

ABOUT THE REHEARSAL

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT OUR WEDDING REHEARSAL?

At the rehearsal, the pastor and your coordinator (or, if your wedding's at Heartland, a person or two from our Wedding Team) will walk you and those involved in your wedding through the key parts of the ceremony. We'll run through everything a couple of times, so everyone will know the important stuff: who stands where, who says what (and when), etc. And we'll answer any questions you or your wedding party may have, so that everyone's ready for the ceremony!

If you're getting married at Heartland, the rehearsal is also a chance for your decorating team to get a jump on setting out your decorations. Perishable decorations like fresh flowers may be set out on the day of the ceremony, but other decorating will usually be taken care of during the rehearsal. Our Wedding Team folks can often help with this – and we'd encourage you to enlist a few friends or family members (maybe folks who aren't in the ceremony itself) to help with this. Decoration guidelines may be found [here](#).

WHEN WILL WE HAVE OUR REHEARSAL, AND HOW LONG DOES A REHEARSAL USUALLY LAST?

If your wedding is at Heartland, our Wedding Team will help schedule your rehearsal. If you're getting married offsite, you'll schedule it by consulting with your venue and then letting us know (so we can be sure it's on the pastor's calendar). Generally the rehearsal happens the evening before your wedding day, assuming that works for your schedules, the pastor's schedule, and your venue's schedule. We allot an hour and 15 minutes for the rehearsal. If your wedding is at Heartland, please plan on the rehearsal (and any decorating during the rehearsal) starting and ending on time.

WHO SHOULD (AND SHOULDN'T) BE AT OUR REHEARSAL?

Everyone involved in the wedding (including the bridal party, flower girl/ring bearer, ushers, candlelighters, scripture readers, and anyone whom you would like to be seated during the seating of family/special guests) should be at the rehearsal. This will allow them to get their instructions and practice the processional and recessional. Vocalists/musicians should be there as well to receive cues, but we will probably not run their songs in full/more than once. They should make other arrangements to rehearse if they need rehearsal time.

If you have key folks who will be in the ceremony but who can't be at the rehearsal, please just let the pastor and our Weddings Team (for weddings at Heartland) and/or your coordinator (for offsite weddings) know this – and ask those key folks to introduce themselves to the pastor, our Weddings Team/your coordinator when they arrive at the wedding, so someone can get them up to speed on what they missed.

Because the rehearsal will flow most smoothly if there aren't a lot of extra people there, we suggest inviting only those who are participating in the ceremony or are helping decorate. If you'll be going on to a rehearsal dinner afterward, you may simply invite your other special guests to meet you at the dinner location.

IS THERE ANYTHING WE NEED TO BRING TO OUR REHEARSAL?

*It's a great idea to bring the **WEDDING LICENSE** to the rehearsal and give it to the pastor who'll be officiating at your wedding then. If you're getting married at Heartland and you'll be using recorded music in the ceremony or during the seating/dismissal of your guests, please bring a **FULLY CHARGED IPOD (with all of your music in its own wedding playlist)** for our sound tech. Your decorating helpers will also want to bring your **DECORATIONS** and any supplies you need.*

Have questions or need additional info? Please email us at weddings@heartlandchurch.org