

The Policy of Same Sex Marriage

Grace Lutheran Church
25630 Grand River Ave.
Redford Twp., MI

In August of 2015, with one vote, the Supreme Court of the United States made a sweeping change in the way in which our Nation looks at the sanctity of marriage. Their approval of same sex marriage has caused Christians throughout the United States to take a deep look into the theology and the practice of marriage.

Below is a theological statement and policy concerning marriage and wedding ceremonies to be conducted here at Grace Lutheran Church in Redford Twp., MI

A. The Theology of Marriage:

Scripture teaches that marriage was established and given by God at the time of creation. As He designed and instituted it, marriage is the lifelong union of one man and one woman (see Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6). It is a relationship that is to be honored and kept pure (see Hebrews 13:4; Ephesians 5:22-33). As a man and woman promise lifelong faithfulness to each other as husband and wife, God Himself joins them as One.

Marriage is not simply a contract between two consenting adults, nor is it merely a creation of human society, culture, or tradition. God Himself instituted marriage at the time of creation and God Himself joins a man and a woman in marriage today.

Scripture emphasizes the blessings God intends to convey to those joined together in the marital relationship. Through marriage God provides partners well suited and complementary to one another. Marriage is also to be the God-ordained means to procreate and to establish a stable environment in which children can be nurtured both physically and spiritually.

Marriage is a partnership where man and woman working together raise their children, build a home with God as the Head, and pray together for the continued blessings of God in their marital and family life.

B. The Policy of Marriage:

The Policy and Practice of Grace Lutheran Church, Redford Twp., MI, a member congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, is consistent with the synod's beliefs and teachings regarding marriage. We believe that marriage is the sacred, lifelong union between one man and one woman. Therefore, our pastor will not officiate in a marriage ceremony or celebration and our church sanctuary may not be used for any activities related to a marriage ceremony or celebration that is inconsistent with these beliefs.

While we know that our secular society condones such practices today, we as a Christian Church that is Biblically based cannot carry out these functions. The pastor will be willing to work with anyone who is looking to be absolved of their sins and joyfully welcome them, as a forgiven child of God, into the Church. We are a congregation that lives by the Good News of Jesus and we want all to be saved and to be welcomed into heaven as forgiven children of God.

"For there is no distinction, all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God and are justified by His grace as a gift through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 3: 22-24

May the Lord of the Church bless our Church, our Nation, and our families in Christ Jesus.