

## St. Mary's Evangelical Lutheran Church



### Ushers:

1. Arrive at least 30 minutes before the service is to begin.
2. Usher guest to their places.
  - a. No one should be seated in the front pews, these are left open.
  - b. The parents are seated on the second pew.
- c. Grandparents and immediate family are seated in the third row and back if more than one row is needed.
- d. Friends of the bride are seated on the left.
- e. Friends of the groom are seated on the right.
- f. Stand to the left side of the entrance way and as women enter, give them your right arm and escort them to a pew. If a large group of people enter together, offer your right arm to the eldest lady in the group and accompany her to a pew. Invite the rest of the group to follow you.
- g. If there are programs, hand these to the guests as they are seated.
3. At the moment the service is scheduled to begin, the groom's parents are seated in the pew reserved for them at the right front by one usher. Following this a second usher seats the bride's mother in the pew reserved for her at the left front. Once the parents are seated no one is ushered in. Late comers should be instructed to seat themselves via the side aisles.
4. If a canvas or plastic runner is used, this is unrolled by two ushers following the seating of the parents. This can be a tricky task. The two users must work together so that the runner unrolls evenly. If a canvas runner is used which must be pulled back the aisle, be careful that it is pulled all the way out but not pulled loose.
5. After the clergyman, groom, and best man enter the ushers either (a) process up the middle aisle and stand beside the best man, (b) process in front of the bridesmaids, or (c) escort the bridesmaids in the processional.
6. After the recession one usher escorts the mother of the bride out followed by the father. Then another usher escorts the mother of the groom out followed by the father.
7. Ushers may then dismiss the guests.
8. If necessary, as the guests leave the nave of the church the ushers may direct them to the receiving line.

### Honor Attendant:

1. Along with the bride and bridesmaids, she should arrive at the church just prior to the time the service is scheduled to begin.
2. Assists the bride with her train.
3. Holds the bride's bouquet from the exchange of the vows until the recessional.
4. She keeps the groom's ring for the bride unless it is being carried by a ring bearer.

### Best Man:

1. The best man and the groom should arrive at least 15 minutes before the service is scheduled to begin.
2. At the exchange of the vows and the recessional, he escorts the honor attendant to and from the altar.

3. He keeps the bride's ring for the groom unless it is being carried by a ring bearer.

**Flower Girl(s):**

1. Walks in procession directly ahead of the bride, following the honor attendant. If there are two, they may walk together. If there is a flower girl and a ring bearer, they may walk together.
2. The flower girl may go to the altar at the exchange of the vows, if there is a ring bearer.

**Ring Bearer:**

1. Walks in procession directly ahead of the bride or if there is a flower girl, just ahead of her behind the honor attendant. The ring bearer and flower girl may walk together.
2. The ring bearer goes to the altar at the exchange of the vows. He processes to the altar behind the bride and groom and stands to the right of the best man.
3. In the recessional the ring bearer follows immediately behind the bride and groom. If there is a flower girl, the ring bearer either walks with her or behind her.

**The Receiving Line:** There are two possible arrangements for the receiving line. The first is:

1. Bride's mother
2. Bride's father
3. Groom's mother
4. Groom's father
5. Bride
6. Groom
7. Honor Attendant
8. Bridesmaids

The second possible arrangement is:

1. Bride's mother
2. Groom's father
3. Groom's mother
4. Bride's father
5. Bride
6. Groom
7. Honor Attendant
8. Bridesmaids