

Calvary Lutheran Church

3901 Chicago Avenue S
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407

Position Opening

Music Director/Choir Director/Accompanist (Piano, Organ)

Part-time: 12-16 hours/week (.3 FTE)

Position Description: Calvary Lutheran Church seeks a person to serve as part-time (.3 FTE) music director/choir director/accompanist, who is passionate about leading music in a musically gifted community with a strong commitment to an eclectic blend of classical, gospel, global, Taizé/Iona, traditional, and recently composed music. This person will work with a committed choir of approximately 10-20 members and occasional ensembles (most recently women and children), coordinate special music, and assist in leading the congregation in a variety of liturgical settings (from traditional Lutheran to modern variations), which speak to long-time people of faith as well as newcomers and seekers. Instruments include: baby grand piano, wonderful recently refurbished pipe organ, set of hand bells, electric piano, and variety of percussion instruments. This person will accompany weekly worship with Eucharist (Sunday at 10:00 am), festivals (Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday), provide musical leadership for Wednesday evening services during Advent and Lent (utilizing Holden Prayer Around the Cross, Holden Evening Prayer), and assist with the annual Christmas program (Sunday morning). Choir rehearsals historically are on Wednesday evenings, but flexible. The Music Director attends the Worship Committee meetings (every other month) and, with the pastor, plan worship. The congregation is flexible in negotiating time off.

Calvary welcomes the applications of persons of any ethnic origin, race, gender, or sexual orientation. The position is open until filled. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and responsibilities.

Qualifications: The person serving in this position must be able to direct a choir and provide leadership for congregational singing. Should have knowledge of a variety of choral/musical literature and choral directing techniques; ability to motivate and encourage congregants to use their unique musical gifts; and ability to work positively with persons of all ages. Should be someone who is a self-starter and takes initiative yet works collaboratively with others. Must have excellent keyboard skills (piano and organ) and knowledge of and openness to a diverse blend of hymnody and liturgical music. Appreciation and imagination around liturgy and the liturgical year (or willingness to learn) is important; a commitment to inclusive and expansive language and progressive theology.

Description of Calvary Lutheran Church: Calvary is a congregation of nearly 250 active members and has seen significant growth over recent years. The congregation is located in the heart of South Minneapolis at 39th Street and Chicago Avenue, in an economically and racially diverse neighborhood. The congregation worships approximately 80-110 (September to May) and 40-80 (June-August) in a beautiful older sanctuary that provides for flexibility. We have a rich, lively, and historic liturgical tradition that includes strong singing, eclectic music, quality preaching, and a strong awareness of justice and the call to be “in this city for good.” We have a dynamic and growing children’s and youth program, an active food shelf, a strong focus on social justice, and are committed to living out God’s grace in our neighborhoods. The *Urban Arts Academy*, which serves preschool through high school aged youth and their families in the area, is one example of the congregation’s commitment to the community. We are a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation, and welcome all people who have been excluded because of cultural or ethnic background, race, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic of family status, gender or age. This welcome includes people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, their spouses/partners and families.

The congregation uses diverse musical styles—including traditional hymnody, gospel, Taizé/Iona, global, recently-composed—in worship, often blending them within the same service. There is excitement to continue to diversify music. We pay attention to the liturgical seasons of the church year, and often alter our liturgies as the seasons change. We generally use the Revised Common Lectionary within worship as a means to connect and share in the story of faith with the larger Church.

Contact: Send resume with letters of reference to: Chris Robson, Chair of the Musician Search Committee, Calvary Lutheran Church, 3901 Chicago Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55407, or email to office@clchurch.org. For more information, e-mail Pastor Hans Lee at pastorhans@clchurch.org or call at 612.827.2504.