

**Music Ministry Leader
Oaklands Presbyterian Church
Laurel, Maryland**

Oaklands Presbyterian Church is a vibrant, Spirit-led faith community of uncommon diversity, committed to living out our faith through worship, learning, service to our neighbors, and by pursuing justice, reconciliation, and wholeness for all.

Worship is the center of our life together, where we enact and explore a relationship with God and with each other. As we offer prayer and praise, we seek to:

- **invite** and **encourage** the significant musical gifts already within the congregation;
- **welcome** the full participation of our intergenerational community;
- **celebrate** God and God's people in both inclusive and expansive ways;
- **honor** the rich tapestry of experiences, cultures, languages, and traditions present in our community, while remaining open to what is new and yet unknown.

We seek a Music Ministry Leader with the skills and sensitivity to serve as a unifying and energizing presence, who will collaborate with Pastor, staff, and lay leaders to shape worship that honors God, invites experiences of learning and growth, and inspires us to love, worship, and serve.

Successful applicants will be able to demonstrate the following skills and characteristics.

- **Experience as a leader** of choirs, including the ability to invite participation, organize schedules, and plan repertoire;
- **Experience as a song leader or cantor**, or experience identifying and developing leaders to serve in this capacity;
- **Strong keyboard skills**, as well as the ability to direct from the keyboard;
- **Stylistic versatility** and willingness to play (or learn to play) music from varied traditions and styles, from Bach to the Blues, from traditional to contemporary service music;
- **Appreciation of music's role** within Christian worship;
- **A team player**, able to collaborate in the process of planning vibrant worship services;
- **Willingness to teach volunteers** of varied ages and musical skills (including those who do not read music) and cultural backgrounds with a commitment to nurturing people and valuing the learning process over perfection;
- **Strong communication skills**, especially the ability to relate to individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences both musically and culturally;
- **Flexibility and grace**, as well as patience and a good sense of humor.
- **Able to use technology** to both communicate and teach the choir (e.g. recording part tracks, weekly emails; sharing documents and worship plans);
- **Appreciation for music's role within Christian worship**

We recognize that the musical and interpersonal skills we seek are frequently found outside of the church, especially in educational and therapeutic contexts. We welcome those with an understanding of music's ability to build and sustain community to apply, even if you have limited or no church music experience.

The Music Ministry Leader is a part-time position (15 hours/week). Responsibilities include:

- **Planning and leading** music for worship including weekly services and special services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Christmas Eve
- **Directing the choir**, including Sunday morning rehearsal and additional rehearsals, as needed and developing a collaborative relationship with the choir;
- **Inviting and coordinating** additional ensembles/musicians from the congregation and community;
- **Collaborating with pastor and worship leaders** to plan and assess worship each week;
- **Collaborating with Creative Worship Team**, a group of congregational leaders, who meet approximately 4 times a year to help shape the worship life of the community;
- **Procuring and distributing** music for the choirs (necessary expenses will be charged to the worship budget)
- **Overseeing** the maintenance of instruments and music ministry-related equipment
- **Providing music for weddings and funerals**, as negotiated;
- **Providing for substitute musicians**, as needed.
- **Engaging with appropriate support** as needed, such as leadership coach, cultural advisor, or congregational historian.

Compensation

- A competitive salary of \$20,000/year
- Two weeks of paid vacation time (including 2 Sundays), and the option to negotiate additional unpaid leave (including Sundays);
- Office and rehearsal space within the church;
- Sanctuary space for teaching, performing, and/or sharing artistic gifts with the congregation and community (as available)

The application deadline is April 1, 2020. To apply, please submit:

- Cover letter explaining why you are interested in the position;
- Resume with two recent references;
- Supporting materials, such as links to recordings/videos, that demonstrate your skills (keyboard, vocal, and directing). CD's and DVD's are welcome but will not be returned.

Email materials to office@oaklandspres.org with '**Musician Search Committee**' in the subject line.