

Grangeville Christian Church

Praise Teams Guidelines

Updated 2023

PURPOSE: The praise teams at GCC will seek to glorify God and lead others in worship of Him through song, using their talents to the best of their abilities.

MISSION STATEMENT: *"Give praise to the Lord. Make his name known. Tell the nations what he has done. Sing to him. Sing praise to him. Tell about all the wonderful things he has done. Honor him, because his name is holy. Let the hearts of those who trust in the Lord be glad." 1 Chronicles 16:8-10*

Worship can be described as the act of giving honor and respect to God. When we worship Him, we are declaring to Him his worth, affirming who He is and what he has done. We respond to this through praise, adoration, thanksgiving, and awe. Worship is both through the attitude of one's heart as well as actions of praise. Although it is possible to worship God in many different forms, "praise teams" will primarily be leading the congregation in worship through song. In order to fulfill our mission statement, the worship teams will strive towards these things:

- **Excellence:** *"Work at everything you do with all your heart. Work as if you were working for the Lord, not for human masters." Colossians 3:23*
We will do the very best we can with what we have been given. Striving to be excellent does not mean we have to be perfect, but God gave us his best and deserves our best.
- **Creativity:** *"So God created human beings in his own likeness. He created them to be like himself. He created them as male and female." Genesis 1:27*
We will look for ways we can contribute to the creativity on our teams. Because God is creative (He created everything) and you were made in his image, you are, by nature, creative!
- **Unity:** *"Christ has accepted you. So accept one another in order to bring praise to God." Romans 15:7 "If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can." Romans 12:18*
We will seek in every way to live at peace with each other, no matter our creative differences. Disunity affects excellence.
- **Authenticity:** *"God is spirit. His worshipers must worship him in the Spirit and in truth." John 4:24 "All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No.' Anything more than this comes from the evil one." Matthew 5:37*
We will be real in what we say and do both at church and throughout the rest of our lives. Worship in spirit and truth means right hearts, right attitudes. No faking it.
- **Humility:** *"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves." Philippians 2:3*

We will lay down our pride and consider others over ourselves. Pride happens when we focus on ourselves, humility happens when we focus on what Christ has done for us.

- **Evangelism:** *“He said to them, “Go into all the world. Preach the good news to everyone.” Mark 16:15*

We will use our platform to teach the gospel. Lost people matter to God and it is our responsibility to tell them that he loves them and made a plan of salvation for them.

- **Fun:** *“So a person should enjoy their work. That’s what God made them for. I saw that there’s nothing better for them to do than that. After all, who can show them what will happen after they are gone?” Ecclesiastes 3:22 “A cheerful heart makes you healthy. But a broken spirit dries you up.” Proverbs 17:22*

We will do our best to enjoy our work and have a cheerful heart. After all, God has saved us and therefore, we have much to be cheerful about!

“God is not a God of disorder. He is a God of peace.” 1 Corinthians 14:33

In light of 1 Corinthians 14:33, there are some guidelines that we will try to follow as members of the praise teams at GCC.

REQUIREMENTS TO BE ON A PRAISE TEAM

Praise Team Member

- Represent Christ well both on stage and in life. Being on the platform, you have a higher responsibility to set an example for others.
- Musical training is not required, but your best efforts are. Practice on your own is encouraged between rehearsals.
- Be a regular attendee of church services at GCC.
- Be able to commit to a full year for at least one team. If you are willing, you may commit to more than one team. At the end of the year, you may reevaluate your commitment.

Praise Team Leader

- Meet all requirements for a Praise Team Member.
- Organize all practices for your team in conjunction with the church calendar.
- Choose music, keys, and flows monthly.
- Submit order of service with songs, flows, and cli numbers to administrative assistant on month prior to your next assigned service.
- Lead teams in prayer before practice to keep the focus on Christ.

Praise Teams Coordinator

- Meet all requirements for Praise Team Member.
- Organize Praise Teams calendar.
- Maintain master song list and keys.

- Vet songs for Biblical truth, sing ability, and key.

NUTS AND BOLTS

Rehearsals

- Rehearsals are typically the week before a team plays, during the week. The specific day and time will be set by your team leader in keeping with the church calendar and team members schedules.
- Be there 10-15 minutes early to set up and be ready to go by the set practice time. We want to be respectful of everyone's time.
- Generally speaking, if you aren't able to practice during the week, you won't serve the following Sunday. Although exceptions can be made to this rule on occasion, it will be at your team leaders discretion.

Absences

- If you are unable to make it on a Sunday for which you are scheduled, you will be responsible for finding your own substitute and letting your team leader know. This should be done two weeks in advance unless there is a sudden reason why you will not be able to attend. Please try to schedule things around the week you are committed to, so that we don't have to reschedule too many people.

Substitutions

- If you are able and willing, you may serve across teams if needed. Your first commitment will be to the team to which you are assigned.

PRAISE TEAM LEADERS

Music Selection

- Use GCC master song list. Teams are not limited only to this list, but songs not on the list must be vetted through the coordinator prior to performing new songs. New songs will be added to the master list as we go.
- New songs should be introduced to the congregation slowly.
- It is important for the keys to be in a singable range for the congregation. Keys for songs will be determined by the coordinator with help from the team leaders.

Service Guidelines

- The music part of the services should be 10-15 minutes long.
- Songs should consist of a mix of both traditional and contemporary songs, some faster, some slower.
- Assign communion background music to one or more team members.
- If applicable to your week, holiday songs may be included.
- Order of service as directed by the lead Pastor.