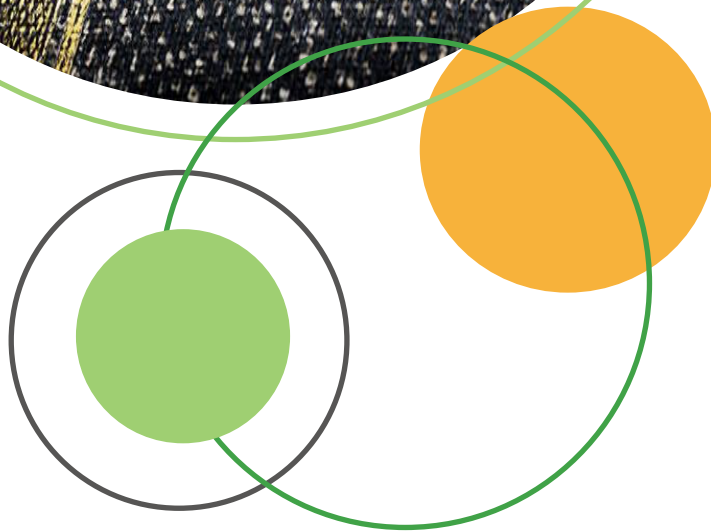


KLC Wedding Planning Guide



INTRODUCTION

Blessings and congratulations on your engagement! You are beginning an important journey, and we are honored that you want Kindred Lutheran Church (KLC) to share in your joy on the day of your wedding. At KLC, we want each couple to have a beautiful wedding and a lifetime of love for each other.

In your planning, we hope this booklet will help guide you so that your wedding will be a joyous act of worship. By attending to details in a timely and thoughtful manner now, you and your guests will be able to focus on celebrating your union in the presence and blessing of God.

As you move through this planning process, do so carefully and prayerfully. Consider each detail in turn, and don't worry, all will be ready when the time comes. It is helpful to remember that marriage is a rite of the church, "intended for the joy and mutual strength of those who enter it and for the well-being of the whole human family" (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, ELW*). While the flowers, clothing, pictures, and party may be important on your wedding day, the most important things are worshipping God and building a lasting partnership with one another. Our sincere hope is that you will put far more energy into preparing for your marriage than for the single day of this wedding.

This booklet provides an overview of what is involved in having a wedding at KLC, or having the Pastor involved in your off-site wedding. If you have further questions, feel free to contact the Church Office of the Pastor. We want your wedding to be a joyful occasion and are here to support you as you prepare. Thank you for inviting us to share in this important day in your life.

Please note that all information, policies, and fees presented in this booklet are subject to change. Feel free to contact the Church Office for confirmation or clarification.

THE BASICS

SCHEDULING YOUR WEDDING

One of your first calls when planning your wedding should be to the church to schedule the date and location. Please remember that there are other activities that happen in the church building or with the pastor so no date can be guaranteed until it is put into KLC's official calendar and the Pastor's calendar. The date of your wedding and rehearsal should be set with KLC no less than 3 months in advance to avoid any conflicts in scheduling. If you are planning to have your ceremony at KLC, it is best to get this in the calendar even sooner. When calling or coming in to schedule your wedding date, it is good to have a preferred date and at least one alternate date in mind in case of a conflict.

We recognize that the date and time for a wedding is often driven by the availability of a reception location. It is wise to make sure that the church and pastor are available before making any binding agreements are made with a reception location.

PREMARITAL COUNSELING

Completion of premarital counseling is a prerequisite for the Pastor performing the wedding. During the sessions, details of the marriage service, personal relationships, and factors pertaining to the home, church, and community will be discussed. Each session typically lasts 1 to 2 hours. Depending on the number of couples being married the Pastor may choose to lead group sessions.

Remember that premarital counseling is not a test. You are not being evaluated to determine the worthiness of your marriage. This time is only meant for the Pastor to get to know you better, to help identify areas in which the two of you fit well and where growth may be needed, and to make sure that your wedding day is the best day it can be. Everything discussed in premarital counseling is completely confidential.

OFFICIATING PASTOR

The Pastor of Kindred Lutheran will officiate at all weddings held in the church. Where it is the wish of the couple to invite another pastor to participate in the ceremony, they should make this known to the KLC pastor who will discuss how to include them.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

All weddings at KLC require consultation with the Wedding Coordinator. The Wedding Coordinator will meet with you and work with you to help make your wedding a cherished memory.

MUSICIAN

The Kindred Lutheran organists have the right of first refusal for all weddings, with organ or piano music, held at Kindred Lutheran. In rare circumstances, other organists may play for weddings. Such requests need to be made and approved by the Organist and the Wedding Coordinator. Consultations included in the organist portion of the fee usually take between 30 and 45 minutes. If you are using a vocal soloist or instrumentalist, it is up to that person to contact the organist directly to arrange rehearsal times. Please note the organist's fee covers a brief rehearsal the day of the wedding. Additional rehearsals may incur additional fees. If using music that is not included in the ELW, the couple is responsible for getting printed music to the organist not less than two weeks prior to the wedding date.

If you would like to have music played on some other instrument, it is the responsibility of the couple to secure said musicians. If the wish is to have other instruments alongside the organ or piano, that must be communicated to and approved by the Organist and Wedding Coordinator. Additional rehearsal times may be necessary and may incur additional fees.

MUSIC SELECTION

Since the wedding ceremony is first and foremost a worship service, selections must be appropriate for use at any worship service. If your grandmother would not find it appropriate, it is probably best to save the song for the reception.

It is the responsibility of the Pastor and the Music Coordinator to make final decisions regarding acceptability of all music. Solos and any music to be included in any ceremony must be submitted to the pastor and the music coordinator at least two weeks prior to the wedding and before printing of the worship bulletin. See pages 10-12 for musical suggestions.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography may be done throughout the day, so long as it does not distract from the service itself. It is good practice to only have the professional or designated photographer taking photos during the ceremony itself. If desired, the Pastor can direct that all phones, tablets, etc. be shut off for the ceremony. That way your family and friends can be part of the ceremony and get better pictures provided for them.

CUSTODIAL

The custodians will verify the church is in proper order before and after the wedding. You are responsible for putting all your materials and decorations away after the ceremony. Saturday weddings need to be cleaned up before heading to the reception so the sanctuary can be prepared for Sunday worship. Weddings on other may be allowed to wait until the next day provided there is nothing already scheduled then.

SECURITY

KLC, the Pastor, and staff assume no responsibility for lost, stolen, or broken items. Leave all valuable personal belongings and gifts in the care of family or friends during the service. If gifts are brought to the church, the church assumes no responsibility for them. You should select someone to be in charge of the gifts at all times and ask them to be responsible for removing them from the church at the end of the wedding.

REHEARSAL

We work to make sure that we are ready and prepared to begin your rehearsal at the agreed upon time. Please be sure all members of the wedding party are on time and present: bride, groom, parents of the couple, best man, maid (matron) of honor, bridesmaids, groomsmen, and ushers. **Bring the marriage license to the rehearsal.** The rehearsal lasts from 45-60 minutes.

ALCOHOL AND SMOKING

The Church Council has adopted a no alcohol tolerance policy on the church property. Please ask your attendants and ushers to refrain from drinking alcohol before and during the rehearsal as well as the ceremony. The Pastor may decline to participate if they determine anyone in the wedding party has been drinking.

KLC is a smoke free environment. This includes the entire church building—including restrooms—as well as the church grounds and the parking lot. Thank you for not smoking.

CAPACITY

The sanctuary seats 300 people with a maximum of 49 in the balcony.

RECEPTIONS

Should you desire to have the rehearsal dinner or the reception in the fellowship hall at the church please coordinate with the wedding planner.

DECORATIONS

All decorations must be approved by the Wedding Planner. Staples or nails are not allowed to hang decorations.

No rice may be thrown inside or outside the church. Bird seed may be thrown but only outside the church buildings. Real flower petals may not be used inside the building.

Glitter from decorations or clothing presents a difficult cleaning problem. Therefore, do not use body glitter, glitter on hair, decorations, flowers, or the clothing of your wedding party. Please pass this information on to the wedding party to guide them as they select their dresses.

USHERS

The ushers are an important part of the wedding. They should attend the rehearsal and be fully informed of their job. All ushers should arrive at least one hour before the wedding. Places should be designated for immediate members of the families; areas need not be designated for other guests (i.e. friends of the groom or friends of the bride). Following the wedding, the ushers are to escort the parents and grandparents out of the sanctuary. Then the rest of the congregation should be ushered out in a timely manner.

CANDLES

Kindred Lutheran has two oil filled candles that sit on the altar. Should other candles be desired, the couple is responsible for providing the candles and stands.

PLANNING THE WEDDING SERVICE

The message of worship and rejoicing that you wish to express through your marriage ceremony may be communicated in many ways. Typically, we use the Order of Service for Weddings provided in the ELW (included on the following page), but you and the Pastor can discuss how to personalize the ceremony in different ways. The Pastor will help you make choices of scripture, music, and service order to express your personalities, your relationship to each other, and your relationship to God.

You may want to consider celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion as part of your marriage service. As you are being united as one, Holy Communion also unites all the gathered family of God as one body the Body of Christ. Holy Communion can add a special feel to your service, as often the couple are the ones who serve communion to each other and to the assembly. Discuss this option with the pastor if you are interested.

EXAMPLE ORDER OF SERVICE

Gathering

Processional
Greeting and Introduction
Declaration of Intention
Prayer of the Day
[Optional Music]

Word

Scripture Readings
[Optional Music]
Message
Hymn of the Day

Marriage

Vows
Giving of Rings
Acclamation
[Optional Unity Ceremony]
[Optional Music]
Marriage Blessing
Prayers of Intercession
[Optional Communion]
Lord's Prayer
[Optional Music]

Sending

Peace
Presentation of the Couple
Blessing
Dismissal
Recessional

*Please note that the design and printing of the wedding program is your responsibility. Please submit a draft copy to the Pastor and the Wedding Planner for approval **at least one week before you will have it printed.***

SCRIPTURE SELECTION

Two to four Scripture passages are read, and the brief sermon often will be based on one of these. Communicate with your pastor regarding your choices **at least two weeks** prior to the wedding. Below are some Scripture choices to help you in your selection.

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 1:26-31	<i>Woman and man created in the image of God</i>
Genesis 2:18-24	<i>Companionship rather than loneliness</i>
Proverbs 3:3-6	<i>Loyalty and faithfulness written on the heart</i>
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	<i>Two are better than one</i>
Song of Solomon 2:10-13	<i>The voice of the beloved</i>
Song of Solomon 8:6-7	<i>Many waters cannot quench love</i>
Isaiah 55:6-11 [12-13]	<i>God's word accomplishes God's purpose</i>
Isaiah 63:7-9	<i>God's mercy is remembered</i>
Jeremiah 31:31-34	<i>The new covenant of the people of God</i>

PSALM

1	<i>Happy are they whose delight is in God</i>
65	<i>Your paths overflow with plenty</i>
67	<i>May God be merciful to us and bless us</i>
78	<i>We will tell God's wonderful works to our children</i> <i>Especially for those bringing children to the marriage</i>
100	<i>We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture</i>
117	<i>The steadfast love of the Lord</i>
121	<i>The Lord keeps watch over you</i>
127	<i>Unless the Lord builds the house</i>
128	<i>Blessed are those who walk in the Lord's ways</i>
145	<i>I will praise your name and tell your marvelous works</i>
146	<i>I will sing praise to my God, who keeps promises forever</i>
150	<i>Let everything that breathes praise the Lord</i>

NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39	<i>If God is for us</i>
Romans 12:1-2, 9-18	<i>A living sacrifice and genuine love</i>
Romans 12:9-21	<i>Let love be genuine</i>
Romans 15:5-7, 13	<i>Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you</i>
1 Corinthians 13:1-13	<i>The great gift is love</i>
Ephesians 3:14-19	<i>The breadth, length, height and depth of Christ's love</i>
Ephesians 4:30—5:2	<i>Live in love, as Christ loved us</i>
Ephesians 5:1-2, 21-33	<i>Walk in love, as Christ loved us</i>
Philippians 2:5-11	<i>The same attitude as Christ</i>
Philippians 4:4-9	<i>Rejoice in the Lord always</i>
Colossians 3:12-17	<i>Clothed in compassion, kindness, meekness, and patience</i>
1 John 3:18-24	<i>Let us love in truth and action</i>
1 John 4:7-16	<i>Let us love one another for love is of God</i>
1 John 4:16-21	<i>We believe the love God has for us</i>

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-10	<i>The beatitudes</i>
Matthew 5:13-16	<i>You are the light, let your light shine</i>
Matthew 7:21, 24-29	<i>A wise person builds upon the rock</i>
Matthew 19:3-6	<i>What God has united must not be divided</i>
Matthew 22:35-40	<i>Love, the greatest commandment</i>
Mark 10:6-9	<i>They are no longer two but one</i>
John 2:1-11	<i>The wedding at Cana</i>
John 15:9-17	<i>Love one another as I have loved you</i>
Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22	<i>God says, You are my beloved</i>
Luke 12:22-31	<i>Do not keep worrying; God feeds and clothes</i>
John 15:1-5	<i>Abide in me as branches to the Vine</i>
John 20:19-23	<i>Jesus says, Peace be with you</i>

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE CEREMONY

UNITY CEREMONY

Unity Ceremonies are occasionally included in the marriage ceremony after the vows but before the blessing of the marriage. Often this is in the form of lighting a unity candle, sand or grain pouring, braiding, drink pouring, or handfasting. Other options may be appropriate as well. So long as the unity ceremony will not cause a mess in the sanctuary, you should be able to do it. All materials for a unity ceremony are to be provided by the couple. If you are interested in having a unity ceremony as a portion of your wedding, please discuss that with the pastor.

Vows

Vows are the point in the wedding ceremony when the couple pledge their love and faithfulness. There are vows included in the typical wedding ceremony provided by the ELW, but it can be very special for you to write your own vows. Please discuss vows with the pastor and, if you are writing your own vows, provide those to the pastor before the wedding ceremony.

OTHER IDEAS

Forming the wedding ceremony that fits your style can be very meaningful to a couple for their lives together. If you have other ideas for things to be included in the wedding ceremony, please discuss those with the pastor.

READERS

The pastor will plan to read the Gospel. While the pastor is willing to read all other readings, family or friends reading during the ceremony can be meaningful. Please let the pastor know who will be reading for the ceremony.

MUSIC SUGGESTIONS

These are just suggestions, if you have other music you would like to include, please discuss those pieces with the Pastor and Organist.

PROCESSIONALS

Air on a G String (Bach)
Air (from Water Music) (Handel)
Arioso (Bach)
Ave Maria (Schubert)
Bridal Chorus (Wagner)
Canon in D (Pachelbel)
Canon in F (O'Neil)
Festival Bridal Chorus (Wyrzten)
Hymne (Vangelis)
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee or Ode to Joy (Beethoven)
Prelude in C (Bach)
Threads of Love (Line)
Trumpet Voluntary (Clarke)

RECESSIONALS

Entrance (or Arrival) of the Queen of Sheba (Handel)
Finale (from Water Music) (Handel)
Hornpipe (Handel)
Ode to Joy (Beethoven)
Rondeau (Mouret)
Spring (From the Four Seasons) (Vivaldi)
Trumpet Tune or Trumpet Air Purcell)
Trumpet Voluntary (Clarke)
Wedding March (Mendelssohn)

HYMNS

Joy to the World	267
Now the Green Blade Rises	379
Spirit of Gentleness.....	396
O Living Breath of God/Soplo de Dios viviente	407
By Your Hand Feed Your People	469
The King of Love My Shepherd Is.....	502
Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty	533
Abide with Us, Our Savior	539
Go, My Children, with My Blessing	543
Hear Us Now, Our God and Father.....	585
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy	587, 588
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling	631
O God, Our Help in Ages Past	632
How Small Our Span of Life	636
Blessed Assurance.....	638
Our Father, By Whose Name	640
Where True Charity and Love Abide/Ubi caritas et amor	653
Blest Be the Tie that Binds	656
O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts	658
Heaven Is Singing for Joy/El cielo canta alegría.....	664
For the Fruit of All Creation.....	679
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service.....	712
Borning Cry	732
Great is Thy Faithfulness.....	733
All My Hope on God Is Founded	757
O Christ the Same	760
Lord of All Hopefulness	765
Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me	767
Be Thou My Vision.....	793
Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus	802
Come Down, O Love Divine	804
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing	807
Shout to the Lord.....	821
Praise the Lord! O Heavens.....	823
Have You Thanked the Lord?	829
Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices	833
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee	836
Beautiful Savior	838
Now Thank We All Our God	839, 840
Voices Raised to You	845
Give to Our God Immortal Praise!.....	848
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	858, 859
When Long before Time	861
For the Beauty of the Earth	879
O God beyond All Praising	880
Let All Things Now Living.....	881
Praise, God, from Whom All Blessings	884

SPECIAL MUSIC (SOLOS)

Amazed (Anderson)
Answered Prayer (Little and Jones)
Ave Maria (Schubert)
Be the Center (Frye)- *often used for unity candle*
Breathe (Barnett)
Can't Live a Day (Beck, Harrington, Lacy)
Center (Hall)- *often used for unity candle*
God Causes All Things to Grow (Chapman,Green)
Household of Faith (Lamb,Rosasco)
How Beautiful (Paris)
I Could Sing of Your Love Forever (Moore/ Chapman)
I've Always Loved You (Third Day)
If You Could See What I See (Moore)
In This Very Room (Harris and Harris)
Jesus Messiah (Tomlin)
Love Never Fails (Quilala)
Only God Could Love You More (Borop,Liles)
Shine on Us (Smith) - *often used for unity candle*
Take My Life (Here am I) (Havergal/Tomlin) - *often for unity candle*
The Lord's Prayer (Malotte)
This Day (Lavik)
Wedding Song (Stookey)
When I Call on Jesus (Mullen)
When Love Takes You In (Chapman)
Your Love is Extravagant (Evans/Casting Crowns)



WEDDING CHARGES

MEMBERS*

Use of Sanctuary	No Charge
Pastor	\$300
Organist	\$125
Custodian	\$75
Wedding Coordinator	\$150
Technology (if needed)	\$75

NON-MEMBERS

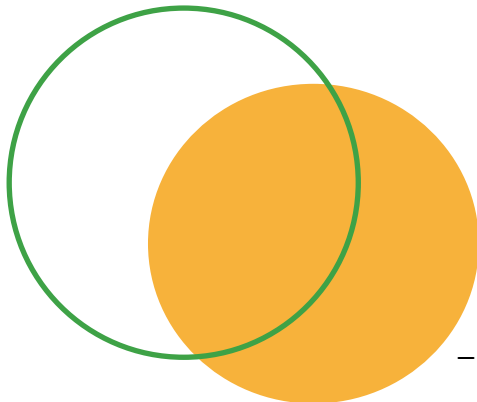
Use of Sanctuary	\$250
Pastor	\$400
Organist	\$150
Custodian	\$100
Wedding Coordinator	\$150
Technology (if needed)	\$100

***Mileage for Pastor, Wedding Coordinator, etc.
for out-of-town travel, including outdoor weddings,
shall be per most recent IRS guidelines
(\$.67/mile as of January 2024).***

Italicized lines are suggested minimum gifts of thanks. If you are unable to pay these amounts, we will not refuse to do your wedding service, but please communicate that with the pastor. If you feel that any of these amounts are not enough, feel free to offer more as an offering of thankfulness.

*Please note that fees and gifts of thanks are subject to change without notice. Please verify with the Wedding Coordinator and the Pastor. All fees are to be paid to the Wedding Coordinator **one week** prior to the wedding. Checks will be disbursed by the Wedding Coordinator. Gifts of Thanks can be given at any time before the ceremony.*

1 year of KLC membership required for membership rate



MARRIAGE LICENSE

All marriages in the state of North Dakota must be accompanied by a marriage license. We cannot perform a wedding without one. Cass County provides information on how to obtain a marriage license at <https://www.casscountynd.gov/our-county/finance-office/marriage-licenses-and-weddings/marriage-licenses>. **You must give your marriage license to the pastor at the wedding rehearsal.**

Application for a marriage license can also be made through:

Clerk of District Court
Cass County Courthouse
211 9th Street South
Fargo, ND 58103

The phone number is 701-241-5654. The Clerk of District Court Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. They ask that you be there no later than 4:30 p.m. to get the paperwork filled out. In order to apply for a marriage license in Cass County, you must reside in the county or plan to be married in the county.

The information you will need for the application is:

- Full name
- Age
- Date of Birth
- Address
- County of residence
- Social Security number

Bring with you an ID or certified copy of your birth certificate.

If you are divorced, you must have a certified copy of your divorce decree.

Marriage licenses are good for 60 days from the date of issue. There is no waiting period and blood tests are not required.

This information is provided as a courtesy. However, all requirements are subject to change. Please check <https://www.casscountynd.gov/our-county/finance-office/marriage-licenses-and-weddings/marriage-licenses> for updated information.

Please contact the appropriate government agencies in plenty of time to assure you have the marriage license in hand before the rehearsal.

CHECK LIST

Rehearsal Date and Time: _____

Wedding Date and Time: _____

Reception Time and Location: _____

Estimated # attending (incl. wedding party): _____

Number of bridesmaids (incl. maid of honor): _____

Number of groomsmen (incl. best man): _____

Flower girl (optional): _____

Ring bearer (optional): _____

Ushers (if not the groomsmen): _____

Fees and Honorariums paid: Yes No

(Give to wedding coordinator one week prior to wedding.)

Wedding Rings Obtained: Yes No

Who will have the rings during the service: _____

Marriage License Obtained: Yes No

Candle Lighter: _____

Music submitted at least 2 weeks before wedding: Yes _____ No

Prelude: _____

Instrument: Piano Organ Other _____

Processional: _____

Instrument: Piano Organ Other _____

CHECK LIST

Father Give Away Bride: Yes No _____

Hymns/Songs: _____

Instrument: Piano Organ Other _____

Scripture Readings: OT

Psalm _____

NT _____

Gospel _____

Other _____

Scripture Reader(s): _____

Unity Ceremony: Yes _____ No

Special Music Yes _____

_____ No

Instrument: Piano Organ Other _____

Communion: Yes No

Communion Servers (if applicable; verify number needed with pastor)

Recessional: _____

Instrument: Piano Organ Other _____

Postlude Music: _____

Receiving Line: Yes No



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Lutheran Church

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