

Christ Alone Church

Introducing people to the life-transforming Jesus

Music Director Job Description

Purpose: To lead a Christ-centered music ministry for CAC's corporate worship; and works in collaboration with the Pastor in a way that it is consistent with our mission and vision.

Accountability: This person shall report to and collaborate with the Pastor and is responsible to Session.

Important Principles from the EPC *Book of Worship* the Music Director must understand and embrace:

2-1 The acceptable way of worshiping God corporately is established by God Himself. Proper corporate worship is defined and outlined in God's revealed will and is to be followed in giving glory to Him. Proper worship therefore finds its foundation in Holy Scripture. Only God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are to receive such worship.

A. Proper corporate worship shall include-

1. The reverent and attentive reading of the Scriptures, the sound preaching and conscientious hearing of the Word
2. Singing of psalms and hymns and spiritual songs
3. The proper administration and receiving of the sacraments
4. Prayer with thanksgiving
5. The giving of tithes and offerings

B. Proper corporate worship of God shall also include times of solemn prayer and fasting, as well as special days of praise and thanksgiving.

C. All worship should at all times and in all places be performed in a holy and respectful manner. The corporate worship of God is not to be carelessly or willfully neglected or forsaken.

2-4 The order of corporate worship: The people of God have been set free from all forms of bondage, including bondage to rigid rules and regulations for worship. However, the people are to remember to do all things decently and in order that all may participate and God may be glorified. For the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, this means no local church is required to follow any predetermined or rigid form of worship. However, it also means that worship should be conducted in such a way that persons are not hindered in their worship and that it not be an offense to God.

A. The Pastor, while advised to consult with the Session, has the duty and responsibility to determine the order, sequence, elements, and proportion of the service that each shall have in public worship. In making those decisions about worship, the Pastor shall be reminded of guidance for worship given in Scripture, the Reformed heritage in which we stand, of the customs, circumstances, and particular needs of the congregation, as well as the admonitions and limitations set by the *Book of Worship*.

B. All who come to worship should actively participate. The worship should be so designed that there is common participation when all share in the various elements of praise to God. Participation by various members of the local church is encouraged to demonstrate that worship is a privilege of all and not relegated to a select few.

C. Each time of worship should give expression to redemptive work of Christ. It is also appropriate to give special emphasis to certain times of the Church year that highlight specific elements of redemption.

2-7 Music in Worship

Singing of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with grace in the heart is a necessary and

indispensable part of the corporate worship of the people of God. The whole congregation is not to be neglected. Emphasis should be given to the content of the hymns that all might sing with understanding.

- A. Music is not an end in itself, but should serve the whole purpose of giving glory and praise to God. Where there is a choir auxiliary to the congregation, it should be remembered that it is representing the whole congregation before God and is not performing for the people. For this reason, it is appropriate for the choir to be composed of those from the local church as far as possible. Those who participate in a choir inevitably represent a special calling in the life of a congregation and should exhibit a gracious Christian life that brings honor to God. Participants in the choir should have such a character and conduct themselves in such a way that their lives will not be a barrier or hindrance to those who worship.
- B. The Pastor has final authority over all parts of the service, including the music. Where there is a music director or other such person working in music, that person shall always consult with the Pastor concerning the music or worship. If there is no Pastor, the Session has final authority over the service.
- C. Care should be exercised in selecting music so that all may rejoice in the Lord, singing and making melody in their hearts. Lyrics should be appropriate and reflect Reformed theology.
- D. The use of various musical instruments in worship is appropriate unless disapproved by the Session. However, it is to be remembered that all music, including instruments, should be aids and not hindrances to or substitutes for congregational participation.
- E. As a community of praise, a congregation should ordinarily conclude its worship with congregational singing suitable for the occasion prior to the benediction.

Qualifications

- Has professed faith in Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior.
- Lifestyle is in accord with Biblical standards.
- Has a sense of call to this position and a servant's heart.
- Desires to use God-given musical skills in the service of God.
- Is a current member, or has a willingness to become a member of CAC. Must be in agreement with the EPC Essentials of Faith, and must not be in opposition to Reformed Theology.
- Possesses leadership skills that can provide Christ-like direction for the Worship Music Team – this includes but is not limited to: a commitment to listen, discuss and seek unity within the Team; people management skills; motivational skills and coach Team in musicianship.
- Strong organizational and administrative skills.
- Shall perform church duties, obligations, responsibilities, and administer their church activities in accordance with the mission, faith and doctrine of the EPC as defined and set forth in the EPC Constitution.
- Has spiritual gifts in the areas of shepherding, community building, encouragement, faith, humility and willing to work as a team player.
- Understands and embraces the principles of Reformed worship as stated in the Book of Worship, especially those items included at the beginning of this document.

- Supports the decisions of the Pastor and Session regarding worship, including the amount of music utilized during corporate worship, the type of music and the instruments used.
- Has training and/or experience in music.
- Skilled in playing both piano and keyboard.
- Prior experience in church music and knowledge of the church liturgical seasons is desirable.

General Duties

- Oversees all corporate worship music at CAC and as assigned.
- Coordinates the worship music regularly with the Pastor.
- Oversees and facilitates discussions with Pastor and Session regarding the future direction of music at CAC.
- Oversees and supervises all use of the Sound System, and selects individual(s) to run the system. Sensitivity to the needs of the congregation is expected.
- Oversees the care of, and maintenance of the piano and electronic equipment, potentially developing a list of authorized users. (Sound System and Piano)
- Selects individuals to participate in the corporate worship music of CAC, and as assigned.
- After consulting with the Pastor, has the authority to ask individuals not to participate in the music aspects of the Worship Service.
- Provides consultation for the musical needs of special events.
- While Session prefers blended worship music, the Music leader has the option of potentially utilizing all traditional music at one service, or all contemporary music at another service.
- Sends the weekly lyric information to the projection team.
- Works in collaboration with the Organist to include traditional hymn(s) on a weekly basis.
- Chooses music to support the Church year.
- Leads rehearsal.