

Livestreaming Tips

Here are some tips to help you livestream or prerecord your worship service and sermon.

First, please consider the opportunity to access worship services and sermons online from another church. Please assess your capacity to provide this service, the need and relevance of the service, and who is the audience that you are communicating with before proceeding with your preferred option. What you provide and how you connect with people will be different in different contexts and meet different needs. If livestreaming or prerecording seems too difficult, please refer to the document, "Ideas for Low-Tech Congregations".

Please refer to the following websites for resources and support, including non-online suggestions:

- www.lca.org.au/lca-covid-19-response
- www.lca.org.au/churchhome
- www.lca.org.au/worship/wpp
- www.lutheranmedia.org.au/worship

Please refer to Licensing websites for more helpful tips to stream worship services: www.au.ccli.com and www.onelicense.net.

Please refer to the LCA copyright guidelines:

<https://www.lca.org.au/departments/ministry-support/communications/copyright/>

Simplest and cheapest setups

Use online meeting software (e.g. zoom or Microsoft Teams) installed on your computer. This will work well for a simple service and sermon.

Teams

Everyone with an LCA email can use TEAMS and TEAMS EVENTS. This has no limit to time or people and costs the church \$0. Please refer to LCA ICT for support with this.

Zoom

<https://zoom.us>. You will need to email out a link each week so people can join you. Zoom is free if you stay under 40mins per session. More information is available on their website.

Using your computer or phone/ipad, you could setup in your office or even in the church with the altar area in the background. Try using the mic in your computer/phone or ipad. If it sounds too echoey, audio will be improved by using a USB microphone. E.g.

<https://www.officeworks.com.au/shop/officeworks/c/technology/audio-speakers/microphones>

PowerPoint

Another option is to use PowerPoint. Select Slide Show, then Record Slideshow, record over the top of PPT slides, and then export as an MP4 video. Using a free downloadable app like Screencast-o-matic (<https://screencast-o-matic.com/>) allows you to have your smiley face in one corner of the screen while you share a PPT or something else on the screen, or you can have the whole screen view of your face.

Important Factors to Consider

Setting

- Light. You can have the world's most expensive camera, but if you don't have good lighting, it will look rubbish. Even a desk lamp modified can help! <https://www.jbhifi.com.au/products/elgato-key-light>
- Sound. Same as lighting. If you're within a couple of feet of the camera the inbuilt audio may be fine. If you're at a greater distance you will need an external microphone system to feed into the camera. This could be connected from the output of your usual sound system setup. Or you could use something like this: <https://www.rote.com/wireless/wirelessgo> (check out the video)
- Stable camera base (no shaking) Simple tripod or desktop stand. Here are a couple of options:
 - <https://www.proavexpress.com.au/griptight-gorillapod-stand-pro-smartphone-tripod-secure-mount/>
 - <https://www.proavexpress.com.au/benro-kh25n-video-tripod-kit/>
- Background. Make it warm and inviting, not just a white wall. A splash of colour, plants, pictures, lamp (although make sure you can dim it so it isn't too bright). Or you could use the altar area of your church.

Presenting Tips

- Speak directly to the camera
- One to one communication – no yelling

Copyright

You will need to add the livestreaming option to your existing music copyright licenses. Please refer to the LCA guidelines:

<https://www.lca.org.au/departments/ministry-support/communications/copyright/>

Licensing websites include <https://au.ccli.com/> and <https://www.onelicense.net/>

People needed

- Videographer- Someone to setup, monitor the video and audio and make sure it all looks and sounds good
- Presenter. Looking at the camera, warm and inviting, make sure their face isn't shiny as this can be off-putting.
- Other-Editor. Someone to edit the video so that it starts and finishes properly, add a logo, music, any other graphics that may be needed.
- Include others in worship where possible (but stay within the government guidelines for numbers and social distancing.)

More complex setup

Equipment & Software

- Good quality video camera - needs a clean output.
- Hardware encoding is better as that will do the 'heavy lifting' rather than the computer. If you have a cheap video capture card like <https://www.jbhifi.com.au/products/elgato-game-capture-hd60-s>, this will mean you need a very good (new) computer to be able to handle the conversion of video to a format the computer recognises.
- The other option is to record it onto the camera's SD card and then copy that file across to the computer and then stream it to Youtube/Facebook. Or simply post it to your website/Youtube/Facebook for on-demand viewing. This will require more editing time.

Software

- Recording? Lots of free software but can be complicated to use.
 - <https://obsproject.com>
 - <https://www.vmix.com>
- Editing? Lots of free options.
 - <https://www.blackmagicdesign.com/au/products/davinciresolve/>

- Go to app store on 'I' device and search movie maker
- You will need a good/new PC to edit video footage.

Internet connection

- Speed <https://www.speedtest.net>
- Bandwidth
- Download is not as important as upload speed when it comes to live streaming. Your audience is more concerned with the download speed
- Approximately 6Mbps UPLOAD SPEED for uploading 720p (low resolution HD)
 - <https://www.boxcast.com/blog/what-upload-speed-do-i-need-to-stream>
- Streaming PC specs:
 - <https://www.vmix.com/products/vmix-reference-systems.aspx#sapphire>
 - <https://www.vmix.com/software/supported-hardware.aspx>

Hardware ideas

- https://www.soundeasy.com.au/products/zoom-q2n-4k-4k-camera-for-musicians?variant=12878296744035¤cy=AUD&utm_campaign=gs-2018-09-22&utm_source=google&utm_medium=smart_campaign&gclid=Cj0KCQjwm dzzBRC7ARIsANdqRRm6HHvGGGq-B8Jeoer9JIKt_PUCZqlrqFbkbUA5mAdLj3RYR_eLU3saAg8nEALw_wcB
- <https://www.creatorbeat.com/cameras/best-cameras-streaming-facebook-live-youtube-live/>
- <https://www.premiumbeat.com/blog/5-affordable-live-stream-cameras/>
- <https://openblog.life.church/getting-started-with-church-online-equipment/?fbclid=IwAR2zbArd60Tu-9988xFSiAJVcjk9P7db2-ZOr6gn86IY0NThkDPzKdZgRPU>
- VMIX <https://www.vmix.com> stream, record, presentation, calling features, different options available
- <https://www.jbhifi.com.au/products/elgato-stream-deck> shortcut buttons to simplify operation of equipment

Distribution platform

- Facebook
- YouTube
- Livestream: Lutheran Media has an account you may be able to use. Check out www.livestream.com/luthworship.

- Links to other helpful suggestions: <https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/online-church-during-a-pandemic/?sslid=M7M0NDW1tDA3MDEzAwA&sseid=MzlwMrSwNDKwtAAA&jobid=f36f3ec8-d20f-4308-a169-d95afd953cd3>

Nathan Schubert, a member of St Michael's Lutheran Church, Hahndorf is offering his services for advice and to purchase equipment at reduced rates. He provides installation, training and documenting (subject to quotes). Call Nathan Schubert on 0422 010 303. Or email nathanschubert@hotmail.com