



**WOODCLIFF**  
United Church

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# Planning a Wedding

*Thank you for sharing your special day with us.*

## Your Wedding at Woodcliff United Church

Thank you for asking us to conduct your wedding ceremony! The conduct of weddings is part of the ministry of the church. While not a sacrament, it is a sacred and holy ceremony that recognizes the commitment of a couple to journey together in a spiritual and emotional relationship that is legally recognized in the Province of Alberta. It is expected that wedding ceremonies conducted at Woodcliff United Church will be held in the context of the Christian faith tradition. We joyfully conduct wedding ceremonies for any couple legally eligible for marriage in Alberta. You are encouraged to book the sanctuary at least six (6) months in advance of your wedding day.

## The Wedding Ceremony

Our Minister looks forward to discussing the wedding ceremony with you. Please book an appointment for this purpose through our Office Administrative Coordinator. It is expected that our Minister will conduct the wedding ceremony, however, if you have a family member who is a minister, he/she is more than welcome to participate in the ceremony.

## Suggested Readings

Our Minister will provide you with a list of suggested scripture readings that are appropriate for a wedding ceremony. If you have a reading that is particularly meaningful to you, please feel free to speak to the Minister about it. Secular readings can also be included in the ceremony.

## Wedding Attendant

Our wedding attendant will work with you to help with the various details that accompany any wedding ceremony (e.g. opening the church, assisting with decorations, answering any questions you may have). Our wedding attendant is present at both the rehearsal and the wedding ceremony.

**Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

**– 1 Corinthians 13:4**

## **About the Church**

Our church offers beautiful views of Edworthy Park, providing a spectacular setting for your wedding. Our sanctuary is equipped with sound and video screens if needed. The seating capacity is up to 250 people with spaces for use by both the bride and groom. The building is accessible with an elevator to all floors. A lower hall and kitchen can also be made available if needed.

## **Photographs & Video**

Please speak to the Minister about appropriate times for taking photographs during the wedding ceremony. Capturing the wedding ceremony on video is permitted, however, restrictions apply in the use and placement of video equipment. Please speak to our Minister about these restrictions.

## **Music**

Our music director meets with you to discuss the music for your service. She will suggest appropriate processional and recessional music, as well as hymns and solos. Woodcliff offers the services of a soloist, but you may wish you choose your own soloist. Our music director will provide rehearsal time for your soloist, if requested. Please note that our music director has the right of first refusal on all wedding ceremonies conducted at Woodcliff United Church. If you should choose to use taped music for the ceremony, our music director is the one who grants permission for its use, ensuring the appropriate music is chosen for a church setting. Other music options or instruments may also be used. Please discuss your plans with the music director.

## **Confetti**

We ask that NO type of confetti, rose petals or bubbles be used inside the church. Bubbles or rose petals may be used outside of the church building, however, no synthetic material may be used.

## Rehearsal

The rehearsal for the ceremony is conducted at a time and day that is convenient for you, the Minister and the church. The presence of your wedding planner, if you have one, is welcome, but our Minister will conduct the rehearsal. Our wedding attendant will also be available at the rehearsal to offer assistance.

## Flowers & Decorations

Flowers and decorations for the sanctuary are the responsibility of the wedding party. Candelabra are available from the church. Please contact the wedding attendant for information regarding appropriate decorations for the sanctuary and any restrictions that may apply.

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***Everyone is welcome at the table of God, and  
everyone is welcome to worship at Woodcliff.***

## A few more things you might be wondering about...

### Pre-marital Preparation

All couples at Woodcliff United Church are expected to attend a marriage preparation course. These are offered by registered psychologists in the City of Calgary, Calgary Presbytery of the United Church of Canada or our Minister. Please present a copy of your marriage preparation certificate to our minister when you have completed a pre-marriage preparation course.

### Wedding Costs

The costs for conducting a wedding at Woodcliff United Church vary according to the options you chose. Please discuss the fee schedule with our Minister or our Office Administrative Coordinator. An invoice for services will be issued by our Office Administrative Coordinator and payment is expected one (1) month prior to the wedding. Please make cheques payable to Woodcliff United Church.

Donations to Woodcliff United Church, beyond the established fee schedule, are offered at your discretion. A charitable tax receipt will be issued for any such donation.

### More questions?

Our Minister or Office Administrator would love to help answer them! Please call the church at 403-249-3121 or email [office@woodcliffunited.com](mailto:office@woodcliffunited.com) any time.

## Congratulations and best wishes!

**Sunday services are at 10 a.m.**  
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