

INTRODUCTION

DR. REID MASTERS

ABOUT ME

"As a professional musician, music has always been at the core my Christian journey. My fascination with music largely resides in its ability to communicate truths beyond the limitations of words. Not only is it a medium to hear God, but it is also a medium to speak to God. The spiritual nourishment that music gives me has fostered a deep sense of purpose in my life. In addition to my personal faith, my educational and professional achievements are rooted in these divine truths found in music."

EXPERIENCE

- Doctorate of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting & Master's Degree in Sacred Music.
- 16 years of experience directing choirs including church choirs, college choirs, professional choirs, community choirs, handbell choirs, and children's choirs.
- 30 years of keyboard experience; piano & organ.
- Proven excellence in performance including a 2018 album release of Mozart Requiem with Affetto Records, distributed internationally by NAXOS, and other significant experience conducting choral works with orchestra.
- Successful choral recruitment experience and evidence of high retention in churches, universities, and communities.
- A strong work ethic and a highly organized approach to achieving a dynamic choral program and a proven history of artistic collaborations between music and other art groups within the community.
- Professional experience as a soloist and choral singer.
- Experience as an international choral clinician and lecturer.



WELCOME

DR. REID MASTERS

MINISTER OF MUSIC

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FORT LAUDERDALE

"Excellent performances are byproducts of inspired musicians who care about each other. My passion for music and love of teaching has equipped me with the facility to build excellent choral programs that consist of vibrant communities of inspired musicians. This development is rooted in a commitment to teamwork and caring about each other, which is the essence of glorifying God."

1. What most excites you about joining the First Pres family?

Since pandemic life has taught us how important it is to be together, I'm most excited about fostering a vibrant community that focuses on inclusivity, team work, and compassion. Music is an excellent vehicle to achieve all these things and so much more.

2. How did you first discover your call to church music?

I have always felt the transformative powers of music even when I couldn't articulate them. I find it incredibly rewarding to invite music's emotional component into the worship space, and to facilitate the sharing of these experiences within the community.

3. Do you have a favorite scripture that inspires you?

Philippians 4:13 *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"*

4. What is your most memorable experience since you began your musical career?

After 11 years as director of the New Jersey Chamber Singers, we recorded a live concert featuring Mozart's Requiem that caught the attention of some producers who released it on a record label, and distributed it internationally. Achieving this goal with these life-long friends was an experience I (and they) will never forget.

5. When you're not busy making music, what do you enjoy doing?

When I'm not making music, I enjoy traveling the world with my husband, Allison, and spoiling our little pup, Cujo. I also enjoy snowboarding, bonsai, skydiving, bungee jumping, and probably everything else that worries my mother.

BIOGRAPHY Acclaimed for his "infectious passion", Dr. Reid Masters is proud to join First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale as the Minister of Music. Most recently, he served as the Assistant Director of Choral Activities at Kennesaw State University in Georgia where he directed the KSU Chamber Singers, University Chorale, Men's Ensemble, and the Community & Alumni Choir in addition to teaching Conducting & Choral Literature. Reid was the Artistic Director of the New Jersey Chamber Singers for 11 years, which released a commercial album of Mozart's Requiem with Affetto Records, distributed internationally by Naxos in 2018.

He is also the Co-founder and Assistant Director of the professional chamber choir Kinnara Ensemble, working alongside JD Burnett. He studied choral conducting with Joseph Flummerfelt, Andrew Megill, Joe Miller, and Patrick Gardner in addition to working with Helmuth Rilling. In addition to his substantial work with local High School choirs, Honor Choirs, District Choirs, etc, he is internationally active as a clinician, leading workshops and master classes for ensembles such as the Taichung Chamber Singers in Taiwan and the Highgrove Singers in the Bahamas.

As a countertenor, Reid has made solo appearances around NJ and NY featuring repertoire such as Bach's St. Matthew Passion, Gesualdo's Tenebrae Responsories, Buxtehude's Membra Jesu Nostri, Scarlatti's Stabat Mater, Schütz's Musikalische Exequien, Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, and Handel's Messiah. He has performed with some of the Northeast's finest baroque ensembles such as the Brandywine Baroque Band and The Sebastians. In choral settings, he has sung with some of the most prestigious orchestras such as the New York Philharmonic under the direction of conductors such as Maestros Lorin Maazel, Kurt Mazur, Alan Gilbert, Nicholas McGegan, and Jaap van Zweden.

Reid was named a Rider scholar and graduated Summa cum Laude from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ with Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Sacred Music. He was awarded a Mortensen Fellowship and earned a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting from Mason Gross School of the Arts where he also directed the Rutgers University Choir and taught undergraduate conducting. Upon graduation, Masters received the Irene Alm Memorial Prize for his research on Heinrich Schütz and Hugo Distler.