

## Wedding Policy

Leicester Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
Leicester, New York 14481  
September 1, 2017

The Ruling Elders of the Leicester Evangelical Presbyterian Church believe that the books of the Holy Bible, both Old Testament and New Testaments, are for our instruction in right living (2 Timothy 3:16). By holding to this, it is our understanding that marriage is a holy institution between one man and one woman, ordained by God from the beginning in the garden (Genesis 2:20-25). Jesus Christ, the Son of God who established the Church (Matthew 16:18) of which we are a part and over which Jesus reigns as its supreme head (Colossians 1:17-19), confirmed what God the Father had created from the beginning (Matthew 19:2-6). It is on this foundation that we set the basis for this policy.

Leicester Evangelical Presbyterian Church affirms in its policy, the Position Paper: “Human Sexuality” adopted by the 37th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in June 2017, that states, in part, the following:

### **The Married Life**

When God created us male and female, He also instituted the ordinance of marriage in which one man and one woman are bound together for life in a solemn covenant, which beautifully illustrates God’s covenantal relationship with His chosen people.<sup>12</sup> God directs His people who marry to wed only fellow believers — those who trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation and have joined His Church.<sup>13</sup>

It is within the covenant of marriage alone that God — for His own glory, the mutual encouragement of the spouses, procreation, the strengthening of the family, and the welfare of humankind — has instructed husbands and wives to engage in regular, intimate sexual love.<sup>14</sup> In this uniquely sexual relationship, the married couple seeks to remember, celebrate, and model Christ’s love for His Church and His Church’s devotion to her Lord and to serve one another with godly affection.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Genesis 2:23-25; Isaiah 61:10-62:5; Matthew 19:3-12

<sup>13</sup> Malachi 2:10-12; 1 Corinthians 7:39; 2 Corinthians 6:14

<sup>14</sup> Proverbs 5:18-21; 1 Corinthians 7:3-5

<sup>15</sup> Ephesians 5:25-33

To read the complete EPC Position Paper on “Human Sexuality”, please visit:

<https://epc.org/wp-content/uploads/Files/1-Who-We-Are/B-About-The-EPC/Position-Papers/PositionPaper-HumanSexuality.pdf>

### ***Soli Deo Gloria***

We consider that wedding services are worship services before God, conducted in His honor according to His Word. We seek to please Him in these services, both for the joy of worshiping Him in celebration, and in order to be able to ask Him to bless the marriage.

A Wedding Policy booklet, including fees applicable to what you choose, is available for pick-up in the church office.

Weddings need to be scheduled in a timely manner.

If you would like more information about any of these services listed, please contact the church office at 585.382.3311.

Respectfully,

Session: Leicester Evangelical Presbyterian Church