# Covenant Church
# Special Music Policy

Scope (What counts as Special Music):
1. Any music played during one of our church services, that is not: 1) instrumental prelude or postlude music, 2) one of the hymns scheduled by the music team leader or the pastors.

Guidelines:
1. All special music must be approved by the music coordinator or one of the Pastors.
   a. EXCEPTION: Regular Piano Players who are playing an instrumental piece for the offering do not need their selections approved but should generally choose sacred music.
2. Any special music that has Christian lyrics should generally be projected for the congregation to read (even if it is instrumental).
3. Musicians may offer verbal instructions regarding the song (ie. please join me in singing the final chorus), but should not otherwise use that time to speak (ie. give a testimony or read bible verses).
4. Songs should be kept between 2-4 minutes in length. Please time your selection ahead of time if you are unsure.

A Few Things to Consider:
1. All special music is to be for the glory of God and in order to promote the worship of God's people. Test your own heart with these goals and pray for help prior to playing/singing.
   a. Avoid songs or arrangements that might draw people's attention away from worship.
   b. For the same reasons, be careful to dress modestly and appropriately.
2. Those sharing special music are expected to prepare appropriately and pursue excellence to the best of their ability. We understand there are different levels of ability and experience and do not expect perfection. However, all musicians should respect the weight and privilege of playing/singing in the assembly of God's people.
3. Evaluate any song you choose by its lyrical content and its beauty. Avoid choosing songs simply because you like them or heard them on Christian radio and ask carefully if the ideas expressed will serve the congregation well. If you are unsure about this, ask the Music Coordinator or one of the Pastors to help you evaluate the song.