

Job Description: Organist

Christ Lutheran Church – Athens, Ohio

Type: Part-time, non-exempt

Reports to: Pastor and Worship Committee

Position Overview Christ Lutheran Church (ELCA) is seeking a skilled and collaborative Part-Time Organist to lead our congregation in musical worship. The Organist is responsible for providing high-quality keyboard music that supports the church's liturgical life, facilitates congregational singing, and collaborates with the Pastor and Choir Director to enrich our worship experience.

Primary Responsibilities

- **Worship Leadership:** Provide organ and piano music for weekly Sunday morning services, including preludes, postludes, hymns, liturgy, and communion music.
- **Liturgical Planning:** Collaborate with the Pastor and worship committee to select music that aligns with the lectionary and Lutheran theology.
- **Accompaniment:** On occasion, accompany the church choir if organ accompaniment is needed for the selection. Will also accompany vocal or instrumental solos and ensembles as needed.
- **Special Services:** Provide music for seasonal and festival services, including Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Mid-week Advent/Lent services, and Holy Week (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil).
- **Instrument Care:** Coordinate with the church office regarding the tuning and maintenance of the pipe organ and sanctuary piano.

Qualifications

- Proficiency in pipe organ and piano performance.
- Strong sight-reading and accompanying skills.
- Familiarity with Lutheran liturgy and traditional hymnody (ELCA experience preferred).
- Ability to work cooperatively with clergy, staff, and lay volunteers.
- A Bachelor's degree in Music or equivalent church experience is preferred.

Core Competencies

- **Commitment.** This position requires approximately 4-8 hours per week, depending on the season. Independent playing practice is a huge portion of this position.
- **Interpersonal Relationships.** Relates well to all kinds of people, inside and outside of the congregation; builds appropriate rapport; builds effective and constructive relationships; uses diplomacy and tact; is regarded as a team player.
- **Trust and Integrity.** Is widely trusted; seen as direct and truthful; keeps confidences; admits mistakes; adheres to appropriate boundaries.
- **Compassion.** Genuinely cares about people. Is kind to others.
- **Flexibility.** In all things, please be joyfully flexible.

Compensation and Hours

- **Hours:** Approximately 4-8 hours per week.
- **Salary:** Commensurate with experience and education (typically \$25-\$27/hr or a set weekly stipend).
- **Additional Benefits:** Right of first refusal for weddings and funerals (compensated by separate fees).
- **Time Off:** Includes 2-4 paid Sundays off per year (to be coordinated in advance).

To apply, please submit a resume, a brief cover letter, and links to any available recordings of your playing to chad@clcathens.org or contact the church office at Christ Lutheran Church, Athens, OH.