

## **Weddings at Grace**

**A helpful guideline for planning the service.**

*In an effort to streamline the planning process, we provide this form at the time of inquiry. The following guidelines lay out the normal expectations of Grace Church when it comes to planning a wedding liturgy. If you would like to explore having your wedding here, we will be happy to give you the expanded customary that includes more detailed planning information.*

- All weddings at Grace are seen as sacraments of the church; therefore, we always use the liturgy from the Book of Common Prayer. (No unity candles, etc.)
- Holy Communion is an option as part of a wedding ceremony. Please note, that if Holy Communion is served, it will be offered to all who are in attendance. It is not an option to serve Holy Communion to only a select few people.
- You will be required to attend a meeting with the clergy before the planning begins, to make sure we have all the details in order.
- All music must be approved by the Director of Music who will work with you to make sure that the music fits well within the ethos of a sacramental liturgy.
- We can't allow for outside wedding coordinators, as they are not proficient with the liturgical details of a service at Grace. Our ministries coordinator, clergy and wedding guild will help you plan the entire service. You may have your own coordinator for details outside of the service.
- One of the clergy of Grace will officiate the wedding liturgy. With the rector's approval, a family friend/minister from another church may offer a reflection during the homily. Family friends may also offer the prayers during the service, with the clergy offering the Blessing of the Marriage.
- A standard fee of \$1200 is set for all members of the church or individuals with a direct connection. This covers the basic costs of the wedding (i.e. altar flowers, baptismal font floral ring, Director of Music, cleaning, etc.). Non-members will be charged \$1700. Inquiries on membership status are approved through the rector. If you want to explore additional musicians, those fees are arranged with them, with the coordination of the Director of Music. You may send one check to the office at least one month prior to rehearsal for this standard fee, and the office will disperse the funds as appropriate.
- Clergy never charge for sacraments. However, it is customary for a family to give the priest an honorarium.

March 2024