

Mario Buchanan

Organist and piano accompanist

Mario Buchanan has served as Director of Music and Organist at Christ Church since September, 2018. At Christ Church, Mario oversees the Adult Choir, a choral scholar program of six singers, and an RSCM-affiliated Young Choristers program. Mario came to Hudson from Canton, Ohio where he was the Gibbs Music Intern at Christ Presbyterian Church. Born and raised in Akron, Mario is a graduate of the University of Akron where he earned a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance, studying primarily with Valerie Thorson and secondarily with Nicole Keller. In addition to his college organ studies, Mario studied voice and remained active in various choirs throughout the area. Mario received the distinction of winning the 2014-15 Concerto Competition at the University of Akron, the first organist to win the award. He performed Francois Poulenc's *Concerto for Organ and Orchestra in G minor* with the University of Akron Symphony Orchestra to great acclaim. He has received additional organ instruction from Todd Wilson, Marie-Louis Langlais (widow of Jean Langlais), James David Christie, and Craig Cramer. Mario concertizes around the country, including most recently at St. Philip's Cathedral in Atlanta and Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston. Mario studied choral conducting with Dr. Samuel Gordon, Dr. Marie Bucoy-Calavan, and has participated in masterclasses with Dr. William Weinert, Dr. Ann Howard Jones, Dr. Jo-Michael Scheibe, and John Nelson. Mario is a Colleague of the AGO, Past Dean of the AGO Akron Chapter, past Music in Worship Chair for the Ohio Choral Directors Association(OCDA), and is a member of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and the Association of Anglican Musicians (AAM).