

Peninsula Lutheran Church
6509 38th Avenue Northwest
Gig Harbor, WA 98335
253.851.3511
E-mail: weddings@plcplace.com
Website: www.plcplace.com

*The
Wedding Booklet*

Marriage, the relationship between husband and wife, is likened in Ephesians 5:21-23 to the relationship between Christ and the church. This depicts a communion of total persons, each of them living for the other. As with the covenant between Christ and the church, the promise of fidelity is fundamental and lifelong. Therefore, Christians regard marriage as a primary setting in which to live out their calling from the Lord.

Marriage is a confession that God has created us male and female. This union represents the divine intention for life in community and is a structure of the created order ordained by God. On the deepest level then, Christian marriage is a covenant of faith that seeks to honor and glorify God.

In Christian marriage, God is consciously invited to be a witness to your covenant of love – as you acknowledge that it is not just “two becoming one, but three!” We are excited that you have chosen God’s house in which to pledge your faithfulness to each other, seeking not only God’s blessing on your wedding day, but God’s blessing on each day of the rest of your life as husband and wife!

The information in this booklet has been prepared to assist you in planning your wedding at Peninsula Lutheran and to help ensure that your wedding will not only be a very endearing memory, but God-glorifying as well. We pray God’s blessings for you both!

Please read through this booklet and familiarize yourselves with the various wedding policies and procedures at our church. Through the months of excitement and planning ahead you are encouraged to continue to use this booklet as a reference guide and are encouraged to bring it along when you meet with your wedding consultant.

CONTENTS

Scheduling and Arrangements	page 1
Presiding Clergy.....	page 1
Wedding Consultant/Liaison	page 2
Preparing for Marriage.....	page 2
Marriage Ceremony	page 3
Order of Worship.....	page 3
Scripture Selections	page 4
Music Selection and Performance	page 5
Music Notes for the Service	page 5
Flowers and Candles	page 6
Photography	page 6
Multimedia	page 7
Receptions.....	page 8
Wedding License	page 8
Fees	page 9
Alcohol and Smoking Policies.....	page 9
Contact Numbers and Notes	page 9

SCHEDULING AND ARRANGEMENTS

The scheduling and arrangements for weddings at Peninsula Lutheran Church begin with our wedding consultant, (contact information can be found under “Wedding Consultant”). The request for a date is foremost in your mind. It is in ours as well. Our wedding consultant will work with you through the process of securing dates and presiding clergy. Once dates have been secured, you will be asked to submit the Wedding Reservation Request form signed by the prospective bride and groom, indicating both parties understand and agree to the stipulations required by Peninsula Lutheran Church. Returning this signed form is the last step in scheduling your wedding and rehearsal. Please be sure you have read The Wedding Booklet in its entirety.

PRESIDING CLERGY

We believe a wedding provides a wonderful opportunity for our church to enter into a special relationship with you. And while it is our desire to have a Peninsula Lutheran pastor preside at your wedding, we acknowledge that special circumstances may occur from time to time.

If you have a friend or a relative you wish to have participate in the worship service, please indicate that on your wedding request form, and be sure to communicate this with the wedding consultant. Your guest clergy will need to contact and be in communication with the presiding pastor at Peninsula Lutheran to officially request permission to participate. (Note: You should plan to provide transportation expenses and an honorarium to your guest pastor.)

WEDDING CONSULTANT

A Wedding Consultant / Liaison from Peninsula Lutheran Church will be assigned to you. She will assist you through the steps necessary for having a Christian wedding and be your liaison to the church. She will schedule an interview with you to aid in your preparations, collect your fees one month prior to your wedding, function as a resource person for your rehearsal and wedding, and be on site to direct your rehearsal and facilitate the service activities the day of your wedding. **You may contact her with any questions.**

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE

Marriage preparation is a **requirement** for marriage at Peninsula Lutheran. Our commitment to the process comes as a result of our deep sense of responsibility to prepare each and every couple for that special relationship, Christian marriage. Our hope is to prepare each couple for the best possible marital relationship.

Too often couples invest their time preparing for the details of the wedding service and the reception but neglect to take adequate time to talk about the many issues involved in living with another person for the rest of their lives. We are committed to working with you, helping you gain insights into your relationship so that you can grow in your understanding of marriage as being a gift from God.

Our pre-marriage series is shepherded by our marriage ministry team and is designed in such a way that honors the uniqueness each couple represents, while at the same time contains elements that we believe are important and effective for all couples desiring to get married. To that end, we ask you to make contact with the Pastor.

MARRIAGE CEREMONY

The order of service and the vows for your wedding will be decided when you meet with your officiating pastor. Most often the service will be according to the Lutheran Book of Worship rite.

We are not able to provide production and/or printing services for wedding bulletins or folders and recommend you have them produced at a printing facility of your choice, if desired.

The Altar area and its furniture, Sanctuary furnishings, banners and festival decorations are significant parts of the sacred space, which is our Sanctuary. *All such furniture and furnishings will therefore remain as they are presented for the particular season of the Church Year. We will, however, allow the baptismal font to be moved out of the center aisle. The wedding consultant will explain the alternative placement of the font.* Instruments and equipment that are used for worship will remain positioned in their designated areas during the wedding.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The order of worship will be discussed with the pastor, and while there are some “non-negotiables,” it is our desire to work with you to design a service that has “your fingerprints all over it,” as well as one that glorifies God. Please see the Lutheran Book of Worship, pages 202-205, keeping in mind that there are areas of flexibility.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Below you will find some suggested Scripture readings. These may be of assistance to you in your selection.

<p><u>Old Testament</u></p> <p>Genesis 1:26-28, 31 Genesis 2:18-25 Ruth 1:16-17 Song of Solomon 2:8-10, 14, 16a Song of Solomon 8:6-7a Song of Solomon 2:10-13 Joshua 24:14-15</p>	<p><u>Psalms</u></p> <p>Psalms 19:1-4, 7-9, 14 Psalms 33:1-9, 20-22 Psalms 67:1-5 Psalms 100 Psalms 84:1-2, 10-12 Psalms 127:1 Psalms 136:1-3, 23-26</p>
<p><u>Epistle</u></p> <p>Romans 12:1-2 I John 4:7-11 I Corinthians 6:19-20 I Corinthians 12:31-13:13 Colossians 3:12-17 I Peter 3:8-9 I John 3:18-24 Ephesians 3:14-21 Ephesians 4:32 Romans 15:5-7 Galatians 6:2</p>	<p><u>Gospel</u></p> <p>Matthew 6:33 Matthew 19:4-6 Matthew 22:35-40 Mark 10:6-9 Mark 12:30-31 John 15:9-12 John 2:1-11</p>

MUSIC SELECTION AND PERFORMANCE

All marriage ceremonies at PLC are Christian worship services. Music with a Christian theme/principle is to be selected for use throughout the worship service. **Secular music may be used, but such selections need to be approved by our Pastor or Director of Worship and Music.**

PLC has a list of approved organists/pianists (who may also serve as accompanist). Your Wedding Consultant can provide you with contact information so that you may speak with that person regarding music selections.

Guest musicians are welcome to be involved in the service. If an individual would like to use our instruments (e.g. the pipe organ), they must first contact the Director of Worship & Music.

MUSIC NOTES FOR THE SERVICE

Prelude and Postlude: Appropriate music will be provided 15-20 minutes prior to the service while the guests are being seated and a maximum of 10 minutes following the service, while the guests are being ushered out.

Processionals and Recessionals: The pianist or organist will play the processional and recessional chosen by the couple. Our keyboardists are well qualified in assisting you with choosing appropriate selections. As you make your selections keep in mind the following:

- Normally there is a processional piece (quiet or festive) for the attendants (including ring bearers/flower girls), then a separate processional piece for the bride. The rehearsal will serve as a time for you to become familiar and comfortable with how this change in music will occur.
- Your selections are to be presented to your organist/pianist no later than one month prior to the wedding.

Soloists/Instrumentalists: The pianist or organist will accompany soloists and/or instrumentalists for the wedding. After the music has been selected and approved, a copy of the piece is to be given to the accompanist at least one month prior to your wedding. Due to copyright laws, photocopies are not allowed.

Rehearsals: The pianist/organist will be available to rehearse one time with the soloists and/or instrumentalists at the time agreed upon by both parties. Prior to the service on the day of the wedding is an option.

Note: *More elaborate weddings that require additional preparation and planning may result in an additional fee.*

FLOWERS AND CANDLES

Flowers and candles, other than optional Unity Candle and tapers, are not to be placed on the altar. Candelabras for use in the Chancel area may be rented (Peninsula Lutheran does not own candelabras).

The throwing of rice, confetti or birdseed, either inside or outside is not permitted. Flower petals may be dropped by the flower girl preceding the bride down the aisle or used as an alternative to throwing rice or confetti. Bubbles are also acceptable outside.

Please note that you will need to secure individuals to transfer candelabras and/or floral arrangements to your reception or home immediately following the service as Peninsula Lutheran **does not** have storage area for these items.

An aisle runner may be desired. The distance from the altar to the doors leading outside is approximately 40 feet. These aisle runners are available at stores where wedding supplies may be purchased.

Please form **receiving lines** at the reception.

PHOTOGRAPHY

In most instances, formal wedding pictures are taken prior to the wedding service. Access to the sanctuary will begin no earlier than three hours before the start of the wedding service. All formal pictures in the sanctuary need to be completed 45 minutes before the start of the wedding.

During the wedding ceremony, photographers are to remain as inconspicuous as possible, for the most part staying in the back of the sanctuary or in the side aisles of the center section. A stationary video camera (on tripod) may be operated from the front (stage) area. A limited use of flash photography is permitted during the wedding service. Please be sure your photographer is aware of these issues to better prepare for photographing your wedding.

MULTIMEDIA

A multimedia operator will be assigned to your wedding party. If you are having a simple wedding, requiring no sound or video support (this includes Pastor's microphone, recorded music, etc.), you may opt to not have a multimedia operator present and will not be charged for this service. You may not provide your own multimedia operator unless that person is a trained member of the PLC multimedia team. The multimedia operator can provide the following services:

Video recording: The operator can, at your request, video your wedding service. The video records from stationary cameras located in the media booth. The recording will capture all audio from microphones but may not pick up the voices of the bride/groom (as they are not on a microphone). Video recorded in the booth is of MPEG-1 format, comparable in quality to VHS video. If you desire a higher resolution video, or multiple angles/shots on the recording, you will be best served by contracting with a professional videographer.

Sound system: The operator will cover microphone volumes for the pastor and special musicians. He/she will be able to play any special CDs/DVDs (see below).

Video slide show: At this time, PLC does not offer video slide show creation services. We can, however, show a video on our multimedia screens. (This occurs before the wedding service starts or after the recessional.) If this is something you would like to create, either on your own or have commercially prepared, please note the following:

Acceptable formats (in order of preference):

- 1) MPEG, WMV, or MOV video files on a CD, DVD, or USB thumb drive.
- 2) DVD formatted for a DVD player
- 3) VHS video
- 4) PowerPoint slide show without transitions or music and a CD of music you would like to accompany the slide show (the music/picture scripting is at the operator's discretion).

If you need further information on video formats, or advice on selecting a video service provider, please contact Dave Langer, our Technical Arts Director (dave.langer@plcplace.com).

*****Important note regarding media needs: The PLC Multimedia Ministry is dependent on volunteer support, and the multimedia services available will be largely dependent on the availability and qualifications of operators. The sooner you can communicate your multimedia support needs, the greater the likelihood of having that support available. Please communicate your specific multimedia needs to your assigned operator no later than two weeks before your wedding. All DVD/videos need to be delivered to the church office, in final form, no later than one week before your wedding. All CDs/performance tracks should also be turned into the office at this time. VERY IMPORTANT – the sound, computer, and video equipment located in our booth is critical to the conduct of all of our worship services at PLC. Therefore, members of the wedding party, guests, photographers, videographers, or other contracted professionals ARE NOT permitted access to our multimedia booth, regardless of their qualifications.*****

RECEPTIONS

Peninsula Lutheran does have a Fellowship Hall that can be used for a reception following your wedding ceremony, if the space is available. Please contact our Office Manager, for further information (253.851.3511).

WEDDING LICENSE

You may obtain your marriage license anytime within 60 days of your wedding at a county courthouse of your choice; a three-day waiting period is required after the license is issued. **Your wedding license *and the names and addresses of your witnesses* are to be brought to the Church Office by Monday of the week of your wedding** to allow adequate time for processing.

FEES

A fee schedule indicating both mandatory and optional fees has been enclosed with this material. **Fees are due to be paid to your wedding consultant one week prior to your wedding.**

SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on campus.

ALCOHOL POLICY

Other than through the Sacrament of Holy Communion, **no alcoholic beverages may be served** at any time in the church, on the church grounds, or in the parking lots.

A wedding may be postponed at the pastor's discretion if it is discovered that anyone involved with the wedding has failed to observe this alcohol policy.

CONTACT NUMBERS

- Church Office Number: 253.851.3511
- Email: weddings@plcplace.com