



CROSSVIEW CHURCH

GETTING STARTED ON KEYS

Our Set Up

We use an app called "Sunday Keys" to facilitate the sounds that we use at Crossview on a Sunday morning. Our piano is plugged into an iPad that runs Sunday Keys. There is a controller with sliders that you can use to control the levels of the various sounds in a patch.

"Keys" in the worship mix is very different from when I first started playing on a team 30 years ago. It's much less about playing rhythmic piano, and more about creating a foundation of warm sound that helps to create the atmosphere for engaging in worship. Sunday Keys is very user-friendly and is a great way for keys players to be able to layer in a wide range of sounds. I've started creating some patches that are song specific and a couple more basic generic ones with our go-to sounds. Sunday keys also makes it super easy to have a playlist of patches so it's easy to move from one sound to the next during worship.

What's the Difference Between Playing Piano and 'Keys'?

In general, there are some general guidelines to think about when playing keys:

- You don't have to play the parts exactly as in the recording. Sometimes playing less is more. There are a lot of instruments playing the rhythmic/percussive parts and it can help to create space when the keys play more sustained chords.
- It's good to know intro/instrumental riffs or lead lines ahead of time. We usually do play these. If they will be omitted, it will usually be noted in Planning Center.

Sometimes we have one person on the grand piano, and one on keys.

We want to make sure that we don't end up with a dueling pianos sound, so both players must be communicating and talking about who is playing what parts.

What Sounds Should I Use

Basic Sound Patch:

Specific Song Library:

Monitor Set Up:

You will need a pair of headphones/in-ear monitors. Musicians typically plug into the Behringer personal mixer located near your instrument. There is a belt pack that you can plug your headphones into. You will be able to adjust the volume on the belt pack itself. You can also control the volume of the various instruments and vocals. For more detailed instructions on your monitor set up, check out this [YouTube Video](#).