



## Church Organist

This post is designed to assist in Gorgie and Palmerston Place Church's ministry, to impact the local community and parish and to underpin the various new initiatives which are evolving as part of our on-going commitment to church growth.

To that end we are looking for a highly qualified, proficient and approachable organist and musician able to work with a wide age range of people. S/he should have a wide breadth of musical experience and taste, and an appreciation of the need to encourage congregational singing. Excellent communication skills are essential, as is a willingness to participate fully in our church fellowship.

It is expected that our Church Organist will engage with our Ministry Team and our Worship & Christian Education Team in seeking to shape worship that both reflects the traditional worship style of the Church of Scotland and also looks to incorporate the best of present day musical practice. Ideally our music should allow and encourage all who participate an opportunity to engage fully in worship, and therefore has to offer a diverse range of styles. We wish that people should be encouraged to experiment with new musical material, while still allowing sufficient opportunity for them to feel comfortable with the familiar and loved.

This is the ideal opportunity for someone to be involved in the Ministry of Music in its widest sense, sharing an enthusiasm for the Christian faith and its rich variety of traditional and modern expressions of praise. Our Church Organist will be involved in ministry to all ages, and the group responsible for making this appointment will want to discuss with applicants their willingness to play a whole range of music from the traditional to the contemporary, from classical to modern.

Our Church Organist will be expected to consult with others in the congregation in order to bring their own unique ideas and inspiration into the life of the congregation. In cooperation with our Ministry Team our Church Organist will seek to provide music that will satisfy a broad spectrum of ages and tastes but will have input in choosing hymns for worship and in staging opportunities for the congregation to become fully acquainted with new songs.

Some time ago the interior space of the Palmerston Place Church and sanctuary was adapted for events to take place through the week as well as more varied styles of worship on Sundays.

Palmerston Place Church has a fine Wells-Kennedy tracker action organ and a Steinweg-Grotrian grand piano in situ in an interior space that is acoustically suited to music performance. There is therefore an opportunity to evolve ways to share our music resources and venue with the wider community, building upon the existing programme of recitals, concerts and Fringe events already established.

The organ in our Gorgie Church building is an American made Allen electric organ. There are two high frequency speakers on the balcony and three bass speakers mounted high up behind the original organ pipes casing above the pulpit.

This will be a part time post calling for a degree of flexibility such that the exact hours of work will be agreed and may vary from week to week. There is provision for 5 weeks' paid holiday, plus bank and public holidays, where appropriate. Salary will be subject to discussion and take account of the recommended salary scales of The Scottish Federation of Organists. Additional payments will be made for weddings and funerals.

Start date as soon as possible, subject to agreement. The contract is mutually reviewable after a period of six months. The position is mainly based in Palmerston Place Church at 12 Palmerston Place, Edinburgh EH12 5AA. Also, in our Gorgie Church building at 190-192 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh EH11 2NX and occasionally for any church events in Saltyard Café at 158 Dalry Road, Edinburgh EH11 2HB.

The successful candidate must be able to work independently but with regular interaction with the Ministry Team. They will need to empathise with the ministry, mission and ethos of Gorgie and Palmerston Place Church. They will be expected to participate in worship with confidence and clarity. They will have a proven ability to work within teams and will be expected to contribute to the development of the work of the team responsible for Worship & Christian Education.

The successful candidate:

- will be required to complete a basic disclosure check
- may need to become a member of the Disclosure Scotland PVG scheme
- in order to comply with the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 will be asked to provide document(s) confirming their eligibility to work in the United Kingdom
- will be expected to take part in the annual appraisal scheme

Interested candidates should submit a CV including the names and contact details of two referees (only to be contacted if the job is offered) and a letter of application addressing their vision regarding the choice of music for worship and how this might be applied at Gorgie and Palmerston Place Church during the next few years.

Deadline for applications, at the latest, **by 12 noon on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
Interviews will be held during January 2025.

Applications should be e-mailed to Norma Rolls our HR Team Leader at [norma@palmerstonplacechurch.com](mailto:norma@palmerstonplacechurch.com)

or posted/delivered to: Mrs Norma Rolls, c/o Gorgie and Palmerston Place Church Office, Annan House, 10 Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, EH12 5AA

# ORGAN SPECIFICATION

The organ in Palmerston Place Church was built by the Wells-Kennedy Partnership, Lisburn, in 1992, and is housed in the 1902 case of a former instrument. A small number of stops were retained and revoiced, as indicated below.



## Great

Bourdon *	16
Open Diapason	8
Chimney Flute	8
Principal	4
Spitz Flute	4
Fifteenth	2
Sesquialtera (12.15)	II
Mixture (19.22.26.29)	IV
Sharp Mixture (33.36)	II
Trumpet	8
<i>Tremulant</i>	

## Swell (enclosed)

Stopped Diapason *	8
Gamba *	8
Voix Celeste *	8
Principal	4
Wald Flute *	4
Nazard	2 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub>
Gemshorn	2
Tierce	1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>5</sub>
Mixture (22.26.29.33)	IV
Fagotto **	16
Trumpet	8
<i>Tremulant</i>	
Great and Pedal piston coupler	
* 1902 Norman & Beard pipework	
** 1962 Willis pipework	

Mechanical key, pedal and coupler action  
Electropneumatic stop action

## Pedal

Open Diapason	16
Sub Bass *	16
Principal	8
Flute (from Sub Bass) *	8
Octave	4
Mixture (19.22.26.29)	IV
Posaune **	16
Trumpet (from Posaune)	8

## Couplers and accessories

Swell to Great
Swell to Pedal
Great to Pedal
8 thumb pistons to Great and Swell
8 toe pistons to Swell and Pedal
8 general thumb pistons
8 memory channels with lock
Reversible thumb and toe pistons to S/G, S/P, G/P
Reversible toe piston to Posaune
Setter thumb piston
Cancel thumb piston
Generals on Swell toe pistons transfer

# CHURCH ORGANIST AT GORGIE AND PALMERSTON PLACE CHURCH

## JOB DESCRIPTION

November 2024

<b>BASIC FUNCTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To preside at the organ or piano during public worship</li><li>• To develop the use of music within worship</li><li>• To encourage the wider use of Palmerston Place Church as a music venue</li></ul>
<b>ACCOUNTABILITY</b>	The Church Organist is accountable to the Minister and a designated member of the HR Team for all aspects of the work.
<b>AUTHORITY</b>	The Church Organist has authority as delegated by the Minister and Session Clerks.
<b>RELATIONSHIPS</b>	The Church Organist will work very closely with the Ministry Team and Session Clerks. The Church Organist will liaise with the Premises and Communications Coordinators, and leader of the Worship and Christian Education Team.
<b>KEY TASKS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To play the organ or piano at the ordinary Sunday services, am and/or pm; on Maundy Thursday; Good Friday; Easter Day; Christmas Eve; Christmas Day</li><li>• To be responsible, in liaison with the Ministry Team and Worship &amp; Christian Education Team, for developing the use of music within worship alongside increasing the sung repertoire of the Congregation</li><li>• To encourage the use of other instruments and voices as a means of enhancing the worship experience, particularly on special occasions</li><li>• To be responsible for arranging a deputy during holidays and, if possible, when ill</li><li>• To play (subject to their attendance not interfering with their weekly employment) at wedding and funeral services and all other services not specified above when s/he shall be paid the proper fee by those who engage her/him</li><li>• To assume overall responsibility for the proper use of the Church organ and grand piano at all times</li><li>• To carry out such additional duties as may be reasonably requested from time to time</li></ul>
<b>MEETINGS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To attend meetings of the Worship and Christian Education Team</li><li>• To take part in the annual appraisal scheme</li></ul>