

Psalm 40:3 (ESV)

*He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the LORD.*

While the worship of God is more than singing and music, we recognize singing and music to be an important means of worship (Eph. 5:19; Matt. 26:30). We recognize challenges today with trends towards performance based events, instrument driven worship, demographically specific music, and stylistic rooted music—instead, our desire is to apply our stated worship practice, as best we can, to our songs and instruments, trusting the Holy Spirit to guide us in direction and unity.

Applying our Worship practice to our songs and instruments brings us to certain conclusions:

What we sing:

Psalm 147:1 (ESV)

*Praise the LORD!
For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.*

- 1) The words we sing should be true. Our desire is to be theologically correct in our praises.
- 2) The words we sing should be a blend of psalms (scripture), hymns and spiritual songs.
- 3) The words we sing should be a blend of singing about God, to God, and in response to God both corporately and individually.
- 4) The words we sing should be heard. We recognize the priority of voices over instruments that accompany. Our desire is to be a singing church family. Our focus will not be on what people like to *listen to individually*, but on what our people will *sing to corporately*.

What we play:

Psalm 33:2–3 (ESV)

²*Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!*
³*Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.*

- 1) The instruments we play should be played well.
- 2) The instruments should help us sing rather than overwhelm our singing.
- 3) The instruments will tend to prioritize piano, then guitars and others as the Lord directs.
- 4) The instruments we play may be varied depending on the gifting of those the Lord brings into our church family.

How We Hear:

Our Sound ministry leaders will read and understand our worship policy and be willing to serve under its direction and under authority in a team environment.

Ministering Music at Peoples Church

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17 (ESV)

Those who are interested in sharing in any part of the Music Ministry of Peoples Church will:

- Be attending and committed to our local body (church) and be moving toward membership. Leaders of teams should be members.
- Have a desire to walk closely with the Lord with evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in their lives.
- Recognize that we are vessels used to bring glory to the Lord and draw others into a worship atmosphere—the focus is not on us but on the Lord.
- Dress appropriately. We ask ladies to wear skirts at knee length or dress pants. Stay away from tight fitting clothes and low tops. We ask that men wear either a suit or dress pants with a collared shirt. No Jeans.
- Be available for scheduled practices and to join the elders/worship team for prayer time at 10:15 am before the service begins.
- Have read and understood our church worship policy and be willing to practice it and serve under authority in a team environment.

We ask that those who sing for special music would also:

- Let the church office know by Wednesday the title of the song(s) and the number of songs you have been asked to sing.
- We ask those who are seeking participation in the special music ministry to audition their skills with the special music coordinator before public participation.