



St. John's, Jamaica Plain 2017 Music Director Search

PO Box 300230 + Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
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Position Description - Music Director

According to the Canons of the Episcopal Church, "It shall be the duty of every member of the clergy to see that music is used as an offering for the glory of God and as a help to the people in their worship in accordance with the Book of Common Prayer and as authorized by the rubrics of the General Convention of this Church. To this end, the member of the Clergy shall have final authority in the administration of matters pertaining to music. In fulfilling this responsibility the member of the Clergy shall seek assistance from persons skilled in music. Together they shall see that the music is appropriate to the context in which it is used." *(Title II Canon 5 – Constitution and Canon of the Episcopal Church - 2015).*

General: The Music Director of St. John's Episcopal Church is a spiritual leader of the congregation and serves at the pleasure of the Rector. This is a quarter-time position. Working closely with the Rector, other staff, and lay leaders, the Music Director's principle responsibilities are to plan and provide music for liturgical worship.

An ideal candidate would be an excellent choral conductor with strong interpersonal skills, able to help people form into strong, healthy teams and community, a skilled musician on both organ and piano, and someone familiar and comfortable with the Anglican/Episcopal style and tradition of worship while open to diverse musical styles and genres.

Setting: St. John's Church is a eucharistically-based faith community of neighbors and families celebrating different understandings of the Christian faith within the Episcopal Church. As we attempt to live out our call to be the body of Christ in the world, we strive to be a beacon of justice-seeking and creativity, and to honor St. Benedict's teaching: 'Let all who enter here be received as Christ.' Located in the vibrant Jamaica Plain neighborhood of Boston, we are part of a diverse, welcoming and exciting community. Average Sunday worship at St. John's attendance is 60+ people in the program year, 30 in the summer months, with approximately 150 active members of all ages.

Qualifications: A Masters Degree in Music or comparable education and experience with strong Anglican/Episcopal Church musical knowledge and experience; expertise in playing organ and in choral direction.

Specific: The duties and responsibilities of the Music Director include:

- Conduct the choir at two weekly rehearsals, currently Thursdays and Sundays before worship (3 hours/week)
- Play organ and piano at worship services, including practice and preparation (3 hours/week)
- Plan weekly worship music in concert with the rector (1 hour/week)
- Meet with staff monthly (2 hours/month = 30 minutes/week)
- Meet with worship planning group monthly (2 hours/month = 30 minutes/week)
- In consultation with the rector, give oversight and management of St. John's Music Budget as determined in consultation with St. John's Vestry (2 hours/month = 30 minutes/week)
- Email regularly with church staff and choir members (90 minutes/week)
- Provide musical leadership at special services in Holy Week, including participation of paid musicians and soloists
- Weddings and funerals, as needed (compensated separately, not counted against weekly work time)
- Implementation of Vestry decisions and parish goals in coordination with the Wardens and Vestry
- Other duties and responsibilities as determined by and in consultation with the Rector

Total hours - 10 hours/week

Compensation:

Appropriate for a music director with a Master's Degree in a part-time position, including paid vacation and continuing education funds.

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To Apply: Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to:

Music Director Search
c/o St. John's Episcopal Church
PO BOX 300230 Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 or
via email to ted@stjohns-jp.org.