



Music Program

Kindergarten: The kindergartners participate in musical experiences in a variety of ways. Children will sing Bible, Patriotic, and learning songs, enjoy using rhythm instruments, and participate in movement activities.

1st Grade: First graders will experience music by listening, singing and performing. The children will use their voices to praise God by singing in church and in chapel.

2nd Grade: In second grade the children will explore music with variety of listening, singing, and performance. Students will praise God by singing in church and chapel services.

3rd Grade: Through varied activities of singing, reading, and listening, the third grade student will better understand and appreciate the basic elements of music (rhythm, melody, harmony, expression, form, style). Group singing will provide an emphasis on new and old songs of the Christian faith. Students will sing as a choir in church services during the school year. Students will also learn to read music in treble clef as they play the recorder.

4th Grade: Through varied activities of singing, creating, and listening, the fourth grade students are given many opportunities to better understand and appreciate the basic elements of music. Each week time is given to regular music instruction using the Suzuki recorder method and the student hymnal All God's People Sing. In addition, one 30-minute period each week is devoted to a choir session in which the third and fourth grades together learn music theory and vocal performance for the purpose of singing praises to our Lord. This choir also helps lead the worship on several Sunday mornings and chapel Wednesdays during the school year.

5th Grade: The purpose is to increase an interest in singing, and also to teach basic singing skills to children who are at an age when their voices are changing. Music theory and appreciation of our Lutheran Musical Heritage will be the primary focus. Handbell students will be instructed in hand chimes as a preliminary preparation for participation in hand bell choirs. Chimes are a teaching tool for hands on instruction in music theory as well as ringing techniques. The students who are interested in playing an instrument begin instruction in 5th grade. Rhythm, fingering and notes are introduced at this level. Beginning Band students are taught the fundamental skills necessary to perform on a wind or percussion instrument. Students learn instrument

care, playing posture, embouchure formation, tone production, note recognition, pitch perception, and proper home practice habits. The general emphasis at this level is on the enjoyment of playing. They perform at a Christmas and Spring Concert and for Chapel services.

6th Grade: Choir students are taught the Solfege System of sight reading. Sight reading helps students to perform more advanced music and is part of the choral judging at Festival each year in 7th and 8th grade.

Students who express an interest will participate in a handbell choir whose primary purpose will be to perform handbell choir music. Rehearsal will be held 1 or 2 times per week for 45 minutes.

Students may continue in Advancing Band at this level twice per week for 40 minutes. Band students continue to learn more challenging music and perform 2 or 3 times per year. The sixth graders in the band program continue the study begun in fifth grade Beginning Band. Working with the seventh and eighth graders in Advancing Band expands their musical understanding, theory, tone production and quality, rhythm recognition, and ensemble playing. The literature is increasingly challenging as they work together to play for church, chapel, Christmas and spring concerts, and performing at the annual adjudicated Lutheran Schools Music Festival and Solo/Ensemble Festival. The Advanced Band provides a mentorship for the preschool giving them sectional demonstrations throughout the year as well as a closing concert for their “end of the year” celebration.

7th Grade: Band, Performance Choir, and Handbells and General Music are offered in seventh grade and occur twice a week.

Performance Choir is an audition only group that meets twice per week for 40 minutes. Sight reading and music interpretation is emphasized. This group participates in worship services once per quarter, the Band/Choir/Handbells Festival in March and the Spring Concert in May.

General Music: This class is intended for those students that choose not to participate in Band, Choir, or Handbells. Students will study composers, different genres of music and learn theory and composition. Homework and writing projects are part of this class.

8th Grade: Band, Choir, General Music and Handbells are offered in 8th grade and occur twice a week.

Performance Choir is an audition only group that meets twice per week for 40 minutes. Sight reading and music interpretation is emphasized. This group participates in worship services once per quarter, the Band/Choir/Handbells Festival in March and the Spring Concert in May.

General Music: This class is intended for those students that choose not to participate in Band, Choir, or Handbells. Students will study composers, different genres of music and learn theory and composition. Homework and writing projects are part of this class.