



# Wedding Handbook

**St. John's Lutheran Church**

200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, NC 28144 • 704.636.3431 • [stjohns-salisbury.org](http://stjohns-salisbury.org)

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## Contact Information

***NOTE: Your point of FIRST CONTACT is our Business Manager,  
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IMPORTANT STAFF INFORMATION. To contact by email: first name@stjohns-salisbury.org

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The Rev. Danielle K. DeNise	Pastor for Discipleship
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Sandra Knox	Custodian



## A Wedding and a Marriage *A Pastor's Perspective*

Weddings in the Christian church are unique worship experiences that beautifully mark a couple's entrance into a lifetime union. They are also opportunities to seek God's blessings, give thanks for God's goodness, and celebrate the loving companionship of friends and family who are present.

A "church wedding" reaches far beyond simply a "wedding in a church." In a holy and somewhat mysterious way, the wedding creates time and space for solemn promises to be made between two people and the God they serve. Christians make these promises to one another in faith and cling to the promise of a faithful God who will love and support them in their life together. These promises are best lived out in relationship with others – the Christian community – who encourage, support, love, challenge, and hold one another accountable.

It seems to take a village to make a wedding. In thinking through your list of participants, it's important to remember that, since a wedding involves the people of God gathered in worship, the pastor is the final authority in its implementation. Please know that the pastor will always be open to your ideas and suggestions and will work with you to make sure that your wedding will suit your individual needs and tastes, while maintaining a sense of worship and praise.

You are encouraged to be personally involved in the selection of music for your wedding. Our Minister of Music has years of experience in worship design and will be fully available to provide advice, counsel and consent when needed. While individual needs and tastes vary, we want to be cognizant of the worshipful nature of the wedding service and strive to maintain our focus on God and God's promises.

As you know, there are many other items that need to be discussed, including flowers, photographers, rehearsals, candles, facility use, receptions and fees. Most of that information is outlined in this handbook, but please know that the Wedding Director and pastor will be more than happy to provide guidance in any way possible.

The pastors, Minister of Music, your Wedding Director, the church staff and the entire congregation offer our best wishes as you take this exciting, faithful and joyous next step in your journey together.

### *And now ... the Marriage*

Your wedding service will be a wonderful, mountaintop experience that celebrates your new life together, your life with Christ, and the joy and love found in community. What ultimately matters, however, is your marriage. Planning for your wedding should never distract from planning for your marriage – cultivating and nurturing the love that will carry you through thick and thin in the years to come. It begins with God's blessing through His Church and is lived out in a unique relationship of love, trust, faith, and endurance.

With that in mind, St. John's requires all couples to participate in Pre-Marriage Counseling with one of our pastors or a pastor approved by our staff. Through the counseling process, you will be challenged to look carefully at yourselves, individually and as a couple. You will be invited to take a full assessment of your relationship, reviewing your strengths and exploring potential problem areas. The process includes 3-4 sessions with the pastor, an online assessment, and your commitment to complete a terrific take-home DVD-based series titled "Prepare to Last." Pre-Marriage Counseling should begin at least three months before the wedding ceremony and is arranged by contacting the pastor. Couples are also invited to participate in a weekend engagement retreat at StillPoint retreat center on High Rock Lake.



# Planning for your Wedding

When planning a wedding, your first responsibility is to consult with the Business Manager and complete a **Marriage Request Form** (see page 18). Please note that the facility is not reserved until a date has been cleared with the pastor of choice. A more detailed form will need to be completed at a later date, which will include the scheduling of your Pre-Marriage Counseling,

Please note:

- Pre-Marriage Counseling is required for all weddings at St John's.
- Weddings are not scheduled during the seasons of Advent and Lent.

The following will be helpful in planning your wedding at St. John's:

## 1. MARRIAGE SERVICE

- A. The Service: The Marriage Service that is part of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* is printed on pages 10-11 of this handbook. The celebration of **Holy Communion** is optional in the wedding service. If Holy Communion is desired, all baptized and communing Christians will be invited to receive the Sacrament. The method of distribution will be by intinction -- that is, with communicants dipping a wafer into a chalice of wine.
- B. Music: Because the marriage service is a service of worship in the church, the music used in, before, or following the ceremony should embody the same high standards aspired to in other services of worship in the Lutheran Church. Whenever music is employed in the service, and by whatever instruments or voices, it should be a high-quality example of musical composition. It should not cloud communication of the content and worshipful mood of the service with musical triteness or associations bordering on sentimentality. The selections should always be within the ability of the performer to play or sing with assurance. A number of musical options are possible as part of the wedding music: organ, instrumental music, vocal or instrumental solo, ensemble, choral music, congregational hymns, or music employing a combination of these media.



### NOTES ON MUSIC:

- Most weddings include 15 to 30 minutes of prelude music.
  - As soon as the wedding date has been set with one of the pastors and scheduled by the church office, the Minister of Music should be consulted by the bride. The Wedding Director will be happy to assist the couple in choosing suitable music for the wedding service.
  - While it is not necessary for the Minister of Music to be the organist for the wedding, the Wedding Director is responsible for the music and musicians used.
  - Guest musicians must always receive instruction from the Minister of Music before using the organ or any other of the church's instruments.
  - Soloists should be instructed in proper dress for the occasion. As the soloist will normally be in full view of the congregation throughout the ceremony, a choir robe or a garment that blends with that of the wedding party is appropriate.
- C. Dress: Attire sets the atmosphere. Dress may be either formal or informal. Wedding attire for participants should always be in good taste. Two basic factors should be observed: (a) the marriage service is a worship service, and (b) the church is a house of worship. The attire should enhance the meaning of the service and not detract from it.



D. Marriage License: Bring the license to the pastor **on the day** of the wedding.

E. Fees: Fees **must be received** by the church office at least **two weeks** before the wedding.

F. Marriage Record: Following the marriage service, witnesses are asked to sign the marriage license. After a church officer registers the pertinent information in St. John's church records, the license is sent to the Rowan County Register of Deeds. Legal copies of the certificate can be obtained from the Register of Deeds.

## 2. REHEARSAL

A. All wedding participants, including parents, grandparents and honorees, should be present and arrive on time for the rehearsal.

B. The Wedding Director and pastor are in charge of the rehearsal.

## 3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FACILITIES & PARTICIPANTS

A. Facilities: Three places are available for weddings: the Chapel, the Sanctuary and the Faith Center. The seating capacity for the Sanctuary is approximately 900 and the seating capacity for the Chapel is approximately 120. The Faith Center seats 250. The desired space must be reserved at the church office with the Business Manager and approved by the Senior Pastor. All dates and arrangements for weddings or wedding receptions should be made with the office assistant who will consult with the pastor(s).

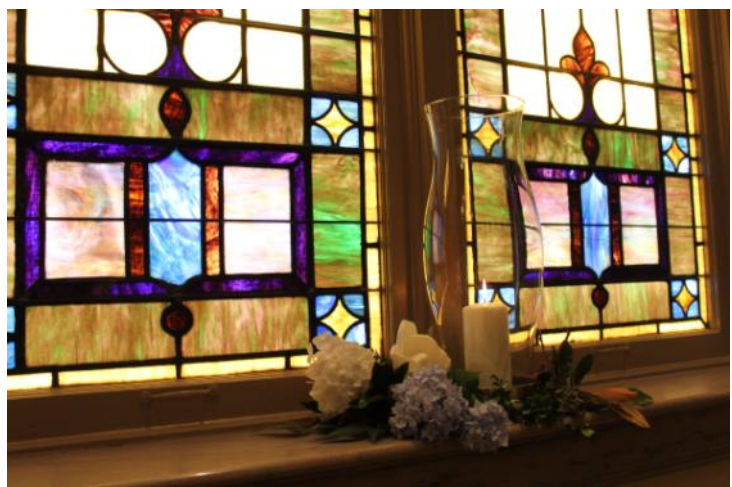
B. Pastor(s): Depending on availability, weddings will be conducted by one of the pastors of St. John's. If you wish to invite the pastor (and spouse) to be present at your rehearsal dinner or wedding reception, please extend that invitation as early as possible. If you wish to have a guest minister officiate the service, arrangements must be made through the pastor of St. John's.

C. Director of the Wedding: All weddings at St. John's will be coordinated by one of St. John's Wedding Directors. At her earliest convenience, the Wedding Director will make an appointment with the bride and her representative. She will communicate church policies, conduct the wedding rehearsal, and assist during the ceremony.

D. Facilities Manager: No later than six weeks before the wedding, the bride will meet with the Facilities Manager to make arrangements for use of the church facilities and liturgical appointments (candelabra, kneelers, etc.). Forms on pages 18-19 must be completed and returned at that time.

E. Acolyte(s), Banner Bearer, Crucifer, Torch Bearers: These worship assistants are optional. The bridal couple may ask relatives or friends to serve in this capacity or request assignment from the Worship Ministry Group. All worship assistants not trained by the church must be at least 13 years of age and be present for training at the rehearsal.

F. Flower Girl and Ring Bearer: It is strongly recommended that the Flower Girl and Ring Bearer be at least 5 years old.



G. To Invite the Congregation: When all members of the congregation of St. John's are invited to a wedding, the invitation may be printed in the church newsletter. Your invitation must be submitted to the church office six weeks before your wedding.

H. Request for Prayer: It is customary that the wedding couple will be included in St. John's prayers the Sunday after the wedding.

I. Photographs, Audio Tapes, Video Tapes: Once the service begins, photography and video filming may be done from the balcony only. No flash cameras or auxiliary lighting may be used in the sanctuary during the service. The wedding party may pose for pictures in the church before or after the service. All video filming must be done from the balcony only and must remain stationary for the duration of the service. **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BRIDE AND GROOM TO INFORM THE PHOTOGRAPHER AND VIDEOGRAPHER OF THESE REGULATIONS.** Please note that the photographer's privileges will be revoked if these guidelines are not followed.

J. Decorations: Our Sanctuary, Chapel and Faith Center have been designed as places of dignified beauty for all church services. Therefore, elaborate decorations are not necessary. Because of the sacred nature of the altar, any decorations should be arranged in such a way that the attention is directed *to-ward* the altar, not away from it. The following regulations are given to preserve to safeguard sanctuary furnishings:

1. Arrangements should be made with the Facilities Manager to open the church for the florist on the day of the wedding. All decorating must be completed two hours before the wedding.
2. No decorations will be placed on the altar. No one may move anything on the altar or change altar linens.
3. Floral arrangements of freshly cut flowers may be placed on the flower stands on either side of the altar only. Artificial arrangements are not used in the chancel.
4. No tacks, pins, nails, or glue may be used to fasten any decorations or aisle cloth to the furniture or building.
5. Candelabra, aisle candles, and a kneeling bench are owned by the church and available for use. No electric candles may be used.
6. No furniture, fixture, or ornamentation of the Sanctuary, Chapel or Faith Center may be introduced without the consent of the Wedding Director.
7. The furniture and floor must be fully protected at all times from moisture and candle wax. The decorator will be held responsible for any damage done to the building or furniture and is responsible for cleaning dripped wax from the floor and furniture.
8. No glitter may be used inside or outside of the three worship spaces.
9. Arrangements must be made to remove all decorations from the building immediately after the wedding.
10. Please contact the Wedding Director with any questions or requests for further information.



- K. Bride and Bridesmaids' Room: For Sanctuary weddings, the Senior High Room is used for the bride and bridesmaids. The room provides space for dressing and contains large mirrors, comfortable seating, hanging space for clothing, iron and ironing board. The women's restroom is located across the hall. Be sure the door is locked during the wedding. For Chapel weddings, a room near the Chapel will be used. Adjacent restrooms are available. For Faith Center weddings, a room near the Faith Center will be used. Adjacent restrooms are available.
- L. Groomsmen: For Sanctuary weddings, the groomsmen may dress in the choir rooms that are located behind the Sanctuary. Adjacent restrooms are available. For Chapel Weddings groomsmen may utilize this same space, or identified space in the Education Building.

#### 4. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RECEPTION

- A. Reception Room: Upon request, either the Fellowship Hall or Peeler Hall is available for a reception after the wedding. The Facilities Manager will assist with the physical arrangement of the room when the couple elects to have the reception at the church.
- B. Decorations: As they are applicable, the same rules that are specified in the arrangements for the wedding also apply to the reception.
- C. No rice or birdseed may be thrown.
- D. No alcoholic beverages may be served or consumed on the church premises.



#### 5. OTHER REGULATIONS

- A. Smoking is not permitted in the Sanctuary, Chapel, Faith Center, or any of the church buildings.
- B. As a church policy, alcohol is not permitted onsite.
- C. Under no circumstances may any member of the wedding party come to the rehearsal or the wedding under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Intoxicated individuals will not be permitted to participate in the wedding service.
- D. All fees must be paid according to schedule before the wedding.

#### 6. SIGNATURES

By my signature, I have read and agree to the above regulations.

\_\_\_\_\_ Bride's signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Groom's signature



# Options for Your Wedding Service

The following follows the general outline found in our worship book, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (Option 1). Within the service you will notice a variety of options from which you are free to choose. Following this example is another service you may find useful (Option 2). If there are any questions about the service itself, please speak with one of the pastors.

## **OPTION 1**

### **PRELUDE**

### **ENTRANCE**

*The assembly stands as the ministers and the wedding group enter. Music — hymn, song, psalm, instrumental music — may accompany the entrance. NOTE: The congregation's responses are in **bold**.*

### **GREETING**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other with the following exchange:*

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

**And also with you.**

### **DECLARATION OF INTENTION**

*The minister addresses the couple in these or similar words, asking each person in turn:*

*Name*, will you have *name* to be your *wife/husband*, to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love *her/him*, comfort *her/him*, honor and keep *her/him*, in sickness and in health, and, forsaking all others, be faithful to *her/him* as long as you both shall live?

Response:

I will.

The minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

Will all of you, by God's grace, uphold and care for *name* and *name* in their life together?

We will.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*The presiding minister leads the following or another prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ into the world to reveal your love to all people. Enrich *name* and *name* with every good gift, that their life together may show forth your love; and grant that at the last we may all celebrate with Christ the marriage feast that has no end; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## READINGS

*The assembly is seated. Two or three scripture readings are read. When the service includes communion, the last is a reading from the gospels. Responses may include a psalm in response to a reading from the Old Testament, a sung acclamation preceding the reading of the gospel, or other appropriate hymns, songs, and psalms.*

## SERMON

A hymn or solo may be sung.

## VOWS

The couple may join hands. Each promises faithfulness to the other in these or similar words.

### OPTION 1A:

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.

### OPTION 1B:

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.

## GIVING OF RINGS

### OPTION 1A:

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

### OPTION 1B:

*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.

## ACCLAMATION

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

*Name and name*, by their promises before God and in the presence of this assembly, have joined themselves to one another as husband and wife.

Those whom God has joined together let no one separate.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

*A hymn, solo, or other music may follow.*

## **MARRIAGE BLESSING**

*The couple may kneel. The presiding minister may extend a hand over the couple while praying for God's blessing in the following or similar words.*

Most gracious God, we give you thanks for your tender love in sending Jesus Christ to come among us, to be born of a human mother, and to endure the cross for our sake, that we may have abundance of life.

By the power of your Holy Spirit pour out the abundance of your blessing on *name* and *name*. Defend them from every enemy. Lead them into all peace. Let your love be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle about their shoulders, and a crown upon their foreheads.

Bless them so that their lives together may bear witness to your love. Bless them in their work and in their companionship; in their sleeping and in their waking; in their joys and in their sorrows; in their life and in their death.

Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that table where your saints feast forever in your heavenly home, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*If the couple desires, communion follows, beginning with the sharing of the peace. For specifics about a service with Holy Communion, speak with the pastor.*

*A service without communion continues as follows.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **BLESSING**

God Almighty send you light and truth  
to keep you all the days of your life.  
The hand of God protect you;  
the holy angels accompany you;  
and the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be with you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

*The couple kisses. Then the pastor introduces the couple to the congregation:*

It is my privilege to introduce to you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

*The congregation may respond with applause*

*The pastor sends the congregation forth with these words:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*A hymn may be sung or instrumental music played as the wedding group and the ministers depart.*



## **OPTION 2**

### **ENTRANCE MUSIC**

**GREETING:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

*Congregation is seated*

We have come together in the presence of God to witness the marriage of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, to surround them with our prayers, and to share in their joy. The scriptures teach us that the bond and covenant of marriage is a gift of God, a holy mystery in which two become one. As \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ give themselves to each other today, we can be confident that Christ is with us, as well, eagerly welcoming us into a celebration of God's love for us.

*Let us pray.* Gracious God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ into the world to reveal your love to all people. Enrich *name* and *name* with every good gift, that their life together may show forth your love; and grant that at the last we may all celebrate with Christ the marriage feast that has no end; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Who gives \_\_\_\_\_ to be married to \_\_\_\_\_?

### **SYMBOLIC APPROVAL**

I invite family members to stand and offer their blessing and encouragement. (*stand*) Will you do your best to honor this new family - to nurture, sustain, and bless them as they begin their new life together?  
We will.

*The family is seated.*

To the rest of you: friends and extended family members. Will all of you, by God's grace, do everything in your power to uphold and care for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in their life together?  
**We will.**

## READINGS

## HOMILY

*Hymn, solo, or other music may be sung*

## MARRIAGE PROMISES

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, if it is your intention to share with each other, your joys and your sorrows and all that the years will bring, with your promises bind yourselves to each other as husband and wife.

*(To the Groom)* \_\_\_\_\_, will you give yourself to this woman as her husband? Will you be faithful to her? Will you love and honor her, offering her encouragement and companionship; and will you live with her and cherish her, as Christ leads you in the bond of marriage? (Answer: I WILL)

*(To the Bride)* \_\_\_\_\_, will you give yourself to this man as his wife? Will you be faithful to him? Will you love and honor him, offering him encouragement and companionship; will you live with him and cherish him, as Christ leads you in the bond of marriage? (Answer: I WILL)

*Wedding party moves to the altar*

## VOWS

*To the Groom:* ( \_\_\_\_\_, repeat after me.)

**Groom:** \_\_\_\_\_, I pledge to you on this our day, my eternal love before God, our family and our friends. I do promise to celebrate with you life's victories and to console you in life's defeats. I give you my hand to hold as we begin this journey together. I will be your help-mate, your companion and your friend through all the days of our lives. I will be faithful to you, honor you and with God's guidance now become your husband.

*To the Bride:* ( \_\_\_\_\_, repeat after me.)

**Bride:** \_\_\_\_\_, I pledge to you on this our day, my eternal love before God, our family and our friends. I do promise to celebrate with you life's victories and to console you in life's defeats. I give you my hand to hold as we begin this journey together. I will be your help-mate, your companion and your friend through all the days of our lives. I will be faithful to you, honor you, and with God's guidance, I now become your wife.

## EXCHANGE OF RINGS

*To the Groom:* \_\_\_\_\_, take this ring and place it on the wedding finger of \_\_\_\_\_ and repeat after me...

**Groom:** \_\_\_\_\_, I give you this ring as a symbol of my faithfulness and devotion, because I love you. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*To the Bride:* \_\_\_\_\_, take this ring and place it on the wedding finger of \_\_\_\_\_ and repeat after me...

**Bride:** \_\_\_\_\_, I give you this ring as a symbol of my faithfulness and devotion, because I love you. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF MARRIAGE**

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have declared before God and before you that they will live together in marriage. They have made sacred promises to each other, and they have symbolized these promises by joining hands and by exchanging rings.

I therefore pronounce them husband and wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

*Hymn, solo, or other music may be sung here*

*Holy Communion may be celebrated here*

*The bride and groom kneel*

## **PRAYER**

*Let us pray.* Faithful Lord, source of love, pour down your grace upon \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that they may fulfill their 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, 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. Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*The bride and groom stand*

## **BENEDICTION**

Now may God Almighty grant you his light and his truth to keep you all the days of your life. May the hand of God protect you and his holy angels accompany you throughout your journey together. May God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit share with you abundant grace today and forever more. Amen.

*The couple kisses. Then the pastor introduces the couple to the congregation:*

It is my privilege to introduce to you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

*The congregation may respond with applause. The pastor then sends the congregation forth with these words:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*A hymn may be sung or instrumental music played as the wedding group and the ministers depart.*

## ALTERNATE WEDDING VOWS

I. 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. *Lutheran Book of Worship, 287*

**(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 all my being.

III. 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 in 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.

IV. 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 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 better to understand ourselves, the world, and God;  
through the best and the worst of what is to come, as long as we live.

V. I, **(name)**, in the presence of God and these witnesses,  
take you, **(name)**, to be my wife/husband.  
All that I am I give to you  
and all that I have I share with you.  
Whatever the future holds,  
I will love you and stand by you,  
as long as we both shall live.  
This is my solemn vow.

- VI. I, **(name)**, take you, **(name)**,  
to be my wedded wife/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 ordinance;  
and thereto, I plight thee my troth. *Service Book and Hymnal, 270*
- VII. I, **(name)**, take you, **(name)**, to be my wedded wife/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 ordinance;  
and to you I pledge myself truly with all my heart.
- VIII. I, **(name)**, take you, **(name)**, to be my wedded wife/husband; and I do promise and covenant before God and these witnesses;  
to be your loving and faithful husband/wife;  
in plenty and in want;  
in joy and in sorrow;  
in sickness and in health;  
as long as we both shall live.  
This is my solemn vow.

## Suggested Readings for Your Wedding

*Choose at least two readings, with one reading from the New Testament.*

### Suggested Old Testament readings:

Genesis 1:26-31	Male and female created by God
Genesis 2:18-24	God creates man and woman
Song of Solomon 2:10-13	Love in the spring
Song of Solomon 8:7	Unquenchable love
Isaiah 63:7-9	The steadfast love of God

Suggested Psalms: 33, 100, 117, 127, 128, 136, 150

### Suggested New Testament readings:

Romans 12:1-2	A living offering
Romans 15:5-6	Live in harmony with one another
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13	The hymn of divine love
Ephesians 4:32-5:2	Be imitators of God's love
Ephesians 5:21-33	Marriage and the Church

### Gospel Readings:

Matthew 19:4-6	Faithfulness in marriage
John 2:1-10	The wedding at Cana

## Suggested Hymns

*From Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

648 – Beloved, God's Chosen	816 – Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
312 – Jesus, Come! For We Invite You	836 – Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
839 – Now Thank We All Our God	308 – O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!
488 – Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness	732 – Morning Cry

Other suggested hymns with consultation with the Minister of Music

Eternal God, Before Your Throne	In Thee is Gladness
Our Father, by Whose Name	When Love is Found
Blest be the Tie that Binds	Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus

# Marriage Request Form

Please complete this form with as much information as you have at this time. **Please note that the reservation is not complete until you have been contacted by the Business Manager.** Upon receipt of this form, please return a completed copy within **one week** to:

## Marriage Request Form

St. John's Lutheran Church

200 West Innes Street

Salisbury, NC 28144

*Please make a copy for your records*

### For office use

Approval date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ cc to Pastor, Music Minister, Facilities Manager

**Bride's full name** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Groom's full name** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents of the Bride** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents of the Groom** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Sanctuary ☐ Chapel ☐ Faith Center

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

Reception: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Location: ☐ Fellowship Hall ☐ Peeler Hall ☐ Other

Do you wish flowers to be used for the Sunday following wedding if the date is available? \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor Requested to Officiate (subject to personal calendar) \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Pastor (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Pastor's church affiliation and congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

Your signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Meeting scheduled with: ☐Business Manager ☐Facilities Manager ☐Wedding Director

Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

## Wedding Information Form

*Please complete and return to the church office SIX weeks prior to the wedding*

This information will be used to prepare the worship space for your wedding. It is a working document for the Wedding Director, Facilities Manager, and Business Manager. Each of the above individuals must be met with in conjunction with the completion of this form.

**Bride's full name** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Groom's full name** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Sanctuary ☐ Chapel ☐ Faith Center

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

Reception: ☐ Yes ☐ No Location \_\_\_\_\_

### Wedding party:

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Maid/Matron of Honor \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Bridesmaids \_\_\_\_\_

Best Man \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Groomsmen \_\_\_\_\_

Ring Bearer \_\_\_\_\_

Flower Girl \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Honor Attendants \_\_\_\_\_

Acolyte \_\_\_\_\_

Banner Bearer \_\_\_\_\_

Crucifer \_\_\_\_\_

Other Participant (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Bride's Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Groom's Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Bride's Grandparents \_\_\_\_\_

Groom's Grandparents \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding party arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated number attending the service \_\_\_\_\_

Florist \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

Photographer (see page 20) \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be using a bulletin? \_\_\_\_\_ (Please provide a copy for St. John's file )

Check all that you will be using: ☐ St. John's aisle candles (sanctuary only) ☐ Candelabra ☐ Banner ☐ Unity Candle

☐ Hurricane Globes ☐ Register Stands: 1 or 2?

Will you be video recording the service? \_\_\_\_\_

Couple's Future Address and Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Photographer/Videographer Agreement

*This form must be completed and returned six weeks prior to wedding date.*

Please note: Once the prelude begins, photography and video filming may be done from the balcony only. No flash cameras or auxiliary lighting may be used in the sanctuary during the service. The wedding party may pose for pictures in the church before or after the service. All video recording must be done from the balcony only and must remain stationary for the duration of the service.

**IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BRIDE AND GROOM TO INFORM THE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THESE REGULATIONS AND FOR THE FORM TO BE PERSONALLY SIGNED BY THE PHOTOGRAPHER AND/OR VIDEOGRAPHER.** Please note that the photographer's privileges will be revoked if these guidelines are not followed.

We have read and agree to the Wedding Guidelines for photographs, audio recordings and video recordings as outlined above.

Photographer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Videographer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Wedding Fees

The following fees recognize our non-pastoral staff for their personal/professional services or reimburse the congregation for actual costs of a wedding. For more information, please contact our Business Manager.

*Please note: Payment for services to be presented two weeks in advance of wedding*

## For active members of St. John's

### Custodial services

Chapel	\$ 75
Chapel w/Reception	\$125
Sanctuary	\$100
Sanctuary w/Reception	\$200
Faith Center	\$100
Faith Center w/Reception	\$200

### Professional Services

Organist	\$150
Soloist/Instrumentalist (arranged through Minister of Music)	\$100
PA Operator (arranged through Media Specialist)	\$ 50
Pre-Marriage Counseling material	\$ 75
Engagement Retreat, if scheduled	\$ 60
Wedding Director	\$100

## Additional Fees for Inactive/Associate Members\*

Use of Sanctuary	\$ 500
Use of Chapel	\$ 200
Use of Faith Center	\$ 500
Fellowship Hall	\$ 200
Use of Peeler Hall	\$ 200

## Additional Fees for Non-Members

Sanctuary	\$1500
Chapel	\$ 500
Fellowship Hall	\$ 200
Faith Center	\$1500
Peeler Hall	\$ 200

### \*Policy Statement

Inactive members are those members of St. John's who have not communed or contributed to the ministry of the congregation in the last year.

Associate Members are (1) active members of St. John's Lutheran Church as well as another congregation of the ELCA or, (2) are active members of another Christian Congregation and have relatives other than parents or grandparents who are active members of St. John's. (Congregation Council, May 1992)

## Notes





And now these three remain:

*Faith, Hope, and Love*

But the greatest of these is Love.

— 1 Cor 13:13 —