2025-26 Important Dates

In addition to regular Wednesday evening rehearsals, please add the following dates to your calendar:

Wednesday, September 10 Family Night		First rehearsals for all ensembles
Saturday, September 13 Fall Workshop	9:00 a.m.	Jubilate Ringers & Covenant Choir
Sunday, October 26 Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.	Jubilate Ringers, Praise Makers, Training Choir, Covenant Choir
Sunday, November 16 Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.	Jubilate Ringers, Praise Makers, Training Choir, Covenant Choir
Sunday, November 23 Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.	Sinfonia
Saturday, December 13 Dress Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Covenant Choir
Sunday, December 14 Christmas Concert	5:00 p.m.	Covenant Choir
Wednesday, December 24 Christmas Eve	5:00 p.m.	Praise Makers, Training Choir, Covenant Choir
Wednesday, December 31 New Year's Eve		No rehearsals
Wednesday, January 7 Family Night		All ensembles resume rehearsals
Sunday, February 8 Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.	Jubilate Ringers, Praise Makers, Training Choir, Covenant Choir
Sunday, March 8 Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.	Jubilate Ringers, Praise Makers, Training Choir, Covenant Choir
Saturday, March 28 Dress Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Covenant Choir
Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday Concert	5:00 p.m.	Covenant Choir
Wednesday, April 1 Easter Week		No rehearsals
Sunday, April 12 Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.	Jubilate Ringers, Praise Makers, Training Choir, Covenant Choir
Sunday, April 26 Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.	Sinfonia
Sunday, May 10 Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.	Jubilate Ringers, Praise Makers, Training Choir, Covenant Choir

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days;

Let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.

Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

-Frances R. Havergal

Director of Children's Music

Ruth Thompson ruth@proclamation.org

Director of Orchestra & Handbells

Caleb Thompson caleb@proclamation.org

Children & Youth Music HANDBOOK 2025-2026





Ensembles

Choir

Praise Makers | Ages 4–5 Wednesday Rehearsals 5:30–6:00

Young children learn to praise God through music, with rehearsals full of singing, movement, and music games. Praise Makers participate in the Hymn Memory program and sing anthems during special Sundays throughout the year.

Training Choir | Grades 1–2 Wednesday Rehearsals 5:30–6:00 Students focus on the foundations of choral singing. Participants practice beautiful choral tone, singing in unison, hymn memory, and beginning music notation literacy. In addition to their hymn memory, the Training Choir prepares several anthems for special Sundays throughout the year.

COVENANT CHOIR | GRADES 3+ Wednesday Rehearsals 6:00–6:45 Singers practice beautiful choral tone and diction, sing in unison and harmony, develop music literacy skills, and study sacred repertoire and hymns. Choir members participate in the Hymn Memory program, memorize anthems for monthly worship services, and perform in church concerts.

Instrumental

Jubilate Ringers | Grades 3+ Wednesday Rehearsals 5:00-5:45

Students learn basic music ensemble skills and handbell ringing techniques via a graded system of handbell repertoire. Ringers develop their rhythmic literacy, allowing them to perform more advanced handbell pieces. Participants play once a month in morning worship and perform in church concerts.

Sinfonia Ensemble | Auditioned

Participants experience the rewards of orchestral playing. Through short chamber ensemble pieces, instrumentalists learn how to play with other instruments and prepare well for short rehearsal cycles, all while growing in competence on their instrument. Performances occur during Advent and the summer months.

Proclamation's Children & Youth Music Ministry is designed to equip all children with the skills necessary to praise God and build up his church through music.

Attendance & Participation

- Attendance of all rehearsals is expected. Regular practice is important, especially with music! If students miss 2 or more rehearsals within the span of a month their participation in the following worship service/concert is at the discretion of the relevant ensemble director(s).
- Students are to arrive before the start of every rehearsal and ensure that they have the necessary items (e.g. music folder and pencil). Students that enter after rehearsal begins will be counted as tardy. 2 tardies = 1 absence.
- Students are expected to participate in all relevant worship services and special events (see calendar). <u>Families are to participate in the entirety of worship services</u>, even after the students have finished.
- Please notify Ruth Thompson, director of Children's Music, of any planned absences at least 2 weeks in advance.
- In the event of an emergency or illness, please do not attend an event but promptly inform Ruth Thompson of the absence.
- At the end of each season (Fall 2025 and Spring 2026) students are rewarded if they have completed all of their hymn memory work, earned attendance credit for 11 or more rehearsals, and sung in services at least 3 times.

Expectations & Discipline

1. Respect Others

Since God has commanded us to respect those who are our parents, teachers, and leaders, students will show consideration to their elders. Since everyone is made in God's image, abusive behavior toward others (e.g. hitting, teasing, bullying, cursing or using bad language, name-calling, deliberately hurting or hindering teachers and other students) is not acceptable.

2. Respect Property

Since God has designated us as stewards of His riches and since we are in God's house, students are to take care of their musical resources, including the music and instruments.

3. Wait for Your Turn to Speak

Since God has commanded us to love one another, students will listen quietly and respectfully to others. Directors will call on students who raise their hands when they have something to say.

4. Obey Your Teacher

Rehearsal time is limited and a vital part of preparing to participate in worship. It is necessary for students to listen to and completely follow the instructions of their leaders.

5. Stay and Worship

Our ministry exists to train students to joyfully lead God's people in worship. It is therefore imperative that students and their families participate in the entirety of the worship services in which students sing and ring.

First Disciplinary Action: Warning Second Disciplinary Action: Seat change

Third Disciplinary Action: Sit next to an adult/time-out

If there is an ongoing or continued need for reminders: Parents will be contacted to discuss the student's behavior and possible solutions.