

St. Andrew Lutheran Church  
Eden Prairie, Minnesota

## Canticle Choir Director

### Position Description

Part-Time Salaried

Accountable to the Director of Worship & Music

### CONGREGATION AND CHOIR DESCRIPTION

St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, was founded in 1976. We average over 1000 worshipers on a typical Sunday during the program year and our attendance is growing. We are a community of believers, centered in Christ and rooted in grace, who are *Living Out Our Faith in Daily Life*. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and part of the Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA.

With a passion for excellence and 40-50 singers, Canticle Choir, is a classically-oriented ensemble which celebrates 4-part choral music in the Lutheran tradition. The choir members love to sing God's praises and minister to the congregation through spirit filled and heart felt singing.

**POSITION OBJECTIVE:** To develop, direct and grow the Canticle Choir of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in order to provide inspirational anthems in worship and a meaningful ministry opportunity to all who participate

### KEY FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

#### Direct and Lead Canticle Choir

- Search out, recruit, and invite new choir members, making all singers feel welcome and valued as members of the music ministry.
- Nurture, teach, and encourage involvement, helping members to improve vocal performance skills and grow in their musical knowledge and abilities
- Help members fulfill their role as leaders in worship and recognize the significant contribution the choir makes to the worship experience
- Prepare for the program year in advance through selection of choir anthems that align with the text or theme of the week. Order new music as needed.
- Schedule, prepare for, and lead weekly rehearsals approximately from September through May, ensuring the choir is well-prepared and always striving for excellence in their performance
- Direct choir performance in Sunday morning worship as well as most festival worship services, including Rally Sunday, Reformation Sunday, All Saints Sunday, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and other services as requested by the Lead Pastor or Director of Worship & Music

#### Serve as an Active and Supportive Member of St. Andrew Music Staff

- Meet with music staff regularly in order to:
  - a. Build cohesiveness and support with one another
  - b. Offer creative ideas to strengthen the overall ministry
- Work with other staff and lay volunteers in a positive and supportive way
- Prepare music budget for the Canticle Choir and submit annually to the Director of Worship & Music

## QUALIFICATIONS AND LEADERSHIP ATTRIBUTES

### Musical/Teaching:

1. Technical skills that include expertise in conducting a volunteer choir
2. Proficiency in rehearsal planning and efficient use of rehearsal time
3. Knowledge of sacred choral literature and able to select and conduct anthems in a variety of musical styles, including traditional, contemporary, and Gospel
4. Ability to communicate with vitality and energy through conducting gestures, facial expression, and verbal cues; to give guidance, correction, and instruction with appropriate regard for maintaining morale and feeling of teamwork and cooperation among choir members
5. Ability to demonstrate and teach vocal skills to individuals with widely varied skill levels
6. Ability to develop soloists and small groups within the choir and to direct instrumentalists as needed for festival worship times
7. Ability to conduct in a way that allows the choir to communicate the text with emotion and the congregation to receive the message in the music

### General:

1. Ability to motivate and inspire the choir, sharing our love of Jesus through sacred choral music and worship leadership
2. Desire to continually strive for excellence in all aspects of choir leadership and musical performance
3. Commitment to growing the choir in numbers, in vocal skills, and musical knowledge
4. Ability to form and maintain strong collaborative team with choir accompanist(s), assistant director, and others (e.g. choir music librarians, Director of Music, etc.)

### Education and Experience:

Education, training, and experience in choral conducting; membership in professional association(s) such as ACDA

## KEY OUTCOMES

1. Canticle Choir will provide meaningful and inspirational anthems that will enhance worship for all who attend services
2. Canticle Choir members will grow in their musical abilities, including vocal performance skills and worship leadership skills
3. Canticle Choir members will experience a sense of community through well-planned rehearsals that include an opportunity to grow in their faith
4. Canticle Choir will grow in membership

### OTHER:

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and resume.

Compensation is dependent on qualifications.