



CHOIR MINISTRY
Member Handbook

OUR MISSION: Our primary task is to lead the congregation in worshiping God through song¹, celebrating the name of Jesus Christ our Savior² and Mediator³. Our secondary task is to edify⁴ each other with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs through the words of Christ⁵.

1. "Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise!
Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.
All the earth worships you
and sings praises to you;
they sing praises to your name." **Psalm 66:1-4**
2. "Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth."

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!”

And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and
all that is in them, saying,

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.”

Revelation 5

3. The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever. **Hebrews 7:23-28**

4. “...addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.” **Ephesians 5:19-21**
5. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **Colossians 3:15-16**

OUR VISION: Our vision for the future is that, through the leadership of the choir, the choir and congregation would sing united praise to God with their minds and hearts¹ in order to give glory to God² and also that they would be filled with the Spirit³, acknowledging Christ in everything they sing⁴.

1. "But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him." **John 4:23**
2. "he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace" **Ephesians 1:5-6**

"In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory." **Ephesians 1:11-12**
3. "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart..." **Ephesians 5:18-19**
4. "...giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ..." **Ephesians 5:20**

OUR MUSIC: Music was created by God to be used for His glory¹. We use music to support singing together to God and to each other in a variety of song types² and styles. The words that we sing should reflect God's character³, revelation⁴ and purposes⁵.

1. "Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!
Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. **Psalm 33:2-3**
2. "addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart" **Ephesians 5:19**
3. "The Lord works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever." **Psalm 103:6-9**
4. "The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge." **Psalm 19:1-2**

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

5. "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified." **Romans 8:26-30**

NEW CHOIR MEMBER PROCESS: Choir Ministry is unlike other ministries because in order to worship God a person must have first been drawn to and professed faith in Christ. As a choir, we lead the congregation in worship so it would not make sense for an unbeliever to lead in worship and if we are called to worship in spirit and truth, the unbeliever cannot worship with an unregenerate heart. This is the foundation of our 'recruitment' process.

- 1. Member Handbook:** Receive Choir Ministry Member Handbook, read through Our Mission, Our Vision and Our Music.
- 2. Survey of Interest:** After reading through the Member Handbook, complete the Survey of Interest on the last page, detach the Survey from the handbook and turn it into the church office.
- 3. Four Rehearsals:** New members will come to rehearsals for 4 weeks before singing on Sunday mornings to learn the current choir and congregation songs.
- 4. Worship Overview Class:** Within the first 6 months of joining the choir, new members will be required to participate in our Worship Overview Class. Classes will run twice a year, 1-on-1 or video lectures will also be available.

Worship Overview Class | Syllabus

Week 1: General, Private and Corporate Worship

Week 2: Elements of Worship: Reading and Praying

Week 3: Elements of Worship: Preaching and Singing

Week 4: Elements of Worship: Giving and Seeing

Week 5: Head and Heart in Worship

Week 6: Worship and Leading

Music/Media/Worship Ministry Dress Code

Two thoughts come to mind in regard to how we should dress:

1. If we are called to glorify God **in all that we do**,
then we should also glorify Him in our dress.
2. If corporate worship is **solely focused on God**,
then we should not bring attention to ourselves.

With these thoughts in mind, here are our guidelines for dress:

Ladies

- Pants should be without holes or visible signs of wear and should be the appropriate size.
- Skirts and dresses need to be at or below the knee since we are on an elevated stage.
- Avoid sleeveless outfits and shirts, t-shirts, v-neck shirts, shorts and capris.
- No cleavage.
- Wear proper undergarments.
- Avoid tight fitting clothing.
- Please wear deodorant and avoid perfumes.

Men

- Pants should be without holes or visible signs of wear and should be the appropriate size.
- Avoid sleeveless shirts, t-shirts, v-neck shirts and shorts.
- Wear proper undergarments.
- Avoid tight fitting clothing.
- Please wear deodorant and avoid colognes.

You may be asked by a pastor or team leader not to participate if your dress is inappropriate according to these guidelines.

Choir Ministry | Survey of Interest

Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Home #: (____) ____-____ Cell #: (____) ____-____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Gender: M F Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

1. Who is Jesus?

2. Why do you want to join the choir?

3. What is the role of the choir in Sunday worship?

4. Are you a church member? If yes, how long?

5. Are you active in any other ministries of the church?

6. Are you active in a Small Group/Bible Study? If yes, who is your small group leader?

7. What is your musical experience?

8. Are you interested in learning more about music?