

St. Mark's Episcopal Parish, Upland CA

A Community of Grace

*To be a place where love and hope abound...
we welcome everyone to our worship and communion,
we help one another to understand God and know Jesus,
we nurture our community and the world,
and we celebrate diversity and work for social justice.*

POSITION PROFILE

St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Upland, California seeks a part-time Music Director and Organist who can bring musical gifts, creativity, faithfulness, and joy to our community. We hope to strengthen and expand our music program, which has a long history of quality voice and instrumental offerings from a core group of dedicated volunteer musicians who help lead the congregation in worship each Sunday. The Music Director is central to our shared ministry and life together as a Parish and will be an integral part of our church staff.

The Music Director selects liturgically and theologically appropriate music for all services. Sunday worship responsibilities include playing one hymn at the conclusion of our 8 a.m. service, rehearsing with singers and other musicians, and accompanying worship at our 10 a.m. service. Additional services, principally at Christmas and Easter, are planned well ahead of time with the Worship Committee. Rehearsals for our choir, handbells, and band have been held in the late afternoon and evening one or two days per week. The practice schedule and possible return of a mid-week evening service will be collaboratively determined with the selected director.

We have for the past 35 years had the model of one musician who served as both Organist and Music Director with responsibility for all worship services and groups. However, we are open to considering creative proposals for meeting our worship needs and providing the expertise needed to work with a variety of groups. The salary range is \$18,000 to \$26,000 per year, depending upon experience and scope of responsibilities. Weddings and funerals will provide additional compensation.

Resumes, references, and links to musical performance recordings should be sent to our selection committee at music@stmarks-upland.org. Please include a short cover letter of introduction as well.

PARISH PROFILE

St. Mark's is a warm and welcoming mid-sized Episcopal church located in the northern part of Upland, California, just east of Euclid Avenue on 16th Street. We have a diverse membership from Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, Claremont, and the surrounding area. The parish was founded in 1910 and expanded to its current campus in 1965. Our rector, the Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto, was called to St. Mark's in 2009.

ORGAN AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

We have a historical Hook & Hastings (Boston, 1873, Opus 734) 2-manual flat pedalboard tracker organ restored and rebuilt for St. Mark's by Steuart Goodwin & Co. in 1977 (Opus 5), subsequently added to, and lovingly maintained. We also have a single manual harpsichord (Eric Herz, Boston). Additional instruments include a Kawai spinet piano, Malmark and Schulmerich handbells and chimes, and a Roland digital piano. Members of the congregation include skilled musicians in oboe, English horn, ukulele, guitar, and percussion. Other resources include a large music library. We subscribe to both OneLicense.Net and CCLI.

CHOIR AND MUSICAL GROUPS

Our volunteer choir ranges from novices to trained singers and is active September through June for the 10:00 a.m. services. A volunteer band currently leads the congregation one Sunday per month with contemporary music. The handbell choir has regularly practiced and played for several services each year. All of our groups welcome growth not only in membership but in musical training. There has been an active children's choir in the past; one post-Covid dream is to reinstate that tradition.

THE FUTURE

A congregational self-study revealed that music is an integral part of our worship. As we have returned to in-person services, our congregation has appreciated uplifting and active worship. St. Mark's also has a social media presence through live streaming and recording our 10 a.m. services. We are considering how to best utilize our campus property, grow our congregation, provide our children with musical opportunities, continue our strong commitment to outreach, and engage with our community.

OUR IDEAL MUSIC DIRECTOR AND ORGANIST

- believes music is an offering to God intended to enhance worship
- is an experienced, skilled, and versatile organist and musician
- accepts role as both accompanist and performer
- is able to teach and direct members of several music groups
- is able to teach new music to the congregation and encourage participation
- understands Episcopal liturgy
- chooses appropriate and uplifting music for groups and congregational singing
- makes use of resources to broaden selections
- is flexible and open to incorporating a variety of musical styles in worship
- is nurturing and kind
- is energetic and enthusiastic
- collaborates well with clergy, staff, and volunteer musicians
- integrates well with the life of the parish