



# PRAISE TEAM

GOD HONORING  
CHRIST CENTERED  
SPIRIT FILLED

# Welcome to the Worship Ministry!

I am thrilled that you have decided to join our team! There is tremendous joy in serving the local church body and we find it a privilege to use our gifts to glorify our Savior while encouraging our congregation in worship.

The role of the Worship Ministry is not to perform but to communicate the gospel to people. We use our talents together to lead corporately while demonstrating a lifestyle of worship.

I want you to know that I find membership in this ministry extremely important. We have a mighty task ahead of us every week. Everything we do is done with intentionality. We are tasked with demonstrating God-honoring, Christ-centered, and Spirit-filled worship, inspired by the Word of God.

We exist to work towards the ultimate mission of The Point - “to expand His Kingdom across the street and around the world.” You may ask, how can we do this through music? Worship through song is a Biblical command. Through demonstrating this command, we ask that the Lord use us as merely vessels to demonstrate His love and compassion for His people. What a privilege this is! This task allows us opportunities to serve both our community as well as the nations.

Please take a moment to read through this handbook. It will explain all of the opportunities available for serving while also explaining our expectations for our team members.

I am confident that you will love serving with this team. We are excited to have you on-board!



Serving His Kingdom,  
Steven Hodge  
Worship Pastor



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Our Praise Team is made up of dedicated vocalists who show tremendous leadership abilities and faithfulness to the Worship Ministry and life of the church. They are active members of the choir and sing with humble hearts. These front line vocalists are skilled in leading worship and provide additional energy and passion to corporate worship.

### AUDITIONS/INTERVIEW

Participation on the Praise Team does require an audition (interview) with the Worship Pastor. This audition assesses vocal, leadership, and spiritual strengths. To audition for this team, you must be an active choir member for at least one month and maintain faithful participation in the choir.

### WEDNESDAYS AND SUNDAYS

We rehearse every Wednesday on stage from 7:30-8:45pm with the Praise Band and Media Team. Rehearsal is a time to refine the music and prepare as a team for Sunday morning. Every member is expected to come prepared through practicing at home and knowing their part prior to rehearsal.

Our Sunday morning call time is 7:30am. We lead in all 3 of our Sunday morning worship services. We begin sound check at 7:30am sharp.

### ABSENCES

Rehearsals are vital to the effectiveness of the Worship Ministry. In the event that you are not able to make a rehearsal, please communicate with the Worship Pastor so we can make proper adjustments to the schedule. We use Planning Center to communicate participation in advance. If you cannot make rehearsal, you will most likely be moved to serve on a different Sunday. Adjustments will be made as needed.

### ROTATION SCHEDULE

As more vocalists join the team the rotation schedule will broaden. All Praise Team members must be open to sharing the platform and making room for other talented musicians. The teams on rotation are chosen by vocal attributes in order to create the best possible blend.

### MUSIC

The Order of Worship is sent out at least one week prior to rehearsal. This allows each member the opportunity to practice on their own time before attending rehearsal. We use Planning Center to schedule services and upload all needed mp3 files and sheet music. Our team reads from a variety of music charts (chords charts, lead sheets, vocal charts, and choral arrangements).

### MUSIC - CONTINUED

We do provide physical copies of the music at rehearsal if needed. However, we recommend that you use Planning Center to access the music ahead of time. Planning Center Music Stand is a great tool for those that have access to tablets. All music can be viewed digitally. Please see page 6 for more information on Planning Center. We have a few iPads that can be used during rehearsal when needed.

### AUDITION (INTERVIEW) PROCESS

1. Submit application (online or in-person)
2. The Worship Pastor will reach out to schedule a time to meet
3. Briefly discuss the form you submitted prior to the interview
4. Sing through 2 songs from a list of options provided by the Worship Pastor. (You will be asked to sing the lead melody on one and a harmony on the other. This will be discussed prior to your interview.)
5. After the interview, you will hear from the Worship Pastor to discuss further participation on the team as well as the onboarding process.

## EXPECTATIONS

To serve on this team, you must be a born-again follower of Christ. We are examples on and off the platform and seek to minister to our church by our lifestyle and through the using of our talents.

### SPIRITUAL MATURITY

As a member of the Praise Team, you must have an ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ. You should be constantly seeking a deeper understanding of the gospel.

### SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

Worship on the platform should be the overflow of a lifestyle of worship and a heart that is well-cultivated throughout the week. Personal spiritual intimacy with Jesus is our FIRST priority.

### SERVANT ATTITUDE

Leading from the platform is a privilege and not something that we deserve. As a team, we work together to serve each other and our church body. Our ministry members are expected to demonstrate this lifestyle on and off the platform.

## **PUNCTUALITY**

We know that life can be crazy at times (or all the time). We want you to know that we value your time and appreciate the effort you put in to being involved in the Worship Ministry. We ask that you value the time of your peers and arrive on-time or early to rehearsals and services. This will help us be most effective for Gospel advancement.

## **FLEXIBILITY**

Sometimes schedules change. We work hard to plan ahead and prepare for you. Though it is uncommon for big changes to occur, we ask that you stay connected with our leadership and check Planning Center periodically for updates. Thank you in advance for understanding!

## **WORSHIPERS, NOT PERFORMERS**

There are plenty of venues in which musicians perform - this is not one of them. We expect our members to understand that the sole purpose of this team is to edify the church by leading them in worship.

## **MEMBER OF THE POINT**

Membership in a local church body is an important aspect to our walk with the Lord. Membership is not simply being “put in the book”. You should be an active participant, seeking to grow in your walk with the Lord. This should include, but not limited to, being a member of a Connect Group.

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **DRESS GUIDELINES**

Our objective as a team is to draw people’s attention to Jesus. We do our best to remove all distractions. We never want our apparel to become a point of focus. For the best understanding of proper dress guidelines, below is a list of our recommendations for stage appearance.

### **TOPS**

- No t-shirts
- No sleeveless shirts (wear a sweater to cover)
- Due to bright stage lighting and camera operation, an undershirt is recommended
- Shoulders/underarms and mid-section should be covered when you raise your hands
- No low-cut or tight-fitting tops
- Please do not wear flashy jewelry or sequins that could cause a distraction on camera

### **PANTS**

- No tight-fitted pants
- No shorts
- Leggings are only appropriate underneath a knee-length dress or skirt

### **DRESSES/SKIRTS**

- Hemlines need to be to the top of the knee or longer
- Should not be form-fitting
- Avoid sheer materials that could cause a distraction on the camera

### **FRAGRANCES**

- Please avoid using perfume or cologne on stage or in rehearsal. The stage gets very hot due to stage lighting.

## PLANNING CENTER ONLINE (PCO)

We use Planning Center for scheduling and practicing purposes. Every member of the Worship Ministry will be equipped with a free account to access all materials needed. After joining the team, you will receive an invitation to set up your account. Every week you will receive a “request to serve” in your email inbox. Please use your account to do the following:

- Accept or decline scheduling requests
- Review scheduled services on the calendar
- View the Order of Worship for the upcoming Sunday
- View sheet music before, during, and after rehearsal
- Listen to practice tracks before and after rehearsal
- Block-out dates that you are unavailable to serve

Get the apps! Planning Center offers 2 great app resources available to you on either Google Play or Apple App Store. Explore the “Music Stand” app to easily view music on tablets.

Having trouble with Planning Center? Email Steven or check out the resources below for help. Training sessions will be available throughout the year.

### Link to Planning Center Tutorial:

[youtube.com/watch?v=W9I1uZHkjj8](https://youtube.com/watch?v=W9I1uZHkjj8)

To download our training guide, visit the Worship ministry page at [longviewpoint.org/music](http://longviewpoint.org/music).

## NEWSLETTER

A weekly newsletter will be distributed by email every Monday. This is a great way to keep up with all that is going on in the life of the Worship Ministry. If you are not receiving the newsletter, please email Steven at [steven@longviewpoint.org](mailto:steven@longviewpoint.org).

## FACEBOOK

Have Facebook? Join our Worship Ministry facebook group. We will use this group as another form of communication and encouragement. Send Pastor Steven a friend request to be added to the group.

## SPECIAL EVENTS AND PRODUCTIONS

Our Praise Team has the opportunity to participate in special events and productions at The Point. You will be given details regarding the upcoming events via the newsletter, rehearsal, and Planning Center.

What to look forward to:

- Christmas Production
- Christmas Eve
- Easter Service
- Nights of Worship
- Multi-generational Services
- Mission Trips
- Community Events

## PRAYER NEEDS

Need prayer? Please email Steven at [steven@longviewpoint.org](mailto:steven@longviewpoint.org) or call the church office to be added to our prayer list. Requests will also be noted in our weekly newsletter.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Steven Hodge

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