



Music

What's inside:

- Why we have music in CU
- The aims of CU music
- How we want you to be involved

Why and how should we worship as Christians?

The reason for a response

"Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1,2

God has loved us and we can be sure as Jesus came to die for us and save us from being punished for our sins. We must respond to Jesus and God's love, trusting him for our salvation and living a new life that loves God and our neighbour.

What is worship?

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment." Matthew 22:37,38

Worship is this lifestyle, seeking to further God's glory by loving and serving him in the whole of life, both when alone and with others. (Romans 12:1; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 1 Peter 2:12; Colossians 3:17)

How should we worship?

"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks." John 4:23

Spirit: the importance of one's heart and soul loving God, led by the Holy Spirit, rather than the appearance.

Truth: biblical, theological integrity with one's mind engaged, rather than going through the motions.

How does music fit in?

Personal and communal worship

Our communal worship is offensive to God when our personal lives are not worshipping him (Amos 5:21-24; Matthew 15:8,9). However, we see in the bible that communal worship has a wonderfully special and significant place, when done in spirit and truth. Congregational singing is one of the main forms of communal worship.

Music and song in the bible

God has given us the gift of music. Throughout the Bible we see singing being used to praise (Psalm 47; 2 Chronicles 5) and worship God (Psalm 100).

Although some are specially skilled in singing we are all called to do it (1 Chronicles 15:22; Psalm 95:1,2)

Congregational singing has happened before and whilst there is a visible work of God (Acts 16:25,26)

Significant moments of salvation history are responded to with both personal and congregational singing (Exodus 15; Judges 5; 2 Samuel 22)

The church is a singing community (Ephesians 5:19,20; Colossians 3:16)

There is a song in heavenly places and in our glorious future (Revelation 4:9-11; 5:6-14; 7:9-12)

Music in the CU

Role

Congregational singing helps us as a CU to focus on God and what he has done for us in Jesus. We are only able to enter into God, the Father's, presence because of what Jesus has done (Hebrews 10:19-22). We can engage with God through congregational singing, in a two way process, which encourages us and builds us up (Psalm 81:1,2). For us to be effective in our mission as a CU we must be concerned about worship. Our mission exists because others at Warwick are not concerned to worship God and give him the glory he rightly deserves. We need to worship God personally and when we come together. One of the ways we can do that is through music.

Aims

To encourage all people at Warwick to praise, worship and engage with God in spirit and truth through music.

Within this we aim to:

- Encourage all those attending CU meetings to develop an appropriate attitude towards worship. To emphasise the importance of what we do when we sing to the Lord.
- Provide an environment where all feel able to respond to God through music in a way they feel comfortable whilst recognising and respecting different styles.
- Equip leaders, musicians, singers and those on the PA & Projection teams to carry out their roles. To encourage them to develop their gifting in their area.

Please take part

Musicians & Singers

We have a diverse team of musicians and singers who lead us each week at Equip, Explore and on other occasions. God wants us to use the abilities he has given us for his glory. So, if you are a competent musician or singer with a heart for worshipping God then we would love you to be involved. We want to accommodate different instruments and styles and also allow you to help as much or as little as priorities allow. Please get in touch to find out more or sign up.

PA & Projection

These roles are vital in CU meetings. However, in the past these teams have often not had the number of volunteers we would like. The PA team sets up, operates and takes down the equipment that allows us to hear in meetings – microphones, speakers etc. The Projection team enables us to see the song words and other presentations. Training and practise will be provided so no previous experience is needed. All you need is a serving heart and some time available on Wednesday afternoons. Please get in touch to find out more or sign up.

All others

If you feel you have no time or musical ability then please do still take part when we sing in CU. Helping everyone to feel comfortable to sing to God is the focus of all those leading the music. If you have any comments about how the music team could be doing this better please get in touch. However, we should each be desiring to sing in spirit and truth anyway as we come to CU meetings. God is so praiseworthy and loves it when we worship him by singing together.

Contact details

If you have any comments or questions about anything to do with music in CU or to help in one of the teams then please get in touch with:

Jez - music@warwickcu.org

The website below has information about CU music and the wider activities and aims of CU. Please have a look if you're interested:

www.warwickcu.org

"Sing to the LORD a new song,
Sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, praise his name;
Proclaim his salvation day after day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
His marvellous deeds among all the peoples.
For great is the LORD
And most worthy of praise;
He is to be feared above all gods."
Psalm 96: 1-4