

# Sounds of Grace

Sounds of Grace was founded in early 2015 by musical entrepreneur Brad Zabelski and composer/arranger Andrew Bowling. Our dream is to present inspiring musical performances in churches throughout South Jersey. Each year, during the seasons of Advent and Lent we will produce and present a new musical offering. All concerts are free and open to the public through sponsorship from the host church.

We are currently looking to hire eight singers for a chamber SSAATTBB voicing. Most, if not all, of our music will be a *cappella*, and a large percentage will be composed or arranged specifically for Sounds of Grace. Because this is a liturgically focused group, all music will be sacred, and the majority will be in English. All that being said, here's some of what we're looking for in our singers:

- Security and confidence singing one-on-a-part
- Great diversity in tone and vocal style, including control of vibrato and straight-tone singing
- Strong reading skills and the ability to learn music outside of rehearsals  
(including new music that has not yet been recorded)
- Prompt attendance and focus at rehearsals
- Active listening while singing (that is, attentiveness to blend and ensemble tuning)
- Confidence performing as a soloist as well as within a group
- Open to experimentation with vocal techniques (slides, vocal percussion, etc.)

Almost all concerts and rehearsals will be taking place on Sunday afternoons and evenings, with the goal of performing two concerts each Sunday during Advent (the weeks leading up to Christmas). Therefore, **AVAILABILITY ON SUNDAYS IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO PARTICIPATION**. The earliest we will convene on a Sunday is 1:30 P.M.

Compensation will be provided for each performance. TBD.

For your audition, please prepare either **two contrasting vocal selections** (one classical, one contemporary/music theatre) or **one selection** that showcases different styles, tones, and ranges of your voice. An accompanist will be provided at auditions, but you may bring your own accompanist or sing a *cappella* if you desire. It is very unlikely that we'll have you sing both selections in their entirety; we just want to get a good idea of what your voice sounds like.

The rest of the audition will include a few **sight-reading** exercises, a **range test**, and other vocal exercises that focus on **tone, timbre, and style** (for example, we may ask you to sing part of a piece more operatically, more in a gospel style, without vibrato, more brightly, etc), as well as a brief discussion of your choral and vocal experience. If possible, please fill out the attached form before your audition to save time. If you are unable to do so, we'll have extra copies at the audition.

**[www.soundsofgracemusic.com](http://www.soundsofgracemusic.com)**

**PERFORMANCE DATES:**

- Sunday, November 29th (afternoon and evening)
- Sunday, December 6th (afternoon and evening)
- Sunday, December 13th - NO CONCERTS\*  
(conflict with Choral Arts of Southern New Jersey)  
\*These will be rescheduled for a Saturday in December, pending availability
- Sunday, December 20th (afternoon and evening)

**Rehearsal dates will be finalized after auditions are held to ensure that every singer can make every rehearsal. Therefore, exact times and locations are TBD. Here's a tentative schedule:**

- Sunday, September 27th 2pm-6pm: Distribution and read through of music
- Sunday, October 4th 2pm-5pm
- Sunday, October 11th 2pm-5pm
- Sunday, October 25th 2pm-5pm
- Sunday, November 15th 2pm-5pm
- Sunday, November 22nd 2pm-5pm
- WEEKDAY/SATURDAY DRESS REHEARSAL between 11/22 and 11/29 6pm-9pm**  
(pending singer availability during Thanksgiving week)

Questions? Contact:

Andrew Bowling – Artistic Director - [andrew@soundsofgracemusic.com](mailto:andrew@soundsofgracemusic.com)

Brad Zabelski – Managing Director – [brad@soundsofgracemusic.com](mailto:brad@soundsofgracemusic.com)

# **Sounds of Grace**

**Contact info:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Voice Part: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

## Choral/Vocal Experience and Education

<b>Professional</b> (if you are a music educator, please indicate here)	
<b>Collegiate/School</b>	
<b>Private/Lessons</b>	
<b>Theatre/Opera</b>	
<b>Community/Other</b>	

Please list any **instruments** you consider yourself proficient at playing: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any other relevant musical experience, if it did not fit into the categories in the chart above or if you ran out of space:

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