

# Choir Homework: Practicing Well at Home

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Spring 2026

## The In-CHOIR-er

Your work at home makes our time together more joyful and efficient. Even **10–15 focused minutes** can make a huge difference. Here are a few simple, effective ways to practice between rehearsals:

### 1. Practice Smart, Not Long

- Short, consistent practice beats one long session.
- Aim for **10–20 minutes**, 2–3 times a week.
- Stop before you're tired—good habits stick better than rushed ones.

### 2. Listen First, Then Sing

- Listen to your part recording or full choir recording once through.
- Follow your score and notice:
  - entrances
  - tricky rhythms
  - repeated patterns
- Then sing along, and finally try singing **without the recording**.

### 3. Speak the Rhythm & Text

- Clap or tap rhythms before singing.
- Speak the text in rhythm—especially helpful for syncopation or wordy passages.
- Clear text = confident singing.

### 4. Mark Your Music

- Circle tricky intervals.
- Write in breaths, reminders, or cues.
- Pencil is your best rehearsal partner.

### 5. Isolate Trouble Spots

- Don't always start at the beginning.
- Loop just **2–4 measures** that are tricky.
- Slow it down, then gradually bring it up to tempo.

### 6. Sing Lightly, Accurately

- You don't need full voice at home.
- Focus on **pitch, rhythm, and text**, not volume.
- A relaxed, accurate run-through is far more valuable than belting.

### 7. Pray It Once

- Before or after practicing, take a quiet moment.
- Remember: this music is ministry.
- Even one prayerful sing-through can change how the music feels on Sunday.

### 8. Show Up Ready, Not Perfect

- The goal isn't flawlessness—it's familiarity.
- When everyone comes in knowing their part, rehearsal becomes music-making, not note-learning.

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## IN EVERY SEASON... GIVE THANKS

As we journey from Easter through Pentecost and into early summer, our music ministry continues to be a place of faith, fellowship, and shared purpose. This season invites us to sing songs of resurrection and renewal while remaining attentive to the Spirit's movement among us.

To each of you who shows up week after week—thank you. Your time, preparation, and willingness to offer your gifts matter more than you may ever realize. Every rehearsal, every anthem, every note rung or sung is an act of worship, even on the days when energy feels low or schedules feel full.

As Scripture reminds us, *"Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up."* (Galatians 6:9)

As summer approaches and rhythms begin to shift, may you be encouraged to know that your faithfulness is seen, valued, and deeply appreciated. Our music is not about perfection, but about presence—offering what we have to God and trusting that it is enough.

Thank you for being part of this ministry and for sharing your voices, hands, and hearts in service to the church.

-Alex

**!!!IMPORTANT DATES!!!**

**NO CHOIR PRACTICE  
6/3-8/2**

**Pop Up Choir Starts  
6/3-8/2  
9:45am in choir room**

**PRACTICE STARTS BACK  
8/5/26!**

**2026 Spring Practice Schedule**

April 1<sup>st</sup>- Worship

April 5<sup>th</sup>- Easter Sunday 9:00 and 11:00

April 8<sup>th</sup>- Rehearsal 6:30-8:00pm

April 12<sup>th</sup>- Worship

April 15<sup>th</sup>- NO REHEARSAL

April 19<sup>th</sup>- Worship

April 22<sup>nd</sup>- Rehearsal 6:30pm-8:00pm

April 26<sup>th</sup>- Worship

April 29<sup>th</sup>- Rehearsal 6:30pm-8:00pm

May 3<sup>rd</sup>- YOUTH SUNDAY- NO CHOIR

May 6<sup>th</sup>- Rehearsal 6:30pm-8:00pm

May 10<sup>th</sup>- Worship

May 13<sup>th</sup>- Rehearsal 6:30pm-8:00pm

May 17<sup>th</sup>- Worship

May 20<sup>th</sup>- Rehearsal 6:30pm-8:00pm

**2026 Spring Practice Schedule  
Continued**

May 24<sup>th</sup>- Worship

May 27<sup>th</sup>- FINAL Rehearsal 6:30pm-8:00pm

May 31<sup>st</sup>- Worship

**JOIN THE MUSIC MINISTRY!**

WHO: You! Bring a friend!

WHEN: Wednesdays  
4:30-5:30 Handbells (Fellowship Hall)  
6:30-8:00 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)

WHY: Because singing is like praying twice!

firstiopmusicministry@gmail.com

**A Prayer for the Season**

Gracious God,

As spring unfolds and Easter light lingers among us, we thank you for the gift of new life and renewed hope. We lift before you those who are sick, grieving, or weary. Bring healing where there is pain, comfort where there is loss, and strength to all who need your sustaining presence. Breathe your Holy Spirit into our worship and our lives, that we may love boldly, serve faithfully, and carry your light into the world.

We pray in the name of the Risen Christ. Amen.

**Upcoming Music:**

- April 5<sup>th</sup>-**  
 “This Is the Day that the Lord Has Made”- Mark Hayes  
 “What a Beautiful Name”- Joseph Martin
- April 12<sup>th</sup>-** “All Things New”- Elaine Hagenberg
- April 19<sup>th</sup>-**“He Never Failed Me Yet”- Robert Ray
- May 10<sup>th</sup>-** “What A Fellowship”- David Cherwien
- May 17<sup>th</sup>-** “Children of God”- Mark Hayes
- May 24<sup>th</sup>-** Pentecost  
 “Fill-a Me Up!”- Pepper Choplin  
 “Spirit Divine”- Nancy Ruthe Durance
- May 31<sup>st</sup>-** “Thou Art Holy”- Craig Courtney

# MUSIC MINISTRY WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Summer 2026 6:00-8:00pm  
Snacks and refreshment provided!

<b>JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>Sing Better, Feel Better</b> Breathing, posture, and happy voices.
<b>JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>PANIC! in the choir room?</b> Reading notes, rhythms, and “oohhhh..., that’s how it works!”
<b>JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>How Choirs ACTUALLY work...</b> Listening, blending, and not sticking out
<b>JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Why Hymns SLAP!</b> What makes a hymn stick, and why we love them.
<b>JULY 8<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Same Notes, Different Feel</b> How music changes the mood in worship.

<b>JULY 15<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Bells, Beats and EXTRA SPARKLE!</b> Adding Percussion in Worship  <i>(10 Participants minimum)</i>
<b>JULY 22<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>All Together Now:</b> Worship Planning, behind the scenes! YOU plan the hymns for August 2 <sup>nd</sup> !
<b>AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>How “Sweet” the Sound</b> 4:00pm- Sanctuary Old-fashioned Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social

For more details and updates about these events, please  
email Alex at [fristioptmusicministry@gmail.com](mailto:fristioptmusicministry@gmail.com)

OUR MINISTRY SEASON Winter 2025-2026

