

Matthew A. Gerhardt

Summary Information

May 3, 2021

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Matthew Gerhardt, St. Paul's Associate Minister of Music, is being considered for a call as the Kantor at St. Paul's, Des Peres. The position is very similar to the present office of Minister of Music. The nomenclature of Kantor has historically been the title of German church music directors in the Lutheran tradition. The term is being used increasingly in the United States today to denote that position in liturgical Lutheran congregations. Matthew Gerhardt is an excellent candidate for that position here.

Matt's formal education in theology and church music has prepared him for this office.

- Master of Music, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana May 2016
Major: Organ Performance
- Guest Student, Hochschule für Kirchenmusik, Herford, Germany 2012-2013
Major: Organ Performance
- Bachelor of Arts, Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, Wisconsin May 2012
Major: Organ and Parish Music
Minor: Theological Languages
LCMS Certification: Director of Parish Music
Graduated *Summa cum laude*

Matt's recent church music positions have provided him with experience in this capacity.

- St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Des Peres
Associate Minister of Music 2020-Present
Organist, Director of the Adult and School Choir
Assistant Minister of Music 2019-2020
Organist, Director of School Choir, Adult Choir Accompanist
Music Ministry Assistant 2018-2019
Organist, Accompanist
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, Indiana 2014-2018
Assistant Organist & Choir Director

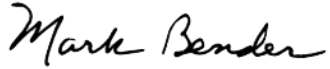
Matthew Gerhardt has been blessed with extraordinary musical gifts. Daily he hones the skills that make him a first-class church musician. He is a student of Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. He understands and upholds worship in the Lutheran tradition. He is a man of prayer. Centered in Word and Sacraments, the Divine Service is a place of refreshment and reinvigoration for him.

Matt has a pleasant and winsome personality. He works well with people. He has endeared himself to many members of our congregation and to many of the students in our school. He has the confidence and respect of our pastors, teachers, staff, and parish leadership.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 and the attendant restrictions for mitigation, Matt has creativity planned and worked to provide Adult Choir participation in Sanctuary services. The result has been welcomed by both the choristers and the congregants.

Matthew Gerhardt exemplifies the office of Kantor. He is a servant of the Gospel and the people he is called to serve. He has my full, unequivocal endorsement. I pray that it will be the Lord's will that Matt receives and accepts the call as St. Paul's Kantor.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Bender". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "Mark" and "Bender" being capitalized and prominent.

Mark Bender
Minister of Music