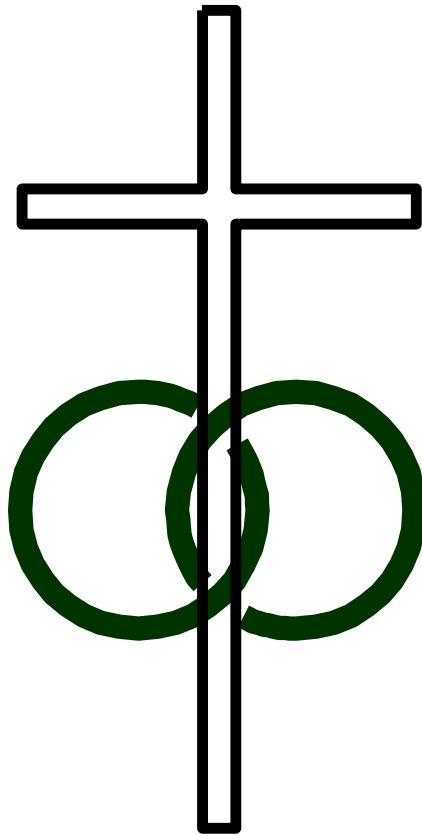


Planning

Your

Wedding



THE MARRIAGE SYMBOL

God promises His everlasting presence through Christ,
symbolized by the cross.

The interlocking rings symbolize the union of man and woman,
a union living under the promise and power of God.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
200 West Innes Street
Salisbury, North Carolina 28144
704-636-3431

Revised October 2010

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Marriage: A Pastoral Perspective

A marriage service is a unique worship experience as a couple enters into a lifetime union that is respected and supported by the Christian Church. Because the wedding ceremony is a form of corporate worship, careful planning must be made between the couple and pastor.

A church wedding reaches far beyond simply a wedding in a church. Because we believe that marriage is a holy estate and ordained by God, it is to be solemnized at the altar of our Lord, placing that marriage relationship under the blessing and commandment of God. Marriage is a truly happy occasion, overflowing with joy and thanksgiving to God. The guests at your wedding will join you in worship and praise as active participants in the service and the beginning of your married life together.

Marriage is based upon the promise of two people before God and the community who witnesses it. Christians make their promise to one another in faith and rest their promise in the promise of a faithful God who will support them in their life together. The Christian community, through its worship and programs of education and fellowship, is the primary means by which you can realize that care and support.

Pre-marital counseling with a pastor of the congregation is not only desired, but is required. You are about to make a lifelong commitment to live in a marital relationship and should, therefore, take the time and energy to assure yourselves that you have done all within your power to know and understand the dynamics of your relationship. Through the counseling process you will be challenged to look at yourselves and your relationship and at its growth and development. You will be encouraged to look honestly at the various aspects of your relationship. Potential problem areas will be discussed. All counseling will be an effort to help you achieve a joyous, meaningful, and lasting relationship.

Since a wedding involves the people of God gathered in worship, the pastor is the final authority in matters regarding its implementation. The pastor will always be open to your ideas and suggestions and will work with you to assure you that your wedding will suit your individual needs and tastes, while maintaining the integrity of the wedding service and a sense of worship.

You may select suitable music for the service in consultation with the Director of Music Ministries. Because the director has expertise in church music, the director's advice, counsel, and consent will be 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.

If you desire relatives, friends or other special persons to participate either in the spoken or musical portions of the service, please discuss these preferences with the pastor and Director of Music Ministries.

Among the many other items that need to be discussed include flowers, photographers, rehearsals, candles, facilities use, receptions, and fees. The Wedding Coordinator and pastor will be happy to give you guidance and information in any and all of these areas.

A marriage service is a marvelous event! It is a mountain top experience in the lives of two people and is shared by the family of God gathered for worship. It begins with God's blessing through His Church and is lived out in a unique relationship. The pastors, the Director of Music Ministries, your Wedding Coordinator, the church staff and the entire congregation offer their best wishes and stand ready to help you in any and every way.

Planning for your Wedding

When planning a wedding, your first responsibility is to consult with the Business Manager and complete a Marriage Request Form. Please also 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 sessions (normally three or four).

Please note:

Pre-marriage counseling is required for all weddings at St John's.

Weddings are not scheduled during the season of Lent.

The following suggestions will be helpful to you 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 manual. The celebration of **Holy Communion** is optional in the wedding service. If Holy Communion is desired, all baptized Christians in the congregation will be invited to receive the Sacrament. The method of distribution will be by intinction -- that is, with communicants dipping a wafer into the wine in the chalice.
- 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 high-quality examples 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.

Most weddings utilize fifteen to thirty minutes of prelude music. If desired, an entrance hymn is appropriate.

As soon as the wedding date has been set with one of the pastors and scheduled by the church office, the Director of Music Ministries should be consulted. The director will be happy to assist the couple in choosing suitable music for the wedding service.

While it is not necessary for the Director of Music Ministries to be the organist for the wedding, the director is responsible for the music used. Music chosen will need approval of the director. Guest musicians must always receive instruction from the director prior to 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. As always, the attire should enhance the meaning of the service and not detract from it.
- d. Bulletin: Though informative to the worshippers, a bulletin is not a necessary item. If desired, the church office assistant will supply bulletin samples and printing information
- e. Marriage License: Bring this to the church office **five days prior** to the wedding.
- f. Fees: Fees **must be received** by the church office at least **two weeks** prior to the wedding.
- g. 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 is in charge of the rehearsal and will instruct the participants.

3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FACILITIES & PARTICIPANTS

- a. Facilities: Two places are available for weddings: the Chapel and the Sanctuary. The seating capacity for the Sanctuary is approximately 900 and the seating capacity for the Chapel is approximately 120. The desired space must be reserved at the church office. 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 give 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. Music: The Director of Music Ministries will provide professional consultation on the music and will play for all weddings depending on availability. In those cases where there is a request for a guest organist to play, he/she must be qualified on the instrument and should arrange with the Director of Music Ministries for time and access to the church's organ for practice.

- d. 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. The director will communicate church policies, conduct the wedding rehearsal, and assist during the ceremony.
- e. Facilities Manager: No later than six weeks prior to 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.
- f. 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 Board. All worship assistants not trained by the church must be at least 13 years of age and be present for training at the rehearsal.
- g. Flower Girl and Ring Bearer: It is strongly recommended that the Flower Girl and Ring Bearer be at least 5 years old.
- h. 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 prior to your wedding.
- i. Request for Prayer: It is customary that the wedding couple will be included in St. John's prayers the Sunday before the wedding.
- j. 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 OF THESE REGULATIONS** . Please note that the photographer's privileges will be revoked if these guidelines are not followed.
- k. Decorations: Our Sanctuary and Chapel 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 *toward* the altar, not away from it. The following regulations are given to preserve the proper atmosphere in the Sanctuary and Chapel and to safeguard the 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. No silk or artificial flowers may

be 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 or Chapel 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 person who does the decorating 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 maybe used inside or outside of the sanctuary.
 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 request for further information.
- i. Bride and Bridesmaids Room: For Sanctuary weddings, The Senior High Room is utilized 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 the previous space may be used, or the Prayer Room or one of the nursery rooms in the Education Building. Adjacent restrooms are available.
- m. 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 the Center are available for a reception after the wedding. The Facilities Manager will help 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, or any of the church buildings.
- b. Under no circumstance may any member of the wedding party come to the rehearsal or the wedding under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- c. All fees must be paid according to schedule prior to the wedding.

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

ENTRANCE

The assembly stands as the ministers and the wedding group enter. Music· hymn, song, psalm, instrumental music· may accompany the entrance.

GREETING

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.
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 proclaimed. 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.

SEMON

Silence for reflection follows.

HYMN OF THE DAY

A hymn of the day may be sung.

VOWS

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

OPTION A: I take you to be my

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 B: In the presence of God

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

The couple may exchange rings with these or similar words.

OPTION A: This ring as a sign

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

OPTION B: This ring as a symbol

Name, I give you this ring as a symbol 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.

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause. A sung acclamation, hymn, or other music may follow.

Other symbols of marriage may be given or used at this time.

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.

Parents or others may speak additional words of blessing and encouragement at this time.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assembly stands. Prayers of intercession for the world and its needs may be prayed.

Each petition may end:

Gracious and faithful God,

hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds

Amen.

A service with communion continues with the peace. After the presiding minister greets the assembly, the couple may greet each other with the kiss of peace, and the assembly may greet one another in peace.

LORD'S PRAYER

A service without communion continues as follows.

OPTION A: Our Father in heaven

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

OPTION B: Our Father, who art in heaven

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.

PEACE

If it has not been included earlier in the service, the greeting of peace may be shared.
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The couple may greet one another with the kiss of peace. All present may greet one another with a gesture of peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing in these or similar words.

OPTION A: The blessed and holy Trinity

The blessed and holy Trinity
make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side,
and guide you in truth and peace,
now and forever.
Amen.

OPTION B: God almighty send you light and truth

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

An assisting minister may send the assembly forth in these or similar words.
Go in peace. 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

Prelude

Processional

Invocation: 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.

The Prayer: *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.

P: 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.

Scripture readings

Homily

(hymn may be sung here)

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 helpmate, 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 helpmate, 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 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.

(Kiss Here)

The Introduction of the couple:

I am happy to introduce Mr. _____ and Mrs. _____.

ALTERNATE WEDDING VOWS

Contemporary Vow

From the Lutheran Book of Worship, page 287

- 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.

Alternate Contemporary Vows

- II. **(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.

Traditional Vow

From the *Service Book and Hymnal*, page 270

- 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.

Contemporized Traditional Vows

- 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 SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR WEDDINGS

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

Suggested Old Testament readings:

Genesis 1:26-31

Genesis 2:18-24

Song of Solomon 2:10-13

Song of Solomon 8:7

Isaiah 63:7-9

Male and female created by God

God creates man and woman

Love in the spring

Unquenchable love

The steadfast love of God

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

The Psalm may be sung or spoken either by soloist, choir, readers, congregation, or a combination of these.

Suggested New Testament readings:

A living offering

Romans 15:5-6

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

Ephesians 4:32-5:2

Ephesians 5:21-33

Romans 12:1-2

Live in harmony with one another

The hymn of divine love

Be imitators of God's love

Marriage and the Church

Gospel Readings:

Matthew 19:4-6

John 2:1-10

Faithfulness in marriage

The wedding at Cana

HYMNS FOR WEDDINGS

648 . Beloved, God's Chosen

312 . Jesus, Come! For We Invite You

839 . Now Thank We All Our God

488 . Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

816 . Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

836 . Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

308 . O Morning Star, How Fair and
Bright!

732 . Morning Cry

Other Suggested hymns with consultation with Music Director

Eternal God, Before Your Throne

Our Father, by Whose Name

Blest be the Tie that Binds

In Thee is Gladness

When Love is Found

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 Pastor or 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 complete this form and make a copy for your records

Bride

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

e-mail _____ Cell Phone _____

Home Congregation _____ Address _____

Groom

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 _____

Rehearsal Date _____ Time _____

Reception: Yes _____ No _____ Location _____

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: _____

Signature

Date

OFFICE USE: Approval date: _____	Pastor: _____
Cc: Pastors, Director of Music Ministries, Business Manager, Facilities Manager	

Wedding Information Form

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE
SIX (6) WEEKS BEFORE 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 _____ Phone (H) _____
Address _____ Phone (W) _____
Phone (C) _____

Groom's Full Name _____ Phone (H) _____
Address _____ Phone (W) _____
Phone (C) _____

Date of Ceremony _____ Time _____

Place of Ceremony Sanctuary _____ Chapel _____

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 _____

Torch Bearers _____

Other Participant(s) _____

Bride's Parents _____

Groom's Parents _____

Bride's Grandparents _____

Groom's Grandparents _____

Estimated number attending the service _____

Florist _____

Photographer _____

Rehearsal Time _____

Reception Time _____ Place _____

Will you be using a bulletin? _____

Will you be using a bulletin prepared by St. John's staff? _____

Will you be using: St. John's aisle candles _____ Candelabra _____ Banner _____

Unity Candle _____ Hurricane Globes _____ Register Stands 1 or 2

Will you be audio taping? _____ Will you be video recording? _____

Couple's Future Address and phone _____

Schedule meeting with Business Manager _____ Facilities Manager _____

Wedding Director _____ (we will make every effort to coordinate these dates and times)

IF ST. JOHN'S BULLETIN IS NEEDED, PLEASE COMPLETE & TURN IN
TO THE OFFICE **SIX WEEKS BEFORE WEDDING**

SAMPLE WEDDING BULLETIN

Prelude _____

Seating of Mothers _____

Bridesmaids Procession _____

Bridal Procession _____

Invocation _____

Prayer _____

Scripture Readings _____

Pastoral Message (optional) _____

Congregational Hymn/Solo (optional)

Address to the Couple _____

Intention _____

Vows (Option A or B) _____

Exchange of Rings (Option A or B) _____

Public Proclamation of Marriage _____

Pastoral Blessing (Option A or B) _____

Congregational Hymn/Solo optional) _____

Prayers _____

Lord's Prayer (Option A or B) _____

Congregational Hymn/Solo optional _____

Benediction _____

Recessional _____

Postlude _____

PHOTOGRAPHER'S AGREEMENT

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 OF THESE REGULATIONS** . 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 tapes, and video tapes as outlined above.

Photographer Name: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____

- This form must be complete and returned with wedding forms six weeks prior to wedding date.

POLICY ON WEDDING FEES

Most weddings and/or their rehearsals occur at a time when our church staff is not on duty therefore specific fees for their services are identified below. These amounts recognize our non-pastoral staff for their personal/professional services or reimburse the congregation for actual costs. For more information, please contact our Business Manager.

St. John's Members

Payment for services to be presented two weeks in advance of wedding

Facility Manager for services		Professional Services	
Chapel	\$ 75		
Chapel w/Reception	\$125	Organist	\$150
Sanctuary	\$100	Soloist/Instrumentalist	\$100
Sanctuary w/Reception	\$150	(arranged thru Director of Music)	
<u>Supplies</u>		Wedding Director	\$100
Oil for aisle candles	\$ 10	PA Operator	\$ 50
Bulletin Preparation	\$ 30		

Additional Fees for Inactive/Associate Members*

Sanctuary	\$500
Chapel	\$200
Fellowship Hall	\$200
Center	\$100

Additional Fees for Non-Members

In addition to the above fees, Non-members will be charge usage fees as follows:

Sanctuary	\$1500
Chapel	\$500
Fellowship Hall	\$200
Center	\$100

***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 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. (Congregational Council, May 1992)