

Church of the Advent Wedding Policies

Reserving a date:

To visit the building or inquire if your desired date is available, please contact the Church. If your date is available and you would like to reserve it, you will do so by paying a deposit of \$200 in the form of a check made out to Church of the Advent. If you decide to cancel or change dates at least 60 days prior to the date you've reserved, we will refund half of the deposit. There is no refund for a change made less than 60 days before the date reserved.

Use of building:

There is a flat fee of \$300 (in addition to your deposit) for any wedding ceremony at the church. This covers having a church representative present for your rehearsal (usually held the evening prior to your wedding) and for up to 4 hours on your wedding day. It also covers any additional cleaning that may be needed before and after your ceremony. We do not permit the use of confetti (or anything else that makes a huge mess!) inside or outside, but you are welcome to use flowers/petals. The representative present for your wedding will be able to help with lighting and use of the microphones if needed. If you would like for our sound equipment/instruments to be cleared from the stage for your wedding, there is an additional fee of \$100 (this can only be done by a member of our worship team). Our piano cannot be moved from the stage - you are welcome to use it if you would like to.

We apologize for any inconvenience, but we do not have adequate space to host rehearsal dinners or receptions.

****PLEASE NOTE: Our building is not currently handicapped accessible. We are working on installing a chair lift to enable everyone to enter the sanctuary. Until then, a steep set of stairs is the only way into the sanctuary.****

Premarital counseling:

This involves 4-6 meetings with one of the pastors, deacons or Vestry members during which you discuss important aspects of your relationship that will change as you enter into marriage - extended family relations, religion, finances, sex, children, work, hobbies, etc.

There is no charge for this if either person in the couple is a member of Advent, but it is common to give a small gift to your counselor in appreciation of his or her time spent with you. If you are not members of the church and would like premarital counseling, the cost is \$300.

Officiant:

If you do not wish to have one of the pastors at Advent officiate, you must have the officiant of your choice meet with the lead pastor of Church of the Advent within 2 weeks of reserving the church to determine whether we can license him or her to perform the wedding here. We require marriage ceremonies performed here to conform to our Diocesan Canons. The applicable Diocesan Canons are included at the bottom of this document. (If we decide we cannot license your officiant, your full deposit will be returned).

If you would like one of our pastors to officiate your wedding, there is no charge if you or your spouse-to-be is a member of Advent. However, it is common to give a gift to your officiant in appreciation for his or her time. Our Vestry recommends that the value of your gift be around \$300 in the form of cash, a check, or a gift card. If you are writing a check, it must be made out to the individual who officiates your wedding, not to the church.

If neither of you are members of Advent and would like someone from the church to officiate your wedding, the fee is \$500 and no gift is expected.

Table of Fees

Deposit	\$200 (Due when reserving the church)
Fee (above deposit)	\$300 (Due 1 week ahead of wedding date)
Clearing the Stage	\$100 (If desired)
Marriage Counseling	\$300 (Non-Members)
Officiant (Non-members)	\$500 (Paid to Church)
Officiant (Members)	\$300 Suggested Gift (Paid directly to Officiant)

An Except from:
THE CANONS OF THE DIOCESE OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS
TITLE II Worship and the Administration of Sacraments

Canon 4 Of Christian Marriage

Section 1. *Christian Marriage in the Diocese*The Diocese affirms our Lord's teaching that the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is in its nature a lifelong and permanent union of one man and one woman. Christian marriage in this Diocese shall be in conformity with Title II, Canon 7 of the Provincial Canons.

Section 2. *Sanctity of Marriage*

In view of the teaching of Holy Scripture, the Lambeth Conference of 1998 and the Jerusalem Declaration, this Diocese defines marriage as the exclusive covenantal union of one man and one woman in which such union is a lifetime commitment. A civil government's sanction of a union will be recognized as a legitimate marriage by the church only to the extent that it is consistent with this definition of marriage. Therefore, this Diocese cannot sanction or recognize polygamous or same-sex unions as legitimate marriages. We further believe that sexual activity is to be rightly received and practiced only within covenant marriage between one man and one woman, and that abstinence is God's call for those who are not living within marriage as so defined. Therefore, this Diocese will teach, support, and strengthen the Church to follow the vocation of sexual purity. In addition, this Diocese cannot ordain persons who engage in sexual activity outside the definition of marriage we have received.

Section 3. *Procedure for Divorced Person to Seek Permission to Be Married in the Diocese*

The following procedure is required by Title II, Canon 7, Section 4 of the Provincial Canons. Should a man and a woman, one or both of whom have been divorced, wish to be married to one another in this Diocese, the couple must first secure the Bishop's consent by submitting an application on a form prescribed by the Bishop for such purpose. Within 30 days from the date of receipt of the application signed by the couple and the proposed officiating clergy, the Bishop shall communicate in writing his determination of the application.

*You may view the full and complete Canons of the Diocese of the Rocky Mountains by visiting:
<http://rockymountainanglican.org/founding-documents/>*