



POSITION: **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP**

STATUS: Full-time, Exempt

REPORTS TO: Director of Worship

ABOUT US

The Capital Pres Family is one church with multiple locations: McLean Presbyterian Church, Capital Presbyterian Fairfax, and Capital Presbyterian Reston. We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) located in northern Virginia, just outside of Washington, D.C., with a weekly worship attendance average of just over 1300 people across 5 services.

We exist to glorify and enjoy God by making disciples who make a difference through grace-filled worship, community, and missions. Our aim is to make disciples through three ministry areas: worship, community, and missions. While activity in each area does not equal discipleship, we are confident that these are the contexts needed for deep spiritual growth. In these contexts, we navigate the nuances of life in Christ together, and that's how we make disciples.

We currently hold 5 Sunday services each week with multiple worship leaders and teams made up of over 100 volunteer and paid musicians. We describe our worship style as blended and intergenerational – using a combination of contemporary and classical instruments to accompany congregational singing of both traditional and modern hymns and songs. The worship ministry at MPC includes adult and children's choirs, worship teams, audio/visual teams, and deacon service teams (parking, greeters, ushers, and communion set up). Along with traditional hymns, our congregational music repertoire includes songs from Keith and Kristyn Getty, CityAlight, Sovereign Grace Music, Indelible Grace, Enfield, Hillsong, Chris Tomlin, and others.

A more detailed description of our worship vision, philosophy, and priorities is included at the end of this document. Further information about our church can be found at <https://mclean.capitalpres.org>

POSITION SUMMARY

The Assistant Director of Worship serves to enrich and deepen the spiritual life of the church by supporting the Director of Worship in the planning, administration, and execution of corporate worship gatherings and ministries of the Capital Pres Family. The position is a mix between organizational duties, volunteer care, and creative planning and performance opportunities.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assists the Director of Worship with planning music and liturgy for corporate worship services
 - Leads or assists with leading worship for corporate worship services
 - Assists in recruiting, auditioning, equipping, and caring for worship ministry volunteers
 - Coordinates and schedules volunteer and paid musicians for worship and other special services, including weddings, funerals, and/or memorial services
 - Oversees the preparation of weekly worship music folders for musicians
 - Assists with the formatting, editing, and printing of worship bulletins
 - Coordinates the content for weekly ProPresenter presentations
 - Assists with Arts in Ministry events and initiatives <https://mclean.capitalpres.org/arts/>
 - Assists and coordinates worship resources for church retreats: Community Group Leader, Crosstrainers, Young Adults, Men's, and Women's retreats
 - Manages CCLI copyright Licensing and reporting for all ministries of the church
 - Oversees the tuning and maintenance schedules for all MPC acoustic pianos
 - Attends and participates in staff devotions, staff meetings, and staff training
 - Performs other duties as assigned
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POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Sinner saved by grace; vibrant, growing, spirit-empowered relationship with God through Jesus Christ
 - Passionate about the vision and grace-driven philosophy of MPC
 - Understands and appreciates Reformed Theology
 - Skilled in music performance and leadership - vocal and instrumental preferred
 - Skilled in giving direction to and leading other musicians - rhythm band core with one or more additional classical instruments (strings, woodwinds, or brass)
 - Strong organizational, interpersonal, and grace-filled leadership skills
 - Familiarity with Planning Center Online, ProPresenter, and Adobe InDesign software a plus
 - Ability and desire to work under the direction of the Director of Worship
 - Ability and desire to embrace our staff culture: a) Focus - We don't take ourselves too seriously; we do take Jesus and the work he's given us seriously; b) Family - We love our church family - and we want to love each other well; c) Fun - God rules and reigns so we can enjoy the ride
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TO APPLY

Submit materials - including a cover letter, resume, questionnaire answers (see below), and video examples of applicant leading worship - to Jeff Vogan, Director of Worship (jeffvogan@mcleanpres.org).



Tell Us About Your Faith, Worship Philosophy & Leadership Style

Please answer the questions below and return to jeffvogan@mcleanpres.org

1. Please share your understanding of what it means to be a Christian and describe your own church background and spiritual journey. We want to know how you came to faith in Christ, how your faith has been part of your life (in the highs and lows), and how you would characterize your current relationship with God.
2. What sense of calling do you have, and what are your vocational goals? How do you see this job opportunity fitting with your sense of calling and goals?
3. Based on all your experiences to date (employment, education, volunteer, etc.), what kinds of things do you most enjoy doing, and what things do you dislike doing? Please explain.
4. Describe the style of worship music you most enjoy leading and what style(s) of music you dislike or not enjoy leading. (Please provide a sample recording of your leading at least two songs. Don't stress over the audio quality; we just want to get a feel for your leadership style.)
5. Name three of your favorite hymns and three of your favorite contemporary songs for worship. Choose one of these songs and explain why it's one of your favorites.
6. Name two of the most common stylistic mistakes you think worship leaders make.

WORSHIP

VISION, PHILOSOPHY, AND PRIORITIES

You've likely heard the old nickname for Presbyterians: "Frozen Chosen." But don't be fooled: the Reformed faith does not make you passionless about worship!

*In fact, doctrine drives us to doxology.
Knowing God's grace and truth leads us to worship him.*

Worship at McLean Presbyterian Church is pursued with great care and intent: it is based on a clear vision, rooted in a Biblical philosophy, and focused on a number of important priorities.

OUR VISION FOR WORSHIP

*Meeting with God together as we glorify and enjoy him
for who he is and what he's done for us*

A service of public worship is not merely a gathering of God's children with each other, but before all else, a meeting of the triune God with his chosen people. In worship, God graciously calls us into his presence to hear him speak to us through his Word and Spirit; and in worship, God transforms us by his Spirit to more like Jesus as we respond to him in faith and obedience.

As we gather, we glorify and enjoy God for who he is: infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth – the very definition of everything beautiful, good, and praiseworthy. Even if he had done nothing for us, he would still deserve our worship. How much more then do we worship when we think of all he has done for us! God is worthy of great honor, glory, and thanks for the salvation he has so graciously accomplished for us through Christ and applied to us by the Holy Spirit.

Each Sunday, it is our vision to truly meet with God together, glorifying and enjoying him for who he is and what he's done for us.

OUR WORSHIP PHILOSOPHY

Content, Form, Style

This rich theology directly impacts how we worship together on Sundays. Because of our vision, we prioritize content, form and style – in that order.

Content. We approach worship by thinking first and foremost about substance: the content of what we sing, pray, read and speak. We don't need the thoughts and opinions of men or women. We need God's living word. So, we seek to align and saturate the entire service with Scripture. Specifically, we seek to be Trinitarian (worship is enabled by and owed to Father, Son, and Spirit) and Christ-Centered (he is the mediator who brings us to God).

Content is the central priority that forms the foundation of our worship philosophy and priorities.

Content, **Form**, Style

Form. We have a set order or liturgy that we work through each week, which is designed to reinforce our content. Our liturgy rehearses the gospel story through each step of our worship service:

We start with a prayer of invocation and the call to worship. God deserves and demands our praise, so we ask him to empower us to worship, so that the service will bring glory to him and good to us.

We move to songs of adoration, recognizing that God is intrinsically worthy of praise.

We then move into a time of confession, assurance, and peace: having seen God and his greatness, we recognize our own sin – both corporate and personal – and are reminded of the gospel’s promise of forgiveness and the impact it has on us.

Then we move into the congregational prayer, where we recognize that the sovereign God who saves us also cares about the details of our lives, so we can take our concerns to him.

After the prayer comes the sermon, which is always a rehearsal of the gospel: different applications of Christ’s sufficiency and greatness.

And finally, we have the song of sending, the benediction and the dismissal. These pieces remind us that we don’t exist for ourselves. We are to take what we have received and learned and be salt and light to the world.

Each step of our service, each section of liturgy, is aligned with Scripture and reinforces the content of gospel truth, placing Christ at the center of our worship.

Content, Form, **Style**

Style. After content and form comes style. While content and form are far more important, unfortunately style (particularly in music) is the area that often causes debate within so many churches and indeed our own. We describe our style of congregational music as “blended.” Two further terms explain what we mean by this second term.

First: diversity. We want to sing the great hymns of our heritage and the best contemporary songs too. In our worship music we want to encourage one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs as we sing to the Lord with all our heart (Eph. 5:19). We want to praise the Lord with all our voices, young and old (Ps. 148:12-13), and with a variety of instruments (Ps. 150), from organ to drum kit, from piano to guitar, strings, woodwinds, and brass.

Second: unity. We want to artistically combine and arrange for modern and classical instruments to play together in worship. We want our people to sing with united voices across generations and transcending personal style preferences in music – giving a beautiful illustration and testimony of our unity in Christ and our love and deference for one another as many members of one body (1 Cor. 12-13). Diversity in songs, ages, and instruments + unity of instruments, voices, and hearts = blended worship.

OUR WORSHIP PRIORITIES

Relationship with God, Participation, Conviction, Freedom, Family

When thinking about worship, the vision is our starting point. Because we have a vision of meeting with God together as we glorify and enjoy him for who he is and what he's done for us, we then structure our worship accordingly. When the pastors and worship staff sit down to plan our worship, the following priorities also influence our thinking:

Relationship with God. Corporate worship, at its core, is a meeting between God and his covenant people; therefore, we want to enter into every part of worship in light of God's presence with us. If Jesus were to return and stand in the middle of our sanctuary one Sunday, it shouldn't make a difference to our praise. Why? Because he is already in our midst! God is with us in worship not only by virtue of his divine omnipresence, but much more intimately, as our faithful covenant Savior. Engagement in worship is part of our personal relationship with the God of heaven and earth! This changes how we think about worship.

Participation. This priority is so central to how we think about worship. Worship is not a passive, consumer experience. It's a dialogue between God and his people. In worship, God speaks to us by his word and Spirit, and we respond back to him in a number of ways - through various forms of prayers, singing, silence, posture, sacraments, offerings, confessions of faith, vows, and acts of commitment. The entire service of worship can be viewed as a holy conversation back and forth between God and his people. We want our people to be active participants in this holy dialogue.

Conviction. Grace-filled worship involves authentic participation and genuine emotion as we respond to God's word and Spirit. When we are singing songs about the joy of the gospel, we want our hearts to feel that joy! Likewise, when we sing about the brokenness of our sin, we want to feel sorrow. This is not emotionalism, but conviction. The truth of the gospel ought to convict our hearts - this is a Biblical emotional response. We want to engage the head and the heart and so fully participate in worship.

Freedom. Believers around the world worship the Lord in so many different ways; when you have a relationship with God, you should feel free to respond in a way that is well with your soul. Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom (2 Cor. 3:17). We want every person know the freedom of worshipping God regardless of circumstances of joy or grief, ease or struggle, fear or confidence, lack or abundance. Whether you want to smile, laugh, cry, say "Amen," raise your hands, or bow your head, you should feel free to worship in a way that reflects where you are and what the Lord is doing in your heart.

Family. Within this small community, there is much diversity - diversity in style, tradition, preference, age, personality, and instinct. While one style may not be a personal favorite, each worshiper can value how it may facilitate participatory worship for other members of this family. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. Where Satan is, there is division; division is his calling card. We are a family and we strive to love each other as such!

When we plan our Sunday services, these priorities, laid on the foundation of our philosophy and vision, drive the songs we sing, the prayers we pray, and each and every component of the service. We come together to be in the presence of God and to worship him in Spirit and in truth.