



Covid Guidelines & Procedures: Wedding Gatherings

Gathering is an essential part of our faith life. Without it, we may be left feeling disconnected from the community of faith that grounds us. As we continue to find our way through the Covid-19 Pandemic, First Lutheran Church leadership and staff are seeking to find ways to safely gather in-person in order to worship, learn, and serve together. The following are our most current policies and procedures regarding weddings:

ONSITE

- Total attendees: 100 including bridal party
- Number of people allowed in sanctuary: 100
- Socially distanced format in sanctuary and gathering area.
- No gathering, meals, or fellowship.
- Dressing should be done elsewhere. We would have the sanctuary/gathering space open two hours before the service for photos. The wedding party can gather in 1A while the guests arrive.
- Please use discretion when attending in-person activities after having travelled out of the area.
- Procedures to follow when people enter and exit the building/sanctuary:
 - Sign in
 - Abide by posted protocol
 - Masking required
 - This includes bridal party
 - Bride and Groom may be unmasked during the ceremony.
 - Father of the bride can be unmasked for walking down the aisle but will need to be masked upon seating.
- Pastor will remain six feet from the bride and groom.
- Ushers will keep people moving from check-in station to sanctuary, seat and dismiss guests, ensure that guests are following procedures, etc.

- Wedding couple to provide ushers.
- Pastors and staff will maintain strict boundaries before, during, and after service.
- Rehearsals will be brief with limited attendance (only the essential people).
- No receiving lines.

OFFSITE:

- For the safety of our pastors and church community, masks are required at all offsite, indoor weddings regardless of that site's policy.

Updated 10/7/20 GT

**In this changing context, our congregation remains adaptable. Plans and procedures are subject to change in light of state, CDC guidelines and at the discretion of First Lutheran's leadership.*