St. Peter's Music Minister Position Description

St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Bennington, VT (stpetersvt.org) is looking for a part-time Music Minister who is up to the multiple challenges of integrating music with worship in the time of pandemic and its eventual aftermath. This is a quarter-time (8-10 hours/week) position that calls on creativity, adaptability and ability to work well with a team of lay people and clergy to craft worship that is engaging and meaningful to all.

As part of the ministry team, the Music Minister is someone who can inspire people along their faith journeys through music and who can nurture a love and appreciation of musical talent among everyone. Our anchor for worship music has been the 1982 Hymnal, but we are open to other sources.

St Peter's is a small congregation in the midst of significant change and renewal, transitioning from full-time clergy leadership to a team made up of part-time clergy and laypeople. The restrictions imposed by Covid-19 mean that we have been worshiping online (via Zoom and Facebook Live) and outdoors. We like music to be a regular part of our worship, but need help in making it happen. We are looking for someone who can also work collaboratively with an open-minded Worship Team.

Currently, while unable to gather indoors for worship, we are looking for someone who can:

- Develop a cohort of musicians to perform either vocally and/or instrumentally within the limitations of Zoom gathering and Covid-19 safety protocols;
- Develop web-based resources, including the possibility of video, for use during worship, with special musical offerings by resident musicians or guests for major feast days; and
- Gather our musical talent twice a year for fellowship and celebration.

We anticipate that worship will not fully return to its pre-pandemic form once Covid-19 has passed, so we are looking for someone adaptable to the needs of the day. The traditional duties include:

- Selecting and accompanying all music for one weekly Sunday worship service, special worship services, and other events in conjunction with the Worship Team;
- Directing an adult choir of five to ten singers of varying levels of musical skill from September through mid-June with a weekly evening rehearsal;
- Arranging for guest musicians and soloists during the summer months;
- Playing and arranging maintenance of a 13-rank, two-manual Hook/Estey pipe organ and three Baldwin pianos;
- Maintaining the music library; and
- Nurturing new talents and voices.

We are looking for someone with:

- Some familiarity with Christian worship and of Episcopal liturgical and musical traditions;
- An understanding and commitment to the role of music in liturgy;
- An ability to work in a mixed context of live, pre-recorded, in-person and online worship;
- The inclination to be a teacher and mentor to people of all ages and abilities; and
- Good interpersonal skills, the ability to work collaboratively and to prioritize their time.

For more information about St. Peter's, visit stpetersvt.org or call 802-442-2911. To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to our Church Office at office@stpetersvt.org.