Worship Team Charter

MAYFLOWER CHURCH

Worship Team Charter

Streamline System 06 — Team Charters

Approved by the Servants Council on July 11, 2026. Standing charter, reviewed at each August Leadership Summit and re-ratified on material change.

Governing Principle

We do not stage a performance; we lead the gathered church in sung praise of the Word.

Worship is the response of the whole congregation to God's self-revelation in Scripture. This team's music exists to carry that response, never to replace it or eclipse it. The aim is a singing congregation, not an admired band.

1. Oversight (the home)

Overseeing board: Elders (Bylaws Art. II §B 1.c.1-2, worship and music explicitly under the elders). Day-to-day point person: Senior Pastor. Every team has a home; this team works first with the elders.

2. Purpose

This team leads the congregation in worshiping God through music on the Lord's Day. It serves the gathered church so that the truths preached from the Word are also sung, confessed, and carried home in the heart. Its concern is not the quality of a show but the faithfulness of the church's praise: that the songs are biblical, the music serves the words, and the people are lifted to sing rather than left to watch.

3. Priority-ministry link

This team serves the Ministry of the Word and the Lord's Day Gathering (System 01). The music it leads is the Word sung, set inside the weekly gathering of God's people.

4. The Commission

The elders commission this team to lead Word-shaped congregational worship through music every Lord's Day, and at appointed special services through the year. The work has a steady weekly scale. Each week the team selects songs that are biblically sound and fitted to the day's sermon and Scripture, rehearses them to a standard that serves the singing without drawing attention to itself, and leads the gathered congregation in singing them in the service. The standard is congregational: the people sing, the words are heard, and the music carries the truth rather than competing with it. The team builds and trains a roster of vocalists and instrumentalists sufficient to cover the Lord's Day every week without exhausting a few. This is a working, leading team; its measure is a congregation lifted to praise, not an audience pleased by a set.

5. In scope / Out of scope

In scope:

- Selecting worship music that is biblically faithful and aligned to the sermon theme and Scripture for each Lord's Day.
- Rehearsing and leading the congregation in sung worship every Lord's Day and at appointed special services.
- Recruiting, training, and scheduling vocalists and instrumentalists for weekly worship.
- Maintaining musical standards and proper use of song copyrights and licensing.
- Coordinating the musical flow of the service with the Senior Pastor and the order of service.

Out of scope:

- The technical audio, video, and slide operation of the service. That is the Audio-Visual Team's charge (see Coordination); this team states its musical and technical needs and the AV Team runs the equipment.
- Setting and ordering the public reading of Scripture. That belongs to the Scripture Reading Team; this team coordinates placement of readings within the service.
- Owning the order of service and pastoral content of the gathering. The Senior Pastor and elders hold that; this team serves it.
- Treating worship as a performance to be evaluated by polish or applause. The measure is the congregation's praise, not the team's showcase.

6. Scale

Shape: a permanent core of worship leaders, vocalists, and instrumentalists scheduled across the Lord's Days, expanding for special services such as Advent, Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, and Reformation Sunday. Commitment categories are drawn from the Volunteer Chapter (System 06). The team recruits and trains musicians rather than leaning on the same few each week. Leadership is one appointed Worship Team Leader (System 07).

7. Key responsibilities

- Choose biblically faithful songs fitted to the sermon and Scripture each Lord's Day.
- Rehearse and lead congregational singing every Lord's Day and at appointed special services.
- Recruit, train, and schedule a sustainable roster of vocalists and instrumentalists.
- Keep musical standards high in service of the congregation's singing, not as an end in itself.
- Steward song copyrights and licensing properly.
- Communicate musical and technical needs to the Senior Pastor and the AV Team in good time.
- Communicate plans, encouragements, and needs to the elders.

8. Coordination

- Senior Pastor and elders: worship planning flows to the sermon. The Senior Pastor sets the preaching text and theme; this team fits the songs and the musical flow to it and serves the order of service.
- Audio-Visual Team (Elders): clean boundary. This team leads the music and states its sound, projection, and recording needs; the AV Team operates the equipment. Worship music selection and leadership belong here; the technical operation belongs to AV.
- Scripture Reading Team (Elders): coordinates the placement of public readings within the order of service.

9. Resources

Budget line: the church Music budget, administered by the Elder Chair (Purchasing Policy). [Confirm the exact budget-line label as it appears in the Purchasing Policy.] Facilities needs, such as instrument storage or sanctuary setup, are coordinated with the Trustees. Worship scheduling and volunteer requests run through Planning Center.

10. Health indicators

Faithfulness-shaped signs the team is alive, not a measure of polish or stage presence. The year's specific targets live in the System 14 annual goals, set with the elders each August.

- The congregation is singing, not watching; the people's voices carry the room.
- Songs are biblically sound and clearly tied to the day's Word.
- A widening roster of musicians is being trained and scheduled, so the load does not fall on a few.
- Worship planning is consistently aligned to the sermon ahead of the Lord's Day.
- The music serves the words rather than competing with them; the team is not chasing a show.

11. Review and approval

Standing charter, reviewed annually at the August Leadership Summit. Re-ratified by the Servants Council on material change. Escalation beyond the team's or elders' authority follows the Decision-Making Framework (System 09). Leadership succession follows the Leadership Handoff Guidelines (System 12).

Commissioned by: Elder Chair _____ Date _____

Ratified into the operations documentation by: Servants Council _____ Date _____

Sources

- Mayflower Church Constitution and Bylaws, Art. II §B 1.c.1-2 (worship and music under the elders); Art. II §B 4.c.7 (Servants Council receives and approves Ministry Team charters).
- Streamline System 01 — The Five Priority Ministries We Guard (Ministry of the Word; The Lord's Day Gathering).
- Streamline System 06 — Team-to-Board Oversight Map; Volunteer Chapter.
- Streamline System 07 — Role Clarity, "18 — Worship Team Leader."
- Streamline System 09 — Decision-Making Framework; System 14 — Annual Goals; System 12 — Leadership Handoff Guidelines.
- Purchasing Policy (Music budget, Elder Chair).
- Audio-Visual Team Charter and Scripture Reading Team Charter (sibling forms for parallelism); Team Charter Standard, this folder.

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