our eternal home with You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Recessional

**Indicates options or choices*

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NOTE: The pastors will not introduce the couple or invite them to kiss after the Benediction.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Posed pictures may be taken before or after the ceremony. Picture-taking during the ceremony is disturbing and should not be done. Flash pictures of the bride during the processional and of the bride and groom during the recessional may be allowed specifically to the professional photographer. Proper decorum is always in place also while taking posed pictures in the church.

NOTE: Under no circumstances will photographers be permitted to stroll through the church shooting pictures during the ceremony.

FLOWERS

Flowers placed on the altar* or in the chancel and those carried by the bridal party are the responsibility of the bridal couple and the florist. (**Note:** flowers on the altar need to be live, not artificial and should not exceed the height of the cross arms, or no more than 30” in height.) If the bridal couple wishes to have their altar flowers used for the following Sunday church service, they should note this on the Wedding Questionnaire form included with this booklet. If altar flowers have already been secured for that Sunday, the bridal flowers will be used elsewhere in the chancel.



**The gradine (shelf) above and behind the mensa (table top) between the candlesticks and the crucifix.*

WEDDING BULLETINS

Please purchase the bulletins at any book store, and bring them along with an idea of your bulletin layout to the church secretary at least two weeks before the wedding. **If your bulletin is printed elsewhere**, a copy needs to be brought to the church office and ok'd by a pastor or organist **before the final printing**. The following message must be printed **as is** in the wedding bulletin:

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We join the bride and groom in appreciation of your attendance here. As their guests and ours, we request your observance of the following practices:

1. Once you enter the Church proper, please maintain silence. This helps create the worshipful atmosphere appropriate for the occasion. Your prayers for God's blessings on this couple may be offered at this time.
2. Since this is a worship service, wedding guests are not to take pictures during the service. This detracts from the dignity of the service.
3. There is to be NO APPLAUSE at any time here in Church. This may be done at the reception.

We appreciate your cooperation in making this joyful occasion all that it should be.

Church charge for printing:

Up to 150 bulletins.....	\$20.00
151 to 250 bulletins	\$30.00
251 to 350 bulletins	\$40.00

If you have any questions about printing the bulletins in the church office, please call the church secretary at (507) 238-9491 or email pmeinert@splfairmont.org (before purchasing your paper or bulletins).

CANDLES AND WEDDING EQUIPMENT

The wedding equipment consists of church aisle candles, white aisle bows, aisle runner, a kneeling bench, and stand for unity candle; none of this equipment is to leave the church premises. The aisle candelabras were purchased by St. Paul LWML for the protection of our church property to avoid damage by fire and dripping candle wax; also for the safety of all concerned. The candelabras are designed to match the church's Gothic architecture and to complete a beautiful wedding setting.

The charge for the above equipment is payable to St. Paul LWML (see Wedding Questionnaire form for pricing). This is a nonprofit service to assure all brides of the same treatment at a small cost, as well as to protect persons and property. Other candelabras or candles from flower shops or individuals are therefore not to be used, except for the unity candle which may be used with proper caution to safeguard against fire. The candelabras and candles require careful handling, therefore certain rules must be observed. If any decorations are desired on the candelabras, the bride must notify the advisory chairman before the rehearsal.

If the guest list is large, it is wise to use six ushers, especially if two ushers are used to light the candles which takes place prior to the ceremony while guests are still arriving. If others are used for lighting the candles, please do not choose small or short children, for they will be unable to reach the tall cathedral candles.

When the aisle runner is used, ushering of guests will be done down the side aisles if the aisle runner is laid out before arrival of the guests. If the aisle runner is pulled down by ushers, guests may be ushered down the center aisle until lighting of the candles. The candles must be extinguished before ushering out the guests. This is to avoid the possibility of fire.

At least one month in advance of the wedding, you need to call the Wedding Advisory Committee Chairman to let her know your plans, and she will contact two of the committee members to assist at your wedding. (Payment of fees for church facilities, custodial, Altar Guild, and LWML services/equipment are to be given to Wedding Advisory Committee Chairman at your initial meeting.)

The guest book will be removed approximately 10 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony. We recommend that the guest book be placed in the receiving line following the ceremony or in the reception hall.

It should also be understood that no regular church furniture or altar appointments are to be removed or replaced with temporary equipment. The standard candelabras in the altar area may or may not be lighted, depending on the bride's wishes, but they are not to be removed. You may choose to have the altar candelabras lit or not lit. The two communion candles, however, are not to be used. See page 20 for more information regarding chancel candles. If the unity candle is desired, this is the responsibility of the couple, but must meet necessary safety requirements.

WEDDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

* Barb Fellersen (Chairman)	236-3102
Marcia Rooney.....	238-4139
Kathy Eyerly.....	238-1802
Carol Furhman	238-2265
Mary Kay Smith	236-3678
Teresa Kiehl.....	848-5012

*** The bride needs to call the chairman as soon as possible, at least one month before wedding takes place.**

RICE AND CONFETTI

Rice and confetti are not to be used in and around the church.

REHEARSAL

Except for small private weddings, the bridal couple will usually wish to have a rehearsal preceding the wedding. Once the time has been set with the pastor and other participants, the bridal party should be informed to be on time in order not to impose upon the time of professional workers involved who may have another appointment to meet.

INVITATIONS

If the presence of the pastor and his wife, or any other participants, is desired at the rehearsal dinner or the wedding reception, it is customary to make this known by means of advance invitation, either verbal or otherwise.

SCHEDULE FOR USE OF FACILITIES

Members:

Church ProperNo charge _____
 Fellowship Room \$25.00 _____
 Gymnasium 50.00 _____
 Church basement
 (with or w/o kitchen). \$50.00 _____
 LWML supervisor..... 25.00 _____
 Kitchen & gym 50.00 _____

Non-Members:

Church Proper \$100.00 _____
 Fellowship Room 25.00 _____
 Gymnasium 250.00 _____
 Church basement
 (with or w/o kitchen)... \$125.00 _____
 LWML supervisor..... 25.00 _____
 Kitchen & gym..... 275.00 _____

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

Please inform the custodian as soon as you set your wedding date.

For your wedding service: \$40.00

For wedding reception (if applicable):

Church basement reception..... \$40.00
 Gymnasium reception \$75.00

DRESSING ROOMS

The lounge on the lower floor of the school may be used by the bride and her party as a dressing room. (There is a charge for use of the lounge; see Wedding Questionnaire form for pricing.) It is the responsibility of the bride to arrange for the care of the property of the wedding party and the transportation of this property. All possessions must be removed from this room before the bridal party leaves; the room must be cleaned, vacuumed and wastebaskets emptied by the wedding family themselves the following day, or hire someone to do this. **NOTE: NO** alcoholic beverages are to be served in the lounge. **NO SMOKING**

ANYWHERE IN THE BUILDING.

If special dressing room is needed for the groomsmen, arrangements for this can be made with the pastor.

If you need to store dresses, etc. overnight in the lounge, you may borrow a key for the lounge, which can be picked up in the church secretary’s office during normal working hours. It must be returned to the church office as soon as possible, within a few days of the wedding.

**WEDDING RECEPTION ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

*(Pages 18-19 apply to those planning to
have their reception at the church)*

This committee meets with the wedding party to find out the menu to be served. They call for workers from the circles and one from this committee is present at each wedding to see to it that the food is made, served, and dishes washed. (Fees found on page 16 for use of facilities.)

Annette Larson..... 235-8659
Dawn Waterbury..... 235-6062

LWML SERVICES:

If the wedding reception is catered and a regular crew of ladies is needed to supervise, the charge will be \$1.25 per guest. If sandwiches are to be prepared by the LWML, an extra charge of \$.75 per guest will be added for a total charge of \$2.00 per guest.

THE LWML SERVICES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Making the coffee
- Making the punch
- Plating food for serving
- Washing dishes and cleaning the kitchen

OBLIGATION OF THE WEDDING PARTY:

- Arrange for dining room host(s)/hostess(es)
- Arrange for waitresses – to be instructed by host(s)/hostess(es)
- Set buffet table, punch table and head table
- Decorating
- Waitresses clear all dining room tables
- Any breakage must be replaced or reimbursed

ROUND LACE PLASTIC TABLECLOTHS are available at \$1.00 each. If a plastic lace tablecloth is damaged, in any way, the full replacement cost of a new tablecloth will be charged. Please make checks payable to **St. Paul LWML**.

Payment for use of wedding equipment (aisle runner, kneeling bench, church aisle candles) should also be made payable to **St. Paul LWML**.

LINEN TABLECLOTHS: 1 for punch table, 6 regular tables, 4 for 2 tables set together. As soon as you have consulted with the pastor regarding the wedding date, contact:

Lois Johnson 235-6953

After using, place in box marked “Tablecloth.”

LAUNDERING OF TABLECLOTHS is done by LWML.

Cost for laundering: large cloth – \$2.50; small cloth – \$2.00; punch cloth – \$1.00 (each). Please make check payable to **St. Paul LWML**.

SILVER COFFEE SERVICE (two sets) and a large punch bowl are also available. For use, contact:

Lois Johnson 235-6953

CHANCEL CANDLES

If you plan to have the chancel candles lit during picture taking and/or during the wedding, contact one of the Altar Guild co-chairmen in advance of the wedding so the candles can be checked and filled if necessary.

Joan Luedtke 238-2177

REMUNERATION

Since bridal couples frequently ask what is appropriate remuneration for services rendered, we list the suggested amount as guidelines:

St. Paul Lutheran Organist.....\$75.00

It is recommended that you ask the organist about fees at the time you request his or her services.

***With soloists or instruments:** If singers and other instrumentalists require organ accompaniment, the remuneration should be increased accordingly.*

Soloists: As you see fit in line with time spent and service required.

The above fees are traditionally the responsibility of the bride.

AN HONORARIUM TO THE PASTOR is traditionally the responsibility of the groom. Use your own discretion in whether to give an honorarium to the pastor and the amount.

PAYMENT OF FEES for church facilities, custodial, Altar Guild, and LWML services/equipment are to be given to **Wedding Committee Chairman at initial meeting**. Reservations for the wedding will be considered final when full payment for all services, except honorariums, are made.

TO THE COUPLE:

The information below will automatically be included in wedding bulletins printed here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. If you are having your service folder printed elsewhere, this information is to be given to the printer for inclusion in your bulletin. Message needs to be printed as is.

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We join the bride and groom in appreciation of your attendance here. As their guests and ours, we request your observance of the following practices:

- 1. Once you enter the Church proper, please maintain silence. This helps create the worshipful atmosphere appropriate for the occasion. Your prayers for God's blessings on this couple may be offered at this time.**
- 2. Since this is a worship service, wedding guests are not to take pictures during the service. This detracts from the dignity of the service.**
- 3. There is to be NO APPLAUSE at any time here in Church. This may be done at the reception.**

We appreciate your cooperation in making this joyful occasion all that it should be.

QUICK CHECKLIST

First Things First ...

- _____ Pastor contacted (before any plans are finalized)
- _____ “Information for the Pastor on Those Planning to Marry” form [SPL-104-4*] returned to Pastor
- _____ Premarital counseling arranged
- _____ Read through this booklet completely; call Wedding Advisory Committee Chairman with any questions you may have and to set up initial meeting
- _____ Call or email church secretary’s office with your rehearsal & wedding dates/times and your contact information (bride & groom’s names, address, phone, email) as soon as possible after plans are finalized with Pastor
- _____ Take “Reduced Marriage Fee Educators Statement” form (completed by pastor after counseling is complete) to secure Marriage License at Courthouse (waiting period of five days; secure well in advance)

At least one month prior to wedding date (as soon as possible) ...

- _____ Meet with Wedding Advisory Committee Chairman (at least one month prior to wedding, but as soon as possible) – Payments are to be made with Wedding Advisory Committee Chairman for church facilities, custodial, Altar Guild, LWML services/equipment at initial meeting. Bring Wedding Questionnaire form [SPL-104-2*] with you to this meeting
- _____ Music approved by Pastor and Director of Music

The month prior to your wedding ...

- _____ Bulletin information and furnished bulletin covers or paper given to church secretary (at least two weeks in advance, if printing at church)
- _____ Wedding bulletin proof approved by Pastor (must include wording from page 21 of “Our Wedding Service” booklet)
- _____ Marriage license brought to church secretary’s office (at least one week prior to wedding)

Other items (list here: *photographer, invitations, flowers, musicians, etc.*)

**Forms are included with this booklet*

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