

# St. Paul's

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### Director of Music

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

[stpaulsmurfreesboro.org](http://stpaulsmurfreesboro.org)

### About our Opportunity

St. Paul's Episcopal Church is seeking a skilled and faithful Director of Music whose mission is to worship the triune God and to lead others in warm-hearted worship. St. Paul's is a vibrant, eclectic, and growing parish with an opportunity to lead and expand our music ministry.

- The Director will plan and coordinate music for worship services, direct choirs, and serve as the organist.
- The Director will work with the Rector and worship leadership team to develop a third Sunday service (musical idiom to be determined considering the gifts and interests of the Director of Music and the existing culture of St. Paul's).
- This role requires an experienced church musician who is deeply committed to Anglican worship traditions and is comfortable with a wide range of sacred music.
- The ideal candidate will also have strong leadership and administrative skills and be able to manage a multi-faceted music program in collaboration with clergy, staff, and volunteers.
- Middle Tennessee State University, with one of the largest undergraduate populations in Tennessee, is located close by and the Director may have opportunities to collaborate with the School of Music.

### Position Responsibilities

- **Service Music Planning:** Plan and coordinate music for all worship services, including hymns and service music (Gloria, Sanctus, Memorial Acclamation), across multiple liturgies from traditional to contemporary styles. We are a congregation who enjoys high-quality music in a wide variety of styles.
- **Organist and Choir Director:** Play the organ for regular services, including Sunday worship, weddings, and funerals. Comfort with a medium-small organ is essential. Lead, inspire, and disciple the 40-voice choir and musicians,
- **Leadership and Coordination:** Coordinate with the clergy and manage the efforts of three choir directors, four choral scholars, and numerous congregational musicians.
- **Collaboration with Musicians:** Foster relationships with local musicians and engage the talent pool at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) for special services and events.

- **Administration:** Oversee the scheduling and coordination of all musical activities, including rehearsals and performances, and ensure smooth operation of the music program. Manage maintenance and care of instruments.

### Essential Qualifications

- **Faith and Character:** Strong Christian faith and active prayer life, with the ability to articulate personal beliefs and disciple others in their faith journey.
- **Anglican Worship Experience:** Familiarity with the breadth of Anglican liturgical traditions, from high church to broad church styles, and the ability to plan services that inspire deep worship through music.
- **Musical Competence:**
  - Excellence in leading congregational singing that supports a balance between vocals and organ.
  - Ability to teach, inspire and bring out the best in choirs and musicians.
  - Broad musical ability, with proficiency in both classical and modern musical idioms.
  - Organ and piano proficiency is required.
- **Administrative Skills:** Strong organizational and administrative abilities, with experience managing a team and working with volunteers.
- **Team Chemistry:** A collaborative spirit and the ability to motivate and be a catalyst with clergy, staff, church members, musicians, and choristers, continuing a feeling of family, Christian love, and devotion.

### Desired Qualifications

- Degree in Music or Church Music (Organ, Conducting, or related field), or equivalent certifications.
- Experience planning and leading music for Anglican or Episcopal liturgies, including curating a music library.
- Ability to work with diverse musical traditions and incorporate them into worship.
- Exceptionally strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to cast a vision and impact a variety of stakeholders, including parishioners, clergy, staff, and the community as a whole.
- Prior experience as an organist or choir director preferred.

### About our Instruments, Choir, and Resources

- **St. Paul's Instruments.** Our music ministry is blessed with an abundance of world-class instruments. This includes an Orgues Letourneau Ltd. Opus with 1,520 pipes in 27 ranks plus zimbabwean and chimes, a Steinway Grand Piano, two Kawai Baby Grand pianos, Harpsichord, and a 2-octave set of Hand Bells.

- **Choir, Choristers.** St. Paul's 40-voice Choir regularly sings at the 10:00 a.m. service, as well as a number of extra services throughout the year. We currently fund four MTSU students as choral scholars who sing with the choir on most Sundays and other selected events throughout the church year. The choir's repertoire spans nearly a thousand years, ranging from Gregorian chant to 21st-century music, including well-known classical and Anglican standards along with more contemporary anthems and selections from Taizé, gospel, Africa, and Latin America. Our Junior Choristers and Beginning Choristers programs allow children to begin on their journey of music worship including rehearsals and participation in worship from time to time. They are currently led by qualified children's music educators.
- **Other resources.** Our Music Director will enjoy a close working relationship with our clergy, led by The Rev. Dr. Kristine Blaess, a degreed organist. Additionally, the Music Director will be able to build upon existing relationships with the music programs at Middle Tennessee State University, as well as with musicians in the Middle Tennessee area.

### **About St. Paul's**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, is a vibrant program-size church in a growing city. For over 125 years, we've built a significant presence in historic downtown Murfreesboro. Our highly collaborative leadership culture unites lay leaders and clergy in casting a shared vision of forming people into the body of Christ. St. Paul's serves over 420 households, with an average weekly attendance of 250.

### **Compensation and Benefits**

This is a salaried, full-time position with a compensation and benefits package that is commensurate with experience and with market factors.

### **The Selection Process**

We invite candidates who feel called to this position to submit a resume and cover letter along with recordings of recent performances to [Kristine.blaess@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org](mailto:Kristine.blaess@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org).

Finalists will be invited to St. Paul's for in-person interviews, including leading a choir rehearsal of pieces both familiar and unfamiliar to the choir. Candidates will also play a hymn, Gloria, Sanctus, and Fraction Anthem from the 1982 Episcopal Hymnal and organ selections suitable for a service prelude or postlude, which demonstrate a high level of proficiency on the instrument. The search process will be collaborative and involve input from clergy, staff, vestry, and music ministry members.

We look forward to welcoming a Director of Music who will build on our strong music ministry foundation and lead us into a bright future..