



worship ministry
psalm 89:15

Ministry Manual

*What an awesome privilege it is to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in this worship ministry!
Let us approach it with reverence, humility and great excitement as we know God promises to
draw all men unto himself as He is exalted.*

What is our purpose?

- first and foremost, to love God and love people. Remember, nothing we do is worth anything unless we have love and are motivated by it (1 Corinthians 13). Our love gives weight to what we bring to God and to his people.
- to serve God and serve the body of Christ, here at Center City Church and abroad. It is our responsibility to do what we can to provide an environment where those who gather here can have a real encounter with God through worship.

We connect with God as we worship him; we cannot take people where we have not gone ourselves. As worship leaders and ministers, our worship on stage should be only a small extension of our **lives** of worship (Romans 12). A life of worship only comes out of a living, experiential relationship with God; we need to experience God in order to lead people to him. And it is all “from Him, through Him, and to Him”(Romans 11).

We connect with people by being culturally relevant and prepared for our services; respecting where they are at and making it easy for them to get with God. They have to know we have their best interests at heart.

- to bring revelation of who God is and what he is doing; what happens when the music is done? Is there a work going on in people’s hearts? We seek God regularly in prayer so that our hearts are sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- to empower God’s people to fulfill their destinies; inspire people to come fully alive to God’s plan for them. God’s presence fills us and encourages us in our services, but it should not stay solely within the church walls. God’s presence moves us to action; it changes us and causes us to grow. It should accompany us as we love our families, work at our jobs, and reach out to the world around us.

What is our motivation?

- God’s love for us and in turn our love for Him
- love for the body of Christ-our brothers and sisters here and abroad
- love for the world-those who have not yet come to know the salvation and goodness of God

The following guidelines and expectations are intended for those involved in the worship band, choir members, ensemble vocalists and worship leaders:

Dress Code:

The purpose of our dress code is to allow everyone the freedom to worship God passionately and to express that worship in all forms. For example, it's hard to dance if you have 6 inch heels on and it's hard to kneel if your pants are too tight, etc. It's also hard for the congregation to concentrate on worship when they are distracted by what we are wearing. Contemporary, dressy/casual attire will be expected for those scheduled to play/sing.

Appropriate attire for men includes dress slacks or in-style jeans, button down shirts, polos or sweaters, and dress/casual shoes free of excessive wear and tear. Suit coats and ties are not required. Appropriate attire for men does **not** include shorts, t-shirts or open-toed sandals or flip flops.

Appropriate attire for women includes dress slacks or in-style jeans, skirts that fall to knee length or below, dress shirts or sweaters, dress shoes or boots free of excessive wear and tear. Appropriate attire for women does **not** include short skirts, shorts, pants that do not cover the rear when bending over, shirts that show excessive cleavage, or flip flops. If ever you have questions about certain items, just ask.

Practices:

Practices enable us to play "skillfully" before the Lord (I Samuel 16, Psalm 33). They also enable us to passionately worship God during our services because we are not consumed with the technicalities of playing/singing the songs. It is essential that we have everyone's participation in the practices as we will not be a cohesive team without.

Practices are held 2x/month, on Saturdays, either from 1-3 p.m. or 6-8 p.m. in the church sanctuary. You will be scheduled on a team for *one* of the Saturdays per month. You may attend both, but are not required to. If you cannot make your scheduled practice, please switch with someone of your own vocal part/instrument. If you unable to make both practices, contact the worship director to set up a time to practice what was covered. If on a particular day you are scheduled, you are not prepared to do the songs covered in practice, you may not play/sing as scheduled.

It is also essential that everyone arrives to the practices on time; it is unfair to others on the team and wastes time and productivity.

Sunday Morning Schedule:

6:45 am - *optional* prayer time; sanctuary is open for anyone to come pray

7:30 am - meet for team prayer in sanctuary

7:45 am - prepare for practice: tune instruments, pull music, check mics, check headphones and monitor mixes, etc

8:00 am - practice and sound check

9:00 am - break

9:15 am - gather for team prayer in prep room

9:30 am - get in place while video announcements run

9:35 am - start worship set

10:10 am - close worship set

Scheduling:

The monthly schedule is sent out 2 weeks in advance; please make me aware of any dates you are unavailable to play/sing. This will keep changes to the schedule at a minimum. If you are unable to play/sing on a date you are scheduled, please find a replacement and make the worship leader for that service aware.

Worship Lists:

Worship lists are sent out each Tuesday. If you are unfamiliar with any of the songs or have any questions or concerns, please contact the worship leader immediately. This allows time during the week to practice and prepare.

Communication:

Open and clear communication is necessary for any team to function. Be willing and diligent to communicate anything that affects the other team members, the services, or the other ministries of the church. This will cut down on misunderstandings and frustration.

E-mail is the preferred method of communication. If you have an e-mail address, please check it at least once per day to keep up to date. If you do not have an e-mail address, you will be kept informed with letters and phone calls.

Prep Room:

In the Prep Room closets, you will find the following: Gum, mints, church bulletins for Sunday services, and office supplies. Feel free to use these as needed. You will also find books, cds, and dvds. These are for check-out purposes; we only have a limited number of copies. To check out such items, please fill out the sign-out sheet in the basket. In additional baskets, you will find a contact sheet with member contact information, extra copies of the schedules and newsletters. Details of upcoming events, worship seminars, etc. will also be put in the baskets so check them frequently.

Musicians' binders are located on the bottom shelf of the bookcase. You are welcome to create your own binder, but the musicians' binders are to stay in the prep room. The reason for this is so that notes made from time to time may be saved for future uses and different musicians will have the same music to play from. Please return any music pulled from these binders promptly.

There is also a file cabinet with copies of all songs normally done in our services. Feel free to take copies as needed; it is restocked periodically. The top section is for transposed music and the section below is for music in the original keys.

Newsletters:

Our monthly newsletters are a great way to keep connected; they arrive the first week of each month. Feel free to submit information you'd like to see put in them; things like prayer requests, praise reports, upcoming events, good books, cds, dvds you know of, internet links, or articles you've written.

Special Events:

You may be contacted or scheduled for special services that require a worship band and/or vocalists.