



Music at St. John's Episcopal Church, Royal Oak MI

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Overview of St. John's

St. John's Episcopal Church, Royal Oak is a vibrant, growing, diverse, intergenerational congregation. We highly value music. In a recent St. John's survey about music (114 respondents), 99 said music was 'extremely' or 'very' important! Our membership spans a broad range of ages, backgrounds, and communities. We count a particularly high number of families with young children; nearly 25% of our members are under the age of 17. Our average Sunday attendance is 193 people. We value and create space for people of diverse abilities, orientations, cultures, classes, and ages. Our strengths as a parish include inclusion and welcome, and a commitment to service in our neighborhood and region that we live in practical, participatory, and generous ways.

Music at St. John's

St. John's is a congregation that appreciates a wide variety of musical styles — classical music; traditional Anglican and Protestant hymnody; gospel, spirituals and jazz-inspired music; contemporary Roman Catholic hymns and 'Taize' chant. Yes, we like our traditional hymns, but we are excited to sing in other styles, too, - folk, bluegrass, roots music and other cultural expressions - with the guidance of an enthusiastic and appreciative teacher. St. John's currently has a 16-20 member, SATB choir that is adventurous, very enthusiastic, and enjoys a challenge. We also have within the congregation numerous gifted musicians — strings, brass, woodwinds, percussionists, vocalists - who enjoy providing special music or anthem accompaniment at various times throughout the liturgical year. We do not currently have a children's choir, but we are eager to consider seasonal children's choirs and to try other ways of encouraging and including children in our musical worship and formation.

St. John's Episcopal Church
26998 Woodward Avenue | Royal Oak, MI 48067
Phone: 248 546-1255 | Fax: 248 546-5878 | Website: www.stjohnsroyaloak.org

The Music Director we seek

In our Music Director, St. John's seeks not only a talented congregational music leader, a skilled organist and pianist, and a confident and inspiring choral director, but also a committed liturgical partner for our rector and worship committee, to fully integrate all aspects of music with the other parts of the liturgy. We seek a leader who helps bring to life the Word and love of God through music, specifically incorporating people of all ages and musical abilities in the liturgy.

If you have the musical skill set that we are looking for, paired with the energy, joy, and commitment to build on our strengths and to allow the Spirit to come alive through music at St. John's, then we hope you will apply for the position.

Our Instruments and Resources

St. John's is proud to have two pipe organs in the building. The larger one is a 3-manual, 41-rank Schantz pipe organ installed in 1988, speaking from the front of the nave, directly behind the choir seating. It is a well-rounded instrument, amply recreating the music from many centuries and often supporting large musical events. In early 2018 a set of orchestral steel chimes and an electronic 32' Bourdon stop were added to the organ.

The smaller pipe organ is a 7-rank Baroque-voiced Reuter pipe organ at the rear of the lovely chapel adjacent to the sanctuary.

We also have a Yamaha 7'6" Conservatory Grand piano in main sanctuary, and two additional pianos available in smaller rehearsal spaces.

St. John's has a catalogued music library, and a volunteer Music Librarian.

Additionally St. John's holds copyright licenses

through OneLicense.net and RiteSong (a division of GIA Music).

We currently have one incumbent staff singer and one open position to be filled following the appointment of a new Music Director.

St. John's has a handbell set and a chime set which are used on occasion, although we do not currently have a bell choir.

October 2019

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