

Saint Thomas Episcopal Church

Chesapeake, Virginia

Interim Music Director

Saint Thomas Episcopal Church is an inclusive, affirming, safe community for all people; a congregation on the move. We are committed to making God's love real and tangible in the world. We are a parish in transition, preparing to emerge as a vibrant, dynamic, and joyful beacon of hope. If you feel called to serve with us, you will join our new Priest-in-Charge, who is passionate about church health, growth, and sustainability, and, with our parish staff and faith community, commit to this great work.

We seek a Music Director who will collaborate with our Priest-in-Charge to lead the congregation and local community in dynamic worship, celebrating our range of Episcopal liturgies. The Music Director reports directly to the Priest-in-Charge: our head pastor and liturgist. This senior staff position oversees weekly music offerings, and is the principal organist, pianist, conductor, and leader of our various ensembles. Each staff person is a direct extension of the Priest-in-Charge's pastoral ministry, and every professional staff person is expected to bring an Easter attitude to their ministry.

Responsibilities include:

- Collaborating with Priest-in-Charge and liturgy team to plan and execute weekly, seasonal, and special services
- Recruiting, equipping, developing, motivating, supervising, and shepherding music team leaders and musicians, musical teams, and ensembles
- Fostering a safe, affirming, and welcoming culture
- Always bringing a sense of humor and positive Easter attitude
- Supporting staff and lay leaders in fulfilling the mission and vision of the church
- Participating in the life of the parish and community
- Exploring ways of integrating music that spans genres and generations
- Incorporating and engaging children and youth into the music ministry, including planning music offerings for youth and children's events, such as VBS
- Participating in weekly staff meetings, liturgy planning and implementation, and a 2023 strategic planning process
- Maintaining and periodically expanding the music library
- Arranging for musicians as needed for weddings and funerals, and substitute musicians in the event of absence
- Scheduling instrument maintenance, repair, and tuning
- Ensuring compliance with all legal requirements related to the performance of copyright-protected music and online performance licensing regulations
- Maintaining a regular prayer life with the various music ministries
- Other duties as assigned by the Priest-in-Charge

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This is a part-time (20-hour) position. Benefits include:

- Paid vacation and personal time
- 401k / Diocesan pension program
- Continuing Education allowance
- Use of parish instruments and facilities for teaching and performance

Desired Qualifications:

- Creative, engaging, and collaborative spirit
- Previous worship leadership experience 3-5 years
- Formal musical education, Bachelor of Music, or equivalent
- Fluency in English, with preference for a second language
- Knowledge of Episcopal liturgies
- Proficiency with Piano performance, Organ performance, and vocal accompaniment
- Composing and arranging music
- Experience leading hand bell choirs
- Experience in contemporary and traditional Christian music worship
- Experience teaching children and youth

Other Requirements:

- Background check (before starting)
- Safe Church training (before starting)
- Physically able to perform duties and climb stairs to the choir loft and rehearsal rooms
- Successful 90-day review

This is an interim position for one year (*July 2022 through June 2023.*) In the first quarter of 2023, a search process for a permanent call will be conducted, at which point the interim Music Director may apply and will be advanced to the semi-finalist stage.

We are conducting an open search process. Interested candidates are encouraged to send a letter of interest, current CV, link to a personal website or link to a selection of music/worship offerings and references (including a clergy reference).