

Music Director

Church of the Messiah – Woods Hole, MA

Part-time (15 hours/week)

Initial Salary: \$33,000

Position Summary

The Church of the Messiah, an inclusive and welcoming Episcopal community, is seeking a talented and collaborative Music Director to lead and enrich the musical life of our parish. This position combines performance, leadership, and creativity, supporting the worship and spiritual life of our congregation through inspiring music.

Working closely with the rector, staff, and volunteers, the Music Director will plan and offer music that uplifts, deepens worship, and reflects our mission of honoring the dignity of every human being while caring for creation and community.

Primary Responsibilities

Worship Leadership & Performance

- Play organ and piano for all Sunday services and major liturgical occasions (Christmas, Holy Week, Easter).
- Select, prepare, and perform service music in partnership with the rector, drawing primarily from the Episcopal/Anglican tradition while incorporating diverse genres as appropriate.
- Lead and inspire congregational singing with skill, enthusiasm, and sensitivity.
- Provide music for weddings and funerals (additional compensation).

Choir & Ensemble Leadership

- Direct the Adult Choir, leading weekly rehearsals that focus on musical growth, enjoyment, and welcoming new singers.
- Select and prepare anthems and special offerings for worship.
- Direct the Chime Choir, preparing occasional performances aligned with liturgical themes.
- Explore opportunities for expanding the music ministry (e.g., youth or children's choirs, instrumental ensembles).

Vestry Approved: September 8, 2025

Collaboration & Planning

- Contribute musical expertise to further our mission as an inclusive and welcoming parish.
- Collaborate creatively with the rector and staff to plan services that follow the Episcopal Church's liturgical calendar.
- Attend staff and liturgy planning meetings.

Administration & Stewardship

- Maintain the music library, care for instruments, and manage the choir budget.
 - Communicate clearly with staff and volunteers regarding schedules, rehearsals, and music plans.
 - Coordinate and schedule substitute and special musicians as needed.
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Qualifications

- Degree in Music or equivalent professional experience.
 - -Proven organ and piano performance.
 - Proficiency in choral conducting experience, with focus on adult choirs
 - Interest in directing chime choir and developing additional ensembles (i.e., youth, children, instrumental).
 - Familiarity with Episcopal/Anglican liturgical traditions strongly preferred.
 - Effective communication skills with a collaborative, organized approach to mission.
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Compensation & Benefits

- Competitive initial salary of \$33,000 (15 hours per week)
 - Housing opportunity: access to a one-bedroom apartment at a reasonable rate.
 - Four weeks annual vacation.
 - Use of church facilities for teaching.
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About Church of the Messiah

Located in the village of Woods Hole, Massachusetts, the Church of the Messiah is a vibrant Episcopal parish committed to:

- Serving God by serving our neighbors near and far.
- Affirming the dignity of every human being.
- Caring for God's creation as faithful stewards.

We welcome candidates who share these values and who are excited to nurture and grow a thriving music ministry that inspires worship and strengthens community.