GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH · NEWTON CORNER, MASSACHUSETTS · SINCE 1855

Paid Choral Section Leaders

SOPRANO · TENOR · BASS

Three paid positions for the 2026–27 season, renewable.

ABOUT GRACE CHURCH

Grace Church has been part of Newton Corner since 1855. We are a progressive Episcopal (Anglican) parish known for our commitment to social justice, our support of women in ministry, and a long history of welcoming LGBTQ+ members and staff.

Music is central to worship and community life at Grace. The Grace Church Choir sings repertoire ranging from Renaissance motets and Anglican anthems to spirituals, folk songs, and works by women and Black composers. We regularly program a major work with professional instrumentalists for Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, and Easter. Section leaders sing alongside a committed volunteer choir in a friendly, high-standards ensemble.

The choir is supported primarily by an 1873 E. & G. G. Hook & Hastings organ — 28 ranks over two manuals, rebuilt by Petty-Madden in 1991, with an antiphonal division at the west end. The sanctuary also houses an 1887 Steinway D, and is a genuinely good room to sing in.

THE POSITION

Section leaders anchor their sections vocally, model good ensemble singing and sight-reading, and occasionally sing solo or small-ensemble material. They work directly with the Music Director and are expected to arrive prepared. Section leaders arrange their own substitutes, in consultation with the Music Director, when they need to be away.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A strong, well-produced voice suited to leading a section in a live acoustic
- Confident sight-reading and independent part-holding
- Choral experience; current and recent voice students and early-career professionals are very welcome
- Facility with Anglican service music — psalm chant, hymnody, service settings — is a plus, but can be learned on the job
- Reliability and a collaborative temperament matter as much as vocal ability
- Membership in the Episcopal Church is **not** required; singers of any faith background or none are welcome

AT A GLANCE

- **Rehearsals:** Thursdays, 7:00–8:30 pm, Choir Hall
- **Sundays:** 8:30 am rehearsal; 10:30 am Holy Eucharist
- **Season:** first rehearsal the week after Labor Day; first sung service September 20, 2026; ends late May
- No choir the first Sunday after Christmas

SEASONAL SERVICES

- Advent Lessons and Carols — early December, afternoon
- Christmas Eve — two services
- Ash Wednesday — evening
- Maundy Thursday and Good Friday — evening
- Lessons and Carols and Holy Week are sung jointly with neighboring parishes, alternating host churches

COMPENSATION

$34.50 PER HOUR

Rehearsal (1.5 hr min.)	$51.75
Worship service (2.5 hr min.)	$86.25

Where two or more services fall on one day, the first two are paid at the 2.5-hour minimum and any additional service at a 1.5-hour minimum, provided the repertoire is substantially the same.

TO APPLY

Send a brief note of interest, a résumé or CV, and one or two recordings — unedited, any format; a phone recording of a recital or rehearsal is fine — to the Music Director.

Will Parks · music@gracenewton.org

Auditions are held at the church and consist of a prepared solo of your choosing, sight-reading, and a short hymn or psalm chant.

Grace Church is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, or sexual orientation.

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