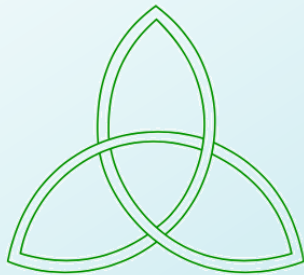


**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**SWARTHMORE, PA**



Seeking our next  
**Director of Music**

301 N. Chester Rd.  
Swarthmore, PA 19081  
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[www.trinity-swarthmore.org](http://www.trinity-swarthmore.org)  
[YouTube](#)



## Music at Trinity

Music at Trinity has a long and storied history as part of worship and as a free-standing ministry. Trinity has supported two music-based liturgies during the academic program year for two decades: a choral Eucharist with full choir and chanted elements; and a more informal Eucharist geared toward children. Music for this earlier service, currently at 9:15 am, has been supported at various times by piano, guitar, dulcimer, and the occasional volunteer instrumentalist.

With the retirement of our longstanding Director of Music, Trinity seeks a **person or persons** to help us live into the next chapter of our communal life through music. Among our goals for the music program are to support the fine choral tradition Trinity has kept, to deepen the musical experience of the 9:15 am congregation as informed by sound theology and musicology, and to afford musicians and budding musicians (instrumental and vocal) appropriate avenues for bringing their gifts into the life of the worshipping community. To adapt St. Augustine slightly, we believe that "those who sing, pray twice" and that the practice of music has a way of opening human beings to things spiritual.

## About Trinity

Founded in 1895, Trinity Episcopal Church is a vibrant church community serving the Swarthmore-Wallingford area and beyond. Trinity both serves and draws from being adjacent to Swarthmore College, an elite liberal arts college. Our active membership extends from Philadelphia, west to West Chester, and across the Delaware River into New Jersey. Though the pandemic cut into our active programmatic life, we are traditionally strong and actively rebuilding in Education for All Ages, Outreach, and Music. Adapting to the pandemic, we invested in developing capacities for hybrid worship, education, and musical performance, allowing us to reach people anywhere in the world. Trinity is a local hub of community that regularly responds in faith to local, regional, and global questions and concerns. We recently received a half million-dollar gift that will allow us to renovate an owned but unused property, which upon completion, will further expand our capacity to serve the worshipping community and beyond. We have a committed membership core and regularly receive newcomers into our communal life.

## About Our Rector

The Rev. Dr. Edward E. Thompson came to Trinity with his family in the summer of 2018 from the San Francisco Bay Area. Born and raised in Maryland, Fr. Ted graduated from Williams College and lived in Japan and England before resettling in the United States. With graduate work in Asian studies and a Ph.D. in conflict and peace studies in addition to his M.Div., he brings a breadth of experience to his pastoring and preaching. In addition, his significant background in the performing arts, notably as a vocalist in classical and folk genres, makes him comfortable collaborating in worship across a variety of liturgical styles.



## Our Vision

We have an exciting vision for music that will call on an array of gifts and skills. As we enter this next chapter of Trinity's life with music, we are therefore prayerfully seeking the right **person or persons** who enjoy a collaborative work environment to lead us into fulfilling goals in various areas:

### 11 am liturgy

- Continue the tradition of excellence in the Anglican choral tradition
- Expand the repertoire of the adult choir to include 20th- and 21st-century compositions selected from the global repertoire
- Support strong congregational singing through the selection, accompaniment, and teaching of hymns, service music, and songs

### 9:15 am liturgy

- Continue the integration of music as a theologically and aesthetically informed aspect of non-traditional worship
- Support strong congregational singing through the selection, accompaniment, and teaching of hymns, service music, and songs

### Congregational Engagement

- Actively engage with people of all ages and skill levels to use and develop their musical talent and skills in the music life of the church
- Develop the overall musicality of the worshipping congregation in both song and instrumental contributions, as appropriate
- Create ways for the two services to share music and musicians as liturgically appropriate.
- Be active in building a welcoming and inclusive community aligned with our parish mission statement.



## Position Description

The following responsibilities may be fulfilled by one or two people, for example, an organist/accompanist and a choral director:

### **Direct the 11 am adult choir**

- Refine the vision for the adult choir, in collaboration with the Rector and as informed by choral and congregational involvement
- Select liturgically appropriate music for worship from multiple sources, in collaboration of the Rector
- Rehearse weekly with the choir mid-week (currently Thursday evenings) and on Sunday mornings
- Schedule and conduct additional rehearsals as necessary for Christmas, Holy Week, and concerts
- Recruit and welcome new choir members
- Identify and hire musicians (e.g., string players, brass) for special services and concerts

### **Provide organ or piano accompaniment for the 11 am service**

- Accompany choir and congregation
- Provide voluntaries before and after service
- Be available to provide music, with or without choir, for pastoral offices (marriages and burials) at other times of the week or find a substitute (Paid separately)

### **Direct congregational singing for 9:15 am service**

- Select music from current “Songbook” and multiple other sources, in collaboration with the Rector
- Lead congregational singing, along with Rector and volunteer song leaders as may be developed





## Position Description (continued)

### Summer Months

- Accompany 10 am service (hymns, no choir) on organ and piano, or guitar
- Organize music for occasional outdoor services

### Year-round

- Encourage and work with musically inclined parishioners toward musical participation in the worship life of the parish
- Lead a children/youth ensemble of singers in occasional contributions to the 9:15 am and 11 am services
- Bring your own ideas for the development of the 9:15 am congregation through music

### Supervision and Administration

- Consult regularly with the Rector on efforts to live into the vision for Music Ministries
- Participate in bi-weekly liturgy planning meetings
- Hire and supervise section leaders and other paid musicians, ensuring that hours are tracked and reported to the office and appropriate paperwork is complete
- Submit draft music lists to the Rector for liturgy or liturgies under your musical charge
- Maintain and develop our music library
- Assure licensing compliance
- Complete necessary background checks and online training in Safe Church



# Choir Programming

The choir sings one or two anthems most Sundays, as well as service music and hymns. Christmas Eve has traditionally included a choral prelude before the service, and Holy Week includes a wide range of music, including a mass with an orchestra for Easter Sunday. Special programs during the year have included an Advent Evensong or an Advent Lessons and Carols service, cabarets, concerts, and recitals to raise money for the music program or other organizations. These have included programs of opera scenes, art song recitals, performances of Baroque cantatas, Debussy's "The Prodigal Son." and more recently a performance of the Brahms Liebeslieder Waltzes. The recently rebuilt Steinway in the sanctuary is an ideal instrument for accompaniment. The choir has also collaborated with other churches and choirs for special concerts. In January 2019, the choir traveled to Haiti with instrumentalists to perform in a concert benefitting Haitian social services.

## Representative Choir Repertoire

There are currently more than 880 octavos in the choral library, as well as major works housed in another facility:

Allegri: "*Miserere mei*"  
Biebl: "*Ave Maria*"  
Brahms: "*Lass dich nur nichts*"  
Byrd: Mass for Four Voices  
Darke: "In the Bleak Midwinter"  
Desamours: "*Papa Nou*"  
Elgar: "*O Salutaris Hostia*"  
Fauré: "*Tantum ergo*"  
Gibbons: "Short Service"  
Gjeilo "*Ubi Caritas*"  
Haydn: "*Insanae et Vanae Curae*"  
Howells: "A Spotless Rose"  
Lotti: "*Miserere mei*"  
Manz: "E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come"  
McFerrin: "23rd Psalm (Dedicated to My Mother)"  
Mendelssohn: "How Lovely Are the Messengers"  
Palestrina: "*Sicut Cervus*" and "*Sitivit anima mea*," "*Magnificat*"  
Poston: "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree"  
Poulenc: "*Motets pour le temps de Noël*"  
Purcell "Rejoice in the Lord Alway"  
Rachmaninoff "*Bogoroditse Djevo*",  
Stanford "*Benedictus* in C," "Psalm 150," "Evening Service in G"  
Victoria: "*O Magnum Mysterium*," "*Conditor Alme*"  
Warlock: "Bethlehem Down," "*Balulalow*"

### Major Works Performed

Brahms: *Liebeslieder Walzer* (fundraiser)  
Haydn: Little Organ Mass  
Mozart: "Vesperae Solennes De Confessore,"  
"Regina Coeli," "Mass in D Major"  
Malcolm: *Missa ad Praesepe*  
Rheinberger: Mass in C  
Schubert: Mass in G (also taken on tour to  
Haiti)



✠ BROOKS ✠

VAN GRAN WILL



## Music Department Resources

### Choir

The choir comprises 14-18 capable and experienced professional and amateur singers (four to seven sopranos, four altos, two tenors, and four basses). Extra professional singers are added for special programs and if there is a shortage in a section. There are currently section leaders in the soprano, tenor, and bass sections, as well as a second paid bass, for a weekly payroll of \$330-360.

### Musical Instruments

**The organ**, as originally installed, was a 17-rank, two-manual Casavant installed in 1978. Changes and additions have been made in recent years. The console is now fully digital. The original pedal 16" was replaced by a new reed that is a downward extension of the manual oboe. Since the instrument is in a chamber facing into the chancel, it sounds loud from the organ bench but produces a beautifully blended sound in the nave. The aggressive mixture has been moved into the swell box, making it usable in choral accompaniments. All the reeds are available at various pitches on both the swell, the great, and the pedal. Three Walker 16' voices were recently added to the instrument. The key action is "tracker touch." The instrument is in good mechanical condition.

**The Sanctuary piano** is a Steinway grand dating from the late 1980s. In the summer of 2022, major work was done on the piano, replacing the hammers and strings, as well as regulating the action.

**The Choir room piano** is a Yamaha electronic keyboard.



# Hours and Salary / Application Process

## Hours

25 hours/week (if two people, a total of 25-30 hours per week between the two)

## Vacation

Four Sundays per year

## Salary (commensurate with experience)

\$32,000 - \$35,000 (If the role is divided between two people, the total compensation for the two roles may be increased and adjusted according to the expected average hours per week.)

## Application Process

Please submit your resume with an email or letter expressing the reasons for your interest in music ministry with Trinity, along with your availability. Candidates will be considered on a rolling basis until the position or positions are filled.

## Contact

Bella Englebach, Search Committee Co-Chair, [bella.englebach@gmail.com](mailto:bella.englebach@gmail.com)



## Our Mission is...

to be a vital Christian community, affirming the gifts of all God's people: women and men; young and old; of every race, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, and disability. We are called by God to support each other at every stage of our faith journey as we pray, worship, proclaim the Gospel, and promote justice, peace, and love. By these means, we seek to restore all to unity with God and each other in Christ."

*A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania*