

Draft 3 Music Manifesto

Duke Street's Vision for Music

How does our vision for the music ministry help facilitate the fulfilment of our mission, strategy and values?

Duke Street's Mission: To glorify God by making disciples from all nations

Duke Street's Strategy: To reach out, build up and send out

Duke Street's Values: Prayerful, Bible Driven, Growing more like Jesus, Loving and Generous, Passionate to Share the Good News, Looking to the Future

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." Colossians 3:16

At Duke Street Church we believe that music, in the context of sung worship, should have thoughtful words that are saturated in Scripture, and should be of high quality, with the ultimate goal of glorifying God.

Music at Duke Street helps to bring God's word to us and helps us to pray and praise and to mutually encourage one another. This can be seen in three dynamics: a downwards vertical (God speaking to us); an upwards vertical (God's people giving him prayer and praise) and a horizontal dimension (God's people encouraging one another and addressing one another with hymns and spiritual songs).

We choose songs that:

- are Biblical, Understandable, Singable and Lyrical.
- enable God's word to dwell richly among us (Colossians 3:16).
- enable us to encourage one another (Hebrews 10:24-25) as we seek to reach out, build up and send out.
- are gospel-focused to remind us of the work Christ has done in our lives.
- help us to hear God's word and to reflect on God's word (1 Timothy 4:13).
- help us to talk to God in prayer (Acts 2:42).
- help us give thanks to God as we sing to Him and each other (Ephesians 5:19-20).

We prioritise singing over instrumental music because we need words to convey gospel truths reminding us of what God has done and His sovereignty, building us up, sustaining us in every season of life, and keeping our mind on eternity.

Singing is for everyone in our church - we have been created, commanded and compelled to sing (Psalm 139:13-14, Psalm 149:1); the music team serve the church by enabling everyone to sing together with grateful and thankful hearts. We strive to sing songs as an act of love and service for others. We joyfully sing songs that may not be to our own personal taste because we know they are loved by other brothers and sisters in the church.

Members of the music team will be disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ who are committed to the Lord and to Duke St Church and to telling others about Jesus as well as seeking to submit to His teaching and to grow as disciples. They are characterised by a servant heart seeking to minister to the congregation with joy and thankfulness. We seek to maintain musical standards by auditioning new musicians. In this way we can help the musically gifted use their gifts in the most appropriate context by supporting, encouraging and developing the use of their gifts. We also seek to make practising and prayer together a priority.