

## Why St. Luke's?

Located in the heart of downtown Lebanon, St. Luke's Church is recognized for the beauty of its historic buildings as well as for its spirit of welcome and hospitality. St. Luke's does not require that those who wish to have their ceremony here be members of our congregation or even of our faith tradition. We welcome all.

St. Luke's offers two locations for your wedding ceremony: the main Church with seating for up to 250 guests and Trinity Chapel for a more intimate gathering of 15-20 guests.

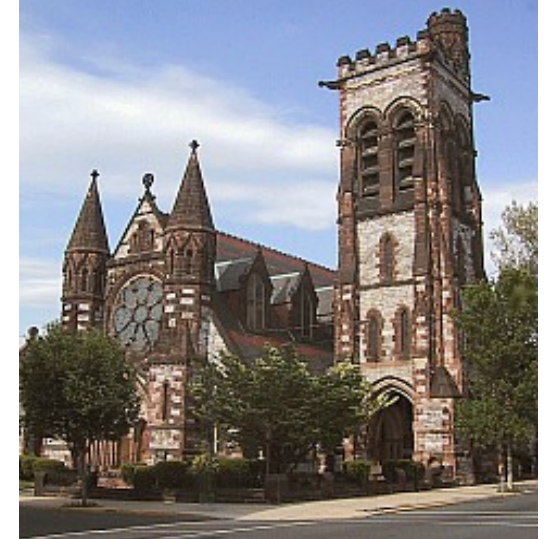
We offer several services including music, clergy, wedding planning, and pre-marital preparation. Once you have made a deposit to secure your wedding date and time, the exact services that you desire can be discussed with one of our resident clergy.



**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
22 South 6th Street (at Chestnut)  
Lebanon, PA 17042

Phone: (717) 272-8251  
www.stlukeslebanon.org  
E-mail: info@stlukeslebanon.org

## Your Wedding at St. Luke's Episcopal Church



**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
*Do justice. Love Tenderly, Walk humbly with God*

(717) 272-8251  
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## About Weddings in General

St. Luke's Episcopal Church affirms that marriage is a serious and sacred event because two complex, individual lives are being joined together as one. Through God's love, which we believe is made visible in the Church, individuals can accomplish this amazing and lasting union. All celebrations of marriage will be governed by the policies of St. Luke's Episcopal Church and the canons of The Episcopal Church and Diocese of Bethlehem.

## What is Required?

### ***For parishioners***

Because it involves not just the couple but the community that brought them to this point and will sustain them in their commitments, the celebration of weddings in St. Luke's Church proper or Trinity Chapel has been normally reserved for parishioners. All parishioners have a right to be married at St. Luke's Church, if, after careful preparation, they are deemed ready to enter into this holy union.

### ***For non-parishioners***

Realizing, however, that many people do not have a church community of their own, St. Luke's seeks to make room for all who seek to be married here. Non-parishioner weddings will be considered on a case-by-case basis. We will do our best to accommodate weddings of non-parishioners, and welcome inquiries. We suggest that these discussions take place a minimum of six months before a proposed date.

### ***For those who are not Episcopalians***

For those who are not members of the Episcopal Church, we require that at least one party to the marriage be a professed Christian by baptism or dedication.

### ***Pre-marital preparation***

All prospective couples must undergo a form of pre-marital preparation. This preparation must consist of at least three (3) meetings. Parish clergy are available to assist in this matter. There is no fee for preparation of parishioners. There is a fee for pre-marital preparation provided by parish clergy for all non-parishioners. If non-parishioners desire to undergo preparation in a different context, the person providing such services must attest to the successful completion of the preparation or counseling program.

## What Costs are Involved?

### ***For the main Church***

Since non-parishioners do not already support the mission and ministry of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the parish requires a donation for building-use. While this is considered a donation and thus deductible for income-tax purposes, it is not optional. The base suggested donation for building-use is \$975. This includes use of the building for the wedding and wedding rehearsal, and services of the parish sexton. If an unusual amount of time is required for the services of the sexton, an additional fee of \$25 per hour may be required. A non-refundable deposit of \$200 is required to hold a date and time for the wedding. This amount will be applied toward building-use.

### ***For the minister***

If a non-parishioner desires the parish clergy to officiate at the wedding, there is a clergy fee of \$300. Other clergy officiants are welcome at St. Luke's Church with the prior approval of the Rector. Any fees paid to guest officiants are negotiated by the parties and the clergy person directly. St. Luke's Church is not responsible for any fees associated with non-parish clergy.

### ***For music***

The Organist/Pianist at St. Luke's Episcopal Church has the right of first refusal for all weddings performed at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. The fee for the services of the parish Organist/Pianist, when used, is \$300. This includes the wedding rehearsal (if necessary). Other musicians may be used in consultation with the parish's Director of Music. Additional fees may apply for additional musicians, soloists, and for rehearsals. Ask for more information.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### ***Are there other policies that apply to weddings at St. Luke's?***

Yes. St. Luke's has policies concerning music, flowers, décor, the use of flash photography, and videography. Specific concerns about these matters are best discussed with your parish contact.

### ***What ceremony should be used?***

In The Episcopal Church, weddings are public services of corporate worship to which all are welcome and in which the whole congregation takes part. The service may include many elements of scripture and music in a more solemn, elaborate manner or it may be very simple. When neither party is a member of The Episcopal Church, another denominational order of service may be used for the ceremony that is in keeping with the spirit of marriage as understood in the Episcopal Church.

### ***Does St. Luke's permit same sex weddings?***

Consistent with the canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Bethlehem, St. Luke's celebrates the covenantal union of two persons of the same sex (gender). All policies concerning other weddings, including pre-marital preparation apply.

### ***What do we do to schedule our wedding at St. Luke's?***

It is best to make an appointment for an initial consultation. At that time, you may view the church or chapel and other available facilities. This is an appropriate time to discuss any questions that you may have about parish policies.

**Marriage is not to be entered into lightly . . . but reverently, deliberately and in accordance with the purposes for which it was instituted by God.**

*— Book of Common Prayer, "The Celebration and Blessing of A Marriage"*