



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



WEDDING GUIDELINES

Marriage is a holy estate, ordained by God, and to be held in honor by all. It becomes those who enter therein to weigh with reverent minds what the Word of God teaches concerning it. All ceremonies held in this congregation will have a Christian orientation.

Your desire to have a church wedding is indicative of the fact that you want to ask God's blessing upon your marriage. God will not withhold his blessing from you if you earnestly seek to accept the blessings he offers. To this end, we suggest that you carefully study the Liturgy for Marriage in the Lutheran Book of Worship, page 202.

The purpose of a church wedding is to share your joy with the congregation and to enable the congregation to join you in invoking God's blessings upon your marriage. It is to be remembered that the marriage service is a service of divine worship and must be treated as such. The purpose of a church wedding, then, is not merely utilitarian or aesthetic. This does not prevent you from having a beautiful wedding, but it does set certain limitations upon what may properly be done.