



NEW COVENANT CHRISTIAN CHURCH WORSHIP MANUAL

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created." —Revelation 4:11

"Without worship, we go about miserable." —A. W. Tozer

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. —Psalm 147:1

Mission of the Worship Department

The worship leaders and members should be familiar with and centered around a common goal, a mission to keep us going the same direction. The mission of the worship department at New Covenant Christian Church is as follows.

Mission: To engage people in unified, Jesus-centered worship

What does this look like?

The worship team should let this mission inform all that we do in the department, including song selection, musical/vocal preparedness and skill, stage presence, off-the-stage presence, team dynamics, the overall structure of the service, and more. The next section will address the practicals of how each worship team member can be a part of fulfilling this mission.

Being a Worship Team Member

Prerequisites

Those wishing to join the worship team at New Covenant Christian Church (NCCC) will follow an audition, interview, and trial process to help us identify the following:

- Personal and maturing relationship with Jesus;
- Musical skill, based on audition with worship leader and other worship team members;
- Commitment and faithfulness to all requirements of worship team as well as church services in general;
- Humble, teachable attitude and desire to grow, musically and spiritually; and
- Completion of START through NCCC, gaining a Planning Center Online account.

After displaying these qualities, a worship team candidate will join the team in a trial period. After this trial, the worship leader and candidate will meet together to discuss the member continuing on the worship team.

Responsibilities

Our desire is to make the best use of our time and provide a music ministry of integrity and excellence. The expectations for worship team volunteers are as follows:

- Prompt response to Planning Center scheduling (with clear reasons for declining, if applicable);
- Personal practice of songs for week, asking worship leader for direction, if necessary;
- Punctual presence at practices and services (times below), prepared to **begin playing at practice time** (guitars tuned, computer settings ready to be played, voices warmed up, etc.); and
- Positive and participatory attitude, making a point to encourage and respect others.

***Practice time: Wednesdays, 5:30pm-7:00pm**

***Sunday time required: 7:30am-end of second service**

***Debrief time: Sundays between services, 10:00am-10:10am**

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Behavior

Helpful Hints for making practices great for everyone:

As a team, we wish to demonstrate mutual respect for ourselves and each other. Be aware of your words! Call out the good in others, and avoid negative tones of voice and comments. If you have said something negative, make a point to right your wrong in some way.

At home, listen to and practice the weekly songs, checking your Music Stand app for the correct keys, making notes as necessary, so that you know your part before practice. **Practice with a metronome.**

Try not to “noodle” on your instrument in between songs during practices.

In order to engage people in worship, we ourselves must have a heart of worship for Jesus. Keep the Lord as your focus, and know your music well enough to sing along as much as possible during services.

Off the Stage:

Remember that the worship leader is here to serve, so if you have song suggestions, questions, or a problem with something, *talk to the leader* about it, and be aware of the right time to do so. If any issues arise, feel free to take it to the worship leader **in order to be helpful**, so that we can grow as a team.

Remember that someone probably helped you to develop your musical ability, so always be looking for a way to share your knowledge and help others grow.

Other Guidelines

What to bring to worship practices and services: Headphones/in-ear monitors, iPad/tablet (limited iPads available at church), all gear necessary, instrument (if not using in-house instrument)

Team members should wear clean, modest apparel to all church services. Gum-chewing is not permitted on stage during services.

On Sunday mornings, please sit in at least one of the services the whole time. If you need a break after one of the worship sets, you may take *up to 20 minutes* outside of the sanctuary, but be back in the sanctuary in plenty of time to re-enter the stage after the message (if applicable).

After the first service or debrief on Sunday mornings, make a point to be friendly and meet people.

If you are on a scheduled rotation of playing/singing, and you are not able to attend your week for some reason, check with the other musicians who play the same instrument as you and see if they are available to sub. Then, tell the worship leader that you are unavailable, and mention others' availability. You may also block out the dates in Planning Center online so that the leader knows not to schedule you.

If you use a church iPad, check the battery life before leaving on Sunday mornings and after Wednesday night practices, and turn it off or charge it in the office if necessary. Always put away your pack and tips after Sunday services.

In the event that you no longer wish to be a part of the worship team, we ask that you schedule an appointment for an honest, in-person conversation with the worship leader about your decision.