



[www.cornerstonelutheran.church](http://www.cornerstonelutheran.church)

317.814.4252

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## PLANNING YOUR WEDDING:

Your wedding day is one of the most joyful and meaningful moments of your life, and Cornerstone Lutheran Church is honored to share in this celebration with you! A Christian marriage service is an act of worship that honors God and centers on His Son, Jesus Christ. Because of this, every part of your day, from the vows to the music, reflects your confession of faith. When this focus is kept in mind, many questions about what is or isn't appropriate naturally find their answer.

## SCHEDULING YOUR WEDDING:

Once you have a tentative date and time in mind, please contact the church office (317-814-4252) to check availability. When your date is confirmed, a **\$100 deposit** is required and will be applied to your final total. The administrative assistant will then connect you with the pastor who will officiate your ceremony. Please note that because weekly worship services are held in the Carmel Sanctuary on Saturday evenings, **Saturday weddings must begin no later than 2:30 pm.** If you are hoping for an evening wedding, we would be happy to discuss alternative options and locations. Please do not finalize any wedding plans until the church and officiating pastor are confirmed.

## MEETING WITH THE OFFICIATING PASTOR:

At your first appointment, you and the officiating pastor will begin discussing the many details of your ceremony. If you would like another Christian pastor to participate in or officiate your wedding, please speak with the administrative assistant, who will consult with CLC's senior pastor regarding your request.

Your officiating pastor's deepest desire is that Christ be at the center of your marriage and your life together. To help prepare you for this, the pastor will meet with you several times prior to your wedding to ensure you understand the Christian meaning of marriage. We recommend contacting him at least four months before your wedding to allow adequate time for meetings and to schedule your rehearsal.

## CLC WEDDING COORDINATOR:

A CLC "Day of Wedding" Coordinator, who will be assigned to your wedding, will be present on both the rehearsal night and wedding day. They will provide building access, oversee facility care, and ensure your wedding runs smoothly and on schedule. They can answer questions regarding invitations, flowers, music, reception logistics, attendants, and photography.

## MEMBERSHIP:

If you or your fiancé are not members of Cornerstone Lutheran Church, we invite you to attend our *Discover Cornerstone Lutheran* series during the weekend education hour. These classes offer a helpful introduction to our beliefs, ministry, and community. While there is no requirement to join the church after completing the series, we warmly welcome you to consider making CLC your church home if you feel led.

## MUSIC:

When selecting music for your church wedding, please remember that all songs should be worshipful and Christ-centered. A wedding at Cornerstone is a service of worship, and the music should reflect that sacred purpose. While many love songs carry heartfelt meaning, they often have strong secular associations and lack the worshipful focus appropriate for a Christian ceremony. Because of this, such choices should be avoided during the service.

You are encouraged to contact Cornerstone's music director, upon date confirmation, to plan the music, secure an organist or musician, etc. To schedule this consultation, please call the church office at 317-814-4252. Should you prefer an outside organist, please notify us when you first begin your wedding arrangements. Otherwise, only organists from our congregation—who are familiar with both the instrument and the order of service—may serve for your wedding.

Below are recommended selections for various parts of your wedding worship service. These pieces reflect the sacred nature of Christian marriage and are appropriate for use in a church setting.

**Prelude Music:** (includes seating of mothers)

- *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* - J.S. Bach
- *Concerto in B-flat* (after Taglietti) - Johann Gottfried Walther
- *Andante sostenuto (from Symphonie Gothique)* - Charles-Marie Widor
- *Sheep May Safely Graze* - J.S. Bach
- *Air* - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- *Air (from Water Music)* - George Frideric Handel
- *Rhosymedre (from Three Preludes for Organ)* - Ralph Vaughan Williams
- *Bourrée (from Music for the Royal Fireworks)* - George Frideric Handel
- *My Heart Ever Faithful* - J.S. Bach
- *Sleeper's Awake (Wachet auf!)* - J.S. Bach
- *Air on the G String* - J.S. Bach
- *Prelude in C Major* - J.S. Bach

**Processionals:**

- *Canon in D Major* - Johann Pachelbel
- *Trumpet Voluntary* - John Stanley
- *The Prince of Denmark's March* - Jeremiah Clarke
- *Trumpet Tune* - Henry Purcell
- *Processional on WESTMINSTER ABBEY* - Robert Wetzler
- *Trumpet Processional* - Alfred Fedak
- *Prelude to a Te Deum* - Marc-Antoine Charpentier

**Hymns:**

- *Lord, When You Came as Welcome Guest* - LSB 859
- *Gracious Savior, Grant Your Blessing* - LSB 860
- *Perfect Love* - CW 600
- *Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here* - CW 601
- *God of Love and God of Marriage* - CW 602
- *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* - LSB 700
- *We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God* - LSB 941
- *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* - LSB 809
- *Christ Be My Leader* - LSB 861
- *Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way* - LSB 857
- *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* (includes wedding stanza) - LSB 922
- *In Christ Alone* - Getty
- *Love in Christ is Strong and Living* - LSB 706
- *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* - LSB 649

**Psalms:**

- *Psalm 98: All the Ends of the Earth* - Haugen
- *Psalm 128: Blest Are Those Who Love You* - Haugen
- *Psalm 33: God Is Love* - Haas

**Other Vocal Music:**

- *Holy (Wedding Day)* - The City Harmonic
- *Love Never Fails* - Brandon Heath
- *Make Us One* - Twila Paris
- *This Is the Day (A Wedding Song)* - Scott Wesley Brown
- *The Lord's Prayer* - Jacob Park & Tommy Walker
- *The Blessing* - Kari Jobe
- *When God Made You* - Carswell & O'Brien
- *When I Say I Do* - Matthew West
- *Perfect Love* - Barnby
- *Unity Candle Song* - Haan
- *Be Thou with Them* - Bach
- *Bridal Prayer* - Copeland
- *Wedding Song (There Is Love)*
- *Walk With Them, Lord* - Besig
- *Shine On Us* - Michael & Deborah Smith
- *Bist Du Bei Mir* - J.S. Bach
- *The Gift of Love* - arr. Hopson
- *Wherever You Go (Song of Ruth)* — Haas
- *The Lord's Prayer* - Malotte
- *An Irish Blessing* - Bart
- *Love Is the Sunlight* - arr. Busarow
- *When Love Is Found* - arr. Hopson
- *Panis Angelicus* - César Franck
- *Now with Thanksgiving* - arr. Busarow

**Recessional (or Postludes)**

- *Toccata in Seven* - John Rutter
- *Allegro maestoso e vivace* - Felix Mendelssohn
- *Hornpipe (from Water Music)* - George Frideric Handel
- *Rondeau* - Jean-Joseph Mouret
- *Psalm 19* - Benedetto Marcello
- *Hymn to Joy* (arr. Ian Hare) - Ludwig van Beethoven
- *March (from Three Pieces for Organ)* - William Walton
- *Rejoicing (from Music for the Royal Fireworks)* - George Frideric Handel
- *Minuet Finale (from Music for the Royal Fireworks)* - George Frideric Handel
- *Toccata (from Symphony No. 5)* - Charles-Marie Widor

## PHOTOGRAPHERS & VIDEOGRAPHERS:

To preserve the reverence of the worship service, flash photography is not permitted at any time during the ceremony. Please be sure to share this policy with your family and friends. Photographers and videographers must remain outside the altar area throughout the service. However, an unmanned video camera may be placed in approved locations. Your CLC "Day of Wedding" Coordinator will help you determine appropriate placement. If you would like the pastor to be included in any formal photos, please plan to take those immediately following the service.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USHERS:

1. Light the candles at least 15 minutes before the service begins, or as soon as guests start arriving.
2. Begin preservice ushering as guests arrive. Traditionally, the groom's guests are seated on the right, and the bride's guests on the left, facing the altar.
3. Seat the grandparents, beginning with the groom's grandparents, followed by the bride's grandparents.
4. Seat the groom's parents in the first pew on the right (facing the altar).
5. Seat the bride's mother in the first pew on the left. (The bride's father will accompany her in the processional.)
6. If an aisle runner is used, pull it down at the appropriate time.
7. The processional continues with the wedding party and concludes with the bride and her father.
8. The ceremony takes place according to the order of service.
9. The recessional follows the ceremony.
10. Escort the parents out, who will then form the receiving line with the bridal party, unless the receiving line is planned for another location.
11. Dismiss guests by pew, alternating sides to maintain a steady flow.
12. Extinguish the candles after guests have departed. If post-ceremony photos are being taken, extinguish the candles once those photos are complete.

## CLC Carmel Sanctuary



## THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Approximately 30 minutes

### Pre-Service Music

### Processional

### Invocation

### \*Psalm

Optional: Hymn or Solo

### \*\*Scripture Readings

Optional: Hymn or Solo

### Wedding Message

Optional: Hymn or Solo

### Promise

### Vows and Exchange of Rings

#### Pronouncement

#### Wedding Prayer

Optional: Hymn or Solo

### Lighting of the Unity Candle (optional)

#### The Lord's Prayer

(spoken by all or sung by a soloist)

### Benediction

### Recessional

#### \*Suggested Psalms (may be read responsively):

Psalm 1, 65, 100, 128, 150

#### \*\*Suggested passages: Genesis 2:18–25,

Ecclesiastes 4:9–12, Matthew 7:24–27; 19:4–6, Mark 10:6–9, John 15:4–5, 1 Corinthians 13, Ephesians 5:21–33, Philippians 2:1–5; 4:8–9, Colossians 2:6–7; 3:12–17



## WEDDING VOWS

Select one to use during your ceremony

### 1. Traditional Commitment

*"Name, I take you to be my wife/husband from this day 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."*

### 2. Faithful Partnership

*"I take you, Name, to be my wife/husband. I promise before God and these witnesses to be your faithful wife/husband, to share with you in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and 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."*

### 3. Mutual Growth and Forgiveness

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

### 4. Faith-Focused Commitment

*"I take you, Name, to be my wife/husband from this day forward, to join with you and share all there is to come, and, with the help of God, I promise to be faithful to you as He gives us life together."*

### 5. Classic Traditional Vow

*"I, Name, in the presence of God and these witnesses, take you, Name, to be my 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, until death do us part."*

### 6. Joyful and Christ-Centered

*"I, Name, am assured and filled with great joy, that God has chosen you, Name, to be my wife/husband. With the help of our Lord Jesus Christ, I will make every effort to fill your life with happiness and to help you overcome your times of sorrow. I will love you, protect you, and take care of you in all your spiritual and bodily needs. Together as one we will live under Jesus, until He calls either you or me to His side in eternity."*

## EXCHANGE OF RINGS

Select one to use during your ceremony

### 1. Traditional

*“Receive this ring as a pledge and token of wedded love and faithfulness, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”*

### 2. Classic

*“With this ring I thee wed, Name, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”*

### 3. Covenant

*“Name, I give this ring to you as a sign of the covenant made between us this day, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”*

### 4. Faithfulness

*“Name, this ring shall be to you a symbol of my constant faithfulness and love, as I am now your husband/wife.”*

## PRAYER FOR THE BRIDE AND GROOM

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

## DECORATIONS:

### Guidelines and Setup

All chancel furnishings are dedicated items and may **not** be moved, removed, or covered with decorations, including all banners and liturgical items. Decorations should be in place at least one hour before the wedding. Decorations may not be taped to the woodwork or furnishings. Please inquire with your “Day of Wedding” Coordinator to discuss decorations.

### Candles

Chancel Candles: Use the church's brass candelabras and candles only. Pew Candles: If rented from a florist, they must be spring-loaded to avoid wax drips.

### Unity Candle

Brass unity candleholder available upon request. Couples provide the center marriage candle and side candles. Drill a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole, 2 inches deep, in the bottom of the center candle to secure it.

### Flowers

Altar flowers may be left for Sunday worship services if desired.

### Paraments

Altar paraments (cloth coverings) will be changed to white for your wedding service.

### Sanctuary Measurements

Pews: 12 on each side of the center aisle

Center aisle: 39.5' from first pew to altar steps

Door to altar: 51' from Sanctuary entrance to first step

### Seating Capacities

Carmel Sanctuary: **450**

Carmel Worship Center: **450**

Carmel Prayer Chapel: **80**

Eagle Creek: **180**

Fishers Worship Center **450**

Indy: **150**

## WEDDING FEE SCHEDULE

Deposit: A non-refundable \$100 deposit is due upon scheduling and will be applied to the wedding fee before the final invoice.

	MEMBER / NON-MEMBER	INDY: (MEMBER / NON-MEMBER)
<b>Carmel Sanctuary</b>	No charge / \$500	
<b>Carmel Worship Center</b>	No charge / \$500	
<b>Carmel Prayer Chapel</b>	No charge / \$250	
<b>Eagle Creek Sanctuary</b>	No charge / \$500	
<b>Fishers Worship Center</b>	No charge / \$500	
<b>Indy Sanctuary</b>		No charge / \$500
Pastor (ON site)	\$250 / \$300	\$250 / \$300
Pastor (OFF site)	\$375 / \$450	\$375 / \$450
“Day of Wedding” Coordinator	\$250	\$275
Organist/Pianist (wedding day only)	\$200	\$225
Sound Technician (n/a in Prayer Chapel)	\$75	\$100
*CLC Special Music/soloist	\$100	\$125
**Premarital Counseling	\$150	\$150
Vow Renewal Ceremony	\$150	\$175

**Church use:** The church is open 2 hours before and 1 hour after the ceremony unless special arrangements are made. Additional time: \$25 per hour.

**\*CLC Special Music/Soloist:** Applied if a bride or groom requests a special musician or soloist from CLC.

**\*\*Premarital Counseling:** This fee applies only when a pastor provides counseling but does *not* officiate the ceremony. If the pastor is officiating, counseling is already included in the pastor's fee.

## WEDDING REHEARSAL

Rehearsals are conducted by the officiating pastor and will start on time. Please ensure the entire wedding party and parents arrive promptly. A typical rehearsal lasts about 60 minutes and will be conducted with reverence and devotion. The church is the House of God, so proper attire and conduct are expected. Musicians will not attend the rehearsal unless requested, which is additional fee of \$25/hr, and arrangements for such must be made at least three months prior and will be added to your invoice

## DRESSING ROOMS

Wedding party may dress at the church; separate rooms are assigned by the CLC “Day of Wedding” Coordinator. Minimal space is available for hair and makeup; bridal party should come ready to dress. Assign a friend or family member to check for forgotten belongings before leaving for the reception. Groom and groomsmen should arrive in the sacristy with the pastor at least 15 minutes prior to the ceremony.

## POLICIES & DECORUM

1. No smoking anywhere on church property.
2. No alcoholic beverages on church property, including parking areas and dressing rooms.
3. If food is brought in, designate someone to oversee cleanup.
4. After the service, throwing rice, birdseed, or releasing balloons or live creatures is prohibited. Bubbles or bells are permitted.
5. Saturday Weddings: wedding, photos, etc, should be completed by 4:00 pm
6. Health & Safety: Guests should follow local, state, and national guidelines.

## TIMELINE

### **Four Months Prior to the Wedding**

- Contact the officiating pastor to schedule your first meeting and premarital counseling
- Complete the "Wedding Details Form" online before meeting with the pastor
- Contact the CLC music director to schedule a meeting for music selection
- Set the wedding rehearsal time and notify the administrative assistant

### **Three Months Prior to the Wedding**

- Arrange additional rehearsal time if needed for special music, soloists, or other elements
- Visit [www.in.gov](http://www.in.gov) for information on obtaining a marriage license in Indiana

### **One Month Prior to the Wedding**

- Purchase a unity candle set and drill the hole in the center candle (see decorations section)
- Bulletin covers must be selected and purchased by the bride and groom. Options are available online or at local Christian bookstores
- Connect with your CLC "Day of Wedding" Coordinator to finalize details

### **Three Weeks Prior to the Wedding**

- Provide the order of service to the CLC communications coordinator to be printed free of charge for onsite weddings (if received at least three weeks before the rehearsal)

### **Two Weeks Prior to the Wedding**

- All wedding fees must be paid in full by invoice
- Deliver the marriage license to the administrative assistant

## THE DAY-OF WEDDING CHECKLIST

### **Bridal Party**

- Arrive ready to dress; hair and makeup complete, use assigned dressing rooms
- Ensure personal belongings are accounted for before leaving

### **Groom & Groomsmen**

- Arrive in the sacristy at least 15 minutes prior
- Review last-minute instructions with the CLC Wedding Coordinator

### **Parents of the Bride & Groom**

- Arrive on time for rehearsal and ceremony
- Assist guests and support bridal party as needed

### **Ushers**

- Arrive early to greet and seat guests
- Light candles 15 minutes prior
- Seat grandparents and parents in order:
  - Groom's grandparents
  - Bride's grandparents
  - Groom's parents
  - Bride's mother
- Pull down aisle runner if used
- Assist with recessional and receiving line
- Ensure no rice, birdseed, balloons, or live creatures are released
- Extinguish candles after service or after photos

### Timeline Overview (Wedding Day)

- 2+ hours prior: Coordinator unlocks church, setup begins
- 1 hour prior: Bridal party arrival and final preparations
- 30–15 minutes prior: Groom and groomsmen arrive; guests begin arriving
- Ceremony
- Photographs
- Receiving line (if applicable)
- Ushers assist guests out
- Candles extinguished
- Ensure all belongings are collected

### QUESTIONS?

Feel free to contact the church by calling 317.814.4252 or email: officeteam@cornerstonelutheran.church

