

Your Copyright Questions Answered:

Quick note – “streaming” / “livestreaming” / “podcast” / “broadcast” / “pre-recorded video posted online” = the same thing **Basically, yes. The difference can matter if you obtain certain licenses that request the number of potential downloads and whether the downloads are offered publicly or through a private server/email list.**

What about zoom?

- If I am zomming worship in a closed meeting, no streaming, do I need to display our lic.? **Yes, it is still considered a broadcast.**
- Regarding online, Zoom, live music - if we have a streaming liscence, are we allowed to either post a copy of the music or the song lyrics online of music we have original copies of in our songbooks, as people at home do not have copies of the music we have in the church building. **You would need a reproduction license for that – likely covered under CCLI or OneLicense if you have those.**
- If our only "audience" is a live online webinar or meeting *restricted to church members,* do we still need the "internet/streaming" licenses? Or do they qualify under the "regular" license? **It is still technically considered a broadcast. However, if there are a small number of members, I might consider asking the publisher for permission on any copyrighted material due to the limited access. However, for a church our size (about 500), we only paid about \$89.00 for the year to add the streaming license. It is not very expensive and is based on the size of your church.**
- I'm grateful for this webinar. But I keep hearing the presenters quoting laws that refer to "on-site" exemptions, without telling us whether or not ZOOM qualifies as "on-site" if gathering is prohibited? **Anything that leaves the building is broadcasting. The on-site exemption only applies to physical gatherings, so Zoom would be considered a broadcast.**
- Does gathering on Zoom meet the gathering requirement for the religious services exemption? **No, because it is virtual – it is considered a broadcast. (or stream)**
- Zoom meeting services have the congregation present. How does that affect a lic? **You could not rely on the religious services exemption for zoom, so you would need the streaming license.**

What about YouTube?

- I “heard” that we can use any hymns or anthems on youtube and they would be “covered” by the youtube copyright. Can you confirm or refute? Thank you. **Any hymns or anthems that are uploaded from the original source can be either covered under the CVLI license. (the CVLI website lists the producers, composers, etc. that are covered). Or, permission can be obtained directly from the church or choir that uploaded the music. However, in that case, the choir could give permission for any hymns in the public domain – they could not give permission for a copyrighted song unless their license allowed them to authorize use.**
- How about clips from YouTube? **This was probably sent in before we discussed.**
- Our church service is compiled, and shown on YouTube, not live streamed. We use garageband to creat a virtual choir for hymns, and anthems. We have a CCLI license and have purchased the music for anthems. What other licenses do we need? **There is no difference in the licenses you will need for a YouTube post vs. a live stream. You will need a license allowing you to create a derivative work and broadcast that work. The derivative work right may be covered under CCLI**

if it is a covered song and the creation is for congregational singing. I assume you have the CCLI streaming add-on license – if not, you will need that. If it is an anthem, you might also need the publisher's permission. Check out the Choristers Guild website for an easy list of permissions to use as an example.

- I asked about YouTube. It's using YouTube to enhance the worship experience. My church has a YouTube channel where we've uploaded sermon audio for years. In this time, we've been uploading our Zoom worship to Facebook. In a week or so, without our musician, we're planning YouTube videos with lyrics embedded for two hymns. For the other, my husband recorded the accompaniment and I'll show the lyrics. **Uploading the sermons is fine as long as they don't contain copyrighted material. You should obtain and use a CVLI license which will allow you to broadcast YouTube videos of hymns that were uploaded by covered producers. For the last situation, if the hymn your husband recorded is in the public domain, you can add lyrics and broadcast that with no problem. But be careful that he isn't playing a copyrighted arrangement of the hymn.**
- Can you share a youtube video on a church facebook page without a license? **No, unless you get permission directly from the person who uploaded it and verified that they were authorized to offer you that permission.**
- We've used YouTube in our in-person services as well for preludes or postludes when our musician isn't contracted. I've also included clips in sermons. **You should obtain a CVLI license – they are not expensive and they allow you to use videos from covered sources. They even have a library of applicable videos for certain liturgical dates and themes.**
- If we want to use YouTube video in our closed Zoom service that is not being streamed or posted online later, do we need a license? If so which one? **Yes. You will need a license to share that video from the source holding the copyright. CVLI is a good license for this purpose because it gives you access to so many videos on different topics and themes.**
- During this "shut down" I am conducting worship via teleconference. Can I have congregation in their individual homes listen to a You Tube? **If you play the YouTube video for them, then you need a license. If you tell them to go to YouTube and they look it up and play it, then you are fine without a license.**
- During this pandemic time if we have abused copyright laws by using Youtube videos or music from those Youtube videos, what should we do now? Obviously we will not do that anymore unless we get permission from the original source to use their work for worship. But, at this point, is it best to contact those sources/publishers to let them know their work was used and ask if we need to publish anything about this and/or if we may owe anything to have used their music? **Everyone is sympathetic to the immediacy that churches were under and I doubt anyone would pursue an infringement action if your actions were temporary and you changed them as soon as you learned about it. Also, if the videos were shared on YouTube already, it would be hard to make a case that anyone was deprived of income due to your one-time use. You certainly could track down the publishers, and if it was a choral anthem or something easy to trace, you would likely get permission without a fee. From this point forward a CVLI license would likely cover your needs.**

(I think we did cite the sources and composers of work used.)

What license do I need for...

- you'll never walk alone by Rodgers and Hammerstein how can one obtain streaming permission thank Mike Copps. **This is hard to answer because it depends if you want to stream someone singing it live for your church or if you are looking to stream someone else's performance of it. I**

would be careful with R&H because they do keep a close eye on things. Your best bet would be to check with Christian Copyright Solutions under their WorshipCast license since this is a secular song. (although, if you already have CCLI or OneLicense, it cannot hurt to see if this is in their library).

- What process is used to set requirements for deciding what licensing best serves our choir and bell choir needs for streaming our worship services? I recommend calling CCLI or OneLicense and discussing what you are looking to do. They can help you determine the licensing that will cover your activities.
- How to handle the right to monetize copyright when a performance is streamed. If this is asking how you can monetize a video you upload, you would need to check with your streaming platform. (YouTube, Vimeo, etc.)
- How to handle permissions for music not covered by church licenses (Beatles, Springsteen, classical music under copyright) that church leaders want to be able to choose any time and sometimes spontaneously during worship. This is what Christian Copyright Solutions can help with because they have 16 million songs that cover all of the secular ones. If you are looking to use them in worship, talk to them about WorshipCast.
- We are a Spiritualist church and sometimes use a Spiritualist hymnal, but not always. We want to use music that's not only Christian hymns. Does this apply? I am not sure I understand, but if you are looking to use secular music, Christian Copyright Solutions has licensing for churches that covers sacred and secular.
- As far as copyright go, is there a difference between a in church performance and a streaming, audio or video performance? Yes, live performances in church is covered by the religious services exemption. Anything under copyright protection that is streamed or recorded and shared is not covered and requires a license.
- Please review again the difference between the just mentioned CCLI streaming license and the multi-platform license. The CCLI streaming license allows both – post a live-recorded service to your website and multi-platform live streaming; both events are covered by the same license add-on.
- My church doesn't have a choir and our musician covers 3 Sundays a month. A couple of us who are musically trained provide music and support singing for the other Sundays, and often we'll use YouTube videos to provide variation. In this Covid time, the services without our musician, were definitely planning YouTube. What licenses are necessary? Any hymns or anthems that are uploaded from the original source can be either covered under the CVLI license. (the CVLI website lists the producers, composers, etc. that are covered). Or, permission can be obtained directly from the church or choir that uploaded the music. However, in that case, the choir could give permission for any hymns in the public domain – they could not give permission for a copyrighted song unless their license allowed them to authorize use.
- Okay, but what if you want to use a contemporary recording of a song either as part of your worship or as a sermon illustration? Is there a particular license that allows that, or is that on a piece by piece basis? If you want to use a recording, you would cover that under a CVLI license. None of the "standard" licenses cover using an existing sound recording of someone else singing or playing.
- is the synchronization license normally part of the "regular" license, or do we specifically have to search out that license? What about panning the space? I hate to answer this one this way, but it really depends what you are looking to use the sync license for – if it is to add lyrics or images to your choir singing a published octavo, you could obtain that license from the publisher. I

assume by “panning the space” you mean showing the other people attending worship? If so, it is desirable to make the congregation aware of the fact they may be streamed and, if possible, obtain releases. I would check with your insurance company about this because they have a lot of resources to offer on this subject for free.

- What is the name of the license for secular songs? They are talking very fast. **Christian Copyright Solutions. And we were talking fast – sorry about that! 😊**
- So if we record our service and send to YouTube and Facebook, what license will cover us for that sending the entire service to Facebook and YouTube for viewing whenever. **It depends on what material is included in the service. If there is no copyrighted material, you need no license. If you are including hymns and anthems, you should be covered for most through CCLI or OneLicense with their streaming add-on and a CVLI license.**
- is it permissible to use movie trailers in entirety without further permission? **No, but they are likely covered under the CVLI license. (Unless they are very old and could possibly be public domain).**
- What type of license does dance ministries need to perform in worship to recorded music? **They would need a license for the sound recording. I would check with the publisher of the music as the best place to start because I do not know what type of recordings you would be using.**
- My church uses phone conferencing for worship. Does the video license cover this? **The streaming license should cover it.**
- If I send out a email worship service with links to YouTube videos hymnary.org audio is that OK...have one license and CCLI and hymn are flex with streaming? None of it is streamed. **It is still broadcasted, so you need the rights to stream it.**
- regarding Zoom and Youtube videos ... Do we need permission AND a license? If so, which license? Streaming? Sorry but this is very confusing. **I totally understand. A license is paid-for permission. Some permissions can be obtained without payment directly from the copyright holder.**
- We have a CCLI license as well as a streaming license. We have been live streaming our service since the Covid-19 pandemic began. I'm still confused about what I need to do with my piano prelude and other solo piano pieces. What should I do to be in compliance? Thank you. **You need to check the publisher of the music you are playing for prelude and solo piano. There is a good chance those publishers are covered by your current license. If not, contact the publisher and ask which blanket license you need to stream a video of a live performance of their arrangement.**
- Our pastor is broadcasting live from his home on Facebook Live. If he sings a hymn - not sharing any music or words with audience - do we need to comply with one of our licenses - ONE, CCLI, Augsburg Liturgies and Hymn licenses? **If the hymn is in the public domain, you need no license for that. If it is under copyright protection, you should be covered under your blanket CCLI and Streaming Add-on.**
- Discuss homemade virtual choirs? Homemade piano track, choir singing out of the hymnal? **This is a topic that would take a lot of discussion. The basics are this – are you just recording and streaming the song? If so, standard reproduction and streaming are probably fine. However, if you are creating a derivative work (not singing the song as written), then you likely need a license allowing you to create that work.**
- So we're now streaming live to FB (already have a streaming license), so we need to get the CCLI Multi-platform add-on? **The CCLI streaming license includes both stream services and multi-platform so you should be good!**

- So if we record an audio cassette of worship, we can't take it to a shut-in? **If you have CCLI or OneLicense, you are covered.**
- What if we want to incorporate some "pre-recorded" music in with the live worship? It was pre-recorded by choir folks at home or in the sanctuary at a previous time. Can that be done? The "pre-recorded" portions will go out live, during the live time, with folks present in the sanctuary during the worship time....???? **This is still your group singing the songs. This is fine as long as they are singing public domain music or you have the blanket Streaming License.**
- curious about the same issues for liturgy, prayers from other sources, etc. **It depends on the publisher of the liturgy – they may already be covered. If not, permission from the source is usually easy and free for these because they are meant to be shared.**

Simplify please!

- Bottom line...to be legal to stream services and use preludes from previously purchased books/collections, which licenses are vital? You've mentioned so many. **You will need a basic CCLI or OneLicense in order to get their streaming add-on. As far as the books, you need to check and see if the publishers are covered by CCLI or OneLicense. If not, I would obtain permission directly from the publisher and ask if their work is covered by one of the blanket licenses.**
- What practical advice do you have for solo Pastors with volunteer choir directors? All of this seems to be a bit much for a one-staff church. **You can do almost anything you might need with music through a CCLI basic license and streaming add-on. The price is based on the size of your church so it is affordable. If you also want to stream videos, the CVLI license is also based on church size. Just to give you an idea, our church got the streaming add-on for about \$89.00 for the year. I think CVLI was around \$300 for the entire year.**
- In trying to find/verify copyright of music, it can sometimes be VERY difficult. Are there resources available [websites] that cover all music? Or close to as much music as possible? **It can be incredibly difficult, I agree! The resource sheet I handed out had some options. Depending on the type of music, you can also try the ASCAP library.**

Where should we list the license? The answer to both questions is to check with your license company – both websites have FAQ sections that show an example of how they want their license information shown. It is usually shown with each licensed song or video.

- When we are live streaming and have our live-streaming license from CCLI and One License, where should we list the licensing information? Currently we have it on our "Welcome" slide at the beginning of worship and we include the CCLI and One License copyright info on the title slide for each song. Is this sufficient?
- how do you acknowledge your video licence in the service - or do you need to?

Can I make copies of this?

- can we photocopy hymns from the hymnal and place in the bulletin? **If public domain – yes. If copyrighted you need to check with your hymnal publisher – some offer digital rights. But also ask them if that hymn requires additional permission from the copyright holder.**
- if we have 12 singers but only 9 copies of a cantata, can we make 3 photocopies so everyone has a copy? In grad school 28 years ago, there was a law that we were allowed to make one copy for every original copy of music we had. Is this still true? **Nope. You can share copies legally if several people are willing to share a copy, but no additional copies are legal.**

- Can we share a YouTube (or other) link to a song so people can learn it by ear before our service if we're not also broadcasting it during the service? **Yes, this is not broadcasting. Sharing the link, especially directly from the YouTube site to emails is fine because they will have to stream it each time they listen to it and that can be tracked for any videos that get money per view.**
- Large print hymnals are often too heavy for those who need them to hold. What about copying and enlarging single hymns from a regular hymnal for use during worship? **This is a permission I would ask for from the publisher. They may have a blanket or digital package that allows copies for that purpose. Also, if you have CCLI or OneLicense, check to see if that hymn is covered by their reproduction license.**

Can I use or change these words or tune?

- What if you want to take a familiar melody and use your own original lyrics? E.g. - If you wanted to write your own lyrics to Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah"? **If the song is still under copyright protection, that is considered a derivative work and requires a license.**
- The Trisagion, S 100 in the 1982 Hymnal, is listed in the back as copyrighted. Does this mean we cannot use the words as well as the tune? **It depends if it is still under copyright protection. I tried to look it up on hymnary.org and it appears to have a 1981 GIA copyright. You can sing it in worship out of the hymnal, but would need permission to do other things with it.**
- A colleague wanted to perform a piece written in a minor key in the major key. Is that a substantial change that would violate copyright? **Changing the mode would change the overall character of a piece, so I would ask permission, I imagine this is a permission that would be easy to obtain.**

Can I change lyrics to make the name of God inclusive (God instead of He)? Is that a translation? **That is not a translation. Anytime lyrics are changed, you need to obtain permission. If the song is in a hymnal, there may be some denominations willing to give blanket permission for gender inclusiveness.**

- Our church has changed the words to the Doxology. Is that legal? **If you are using the Old 100th that was written in the 1600's, then you can change anything you want because it is in the public domain. If you are using any other version, make sure it is not under copyright protection.**

How can I find this copyright?

- How can I identify what is copyrighted and what is not? **It should be noted on the piece, but not always. A work does not have to be registered to have copyright protection, nor does it have to list any status or notification. The safest thing to do is assume any works not in the public domain are copyrighted.**
- what if the publisher is no longer around? **Someone still owns the rights, usually that publisher was sold or merged with another company. Another way to check is to google the writer or composer and ask who holds the copyright.**
- We have the OneLicense basic and streaming licenses, but our Praise Band wants to do some songs that aren't in the OneLicense library. How do we go about getting permission on a song by song basis. **There are several ways: 1. Contact the publisher and negotiate a license; 2. OneLicense can work with their publisher partners to license songs on a one-time basis, even if they are not in their library (I have done this). 3. If you are looking for secular, contact Christian Copyright Solutions and see if the song is covered in their larger library.**

- There is a piece of music I love that was published many years ago. I cannot find the publisher or the writer. Google is no help. Is there any avenue for me to use it? **We ran into this with a poem that we wanted to use as lyrics. We found the writer in South Africa, tried contacting her through numerous contacts and were never able to obtain permission so we just had to drop it. Unfortunately, if you cannot find anyone who can provide permission, the best course of action is not to use the song. I know how frustrating that can be.**

How do I contact a publisher?

- Looking through our church hymnals (I'm United Methodist--looking at the UM Hymnal, 1989, and The Faith We Sing supplement)--a lot of the things in there have copyrighted arrangements either by the church publishing house or the publisher. With particular notice for whatever we post online--Facebook? You Tube? what can we do???? **If you contact the publisher of the hymnal, tell them what you want to do, and with which songs, they can help you through the process and identify which parties will need to grant permission and/or a license.**
- There's a list in proverbial "fine print" in back of UM Hymnal of each hymn/prayer/response in the book and who holds copyright...and sometimes there are two copyright holders, one for words, one for arrangement...BUT HOW DO YOU CONTACT THESE PEOPLE?--and how long does it take? Do they let you know immediately, so you know if you can use it upcoming Sunday? **I know this is frustrating, but it all depends on the publisher. Some grant immediate permission and others take time. Also, I would encourage you to check with the hymnal publisher for any blanket licenses available. (like a digital kit, etc.)**

What about public domain?

- Can you say the two places that she checks on Public Domain? **Yes, IMSLP and CPDL. Both websites are on the resources list.**
- Isn't anything published over 100 years in public domain? **Yes, at this point, anything before 1920 is in the public domain.**
- So, If we take a public domain hymn, ask choir members and musicians to video themselves - and we compile it together. Are we ok? We just want to get started. **No problems at all!**
- Internet Archive has public domain, appears to be being given by performers. archive.org **I'm unclear of the question.**
- Is there a standard time of how long a copyright lasts? **If it was published after 1978, copyright is for the life of the author plus 70 years. (There are additional rules for works for hire, works created by an entity rather than a person, etc.) However, the above is a good guide.**

Religious Service Exemption?

- What qualifies as a worship service---anything we open and close with prayer? Everything we do is worship, right? Theology may not transfer to licensing LOL **Ha!! I agree that everything we do is worship, but the federal government, not so much. ☺ Worship is what happens during the course of services at a place of worship. Not very clear, but you could probably determine what would constitute a "service" at your church.**
- If a congregation is broadcasting its live service from the sanctuary to the nursery via CCTV, do they need video and streaming license? **No, because the listeners are still gathered on-premise and it is not being broadcast off of that campus.**
- What about parking lot services? **If you have an outdoor service in the parking lot, it is still covered by the exemption, but if you broadcast it through a radio station to the listeners vehicles, then you have broadcast.**

- If we have a home church office, does that count as "on site?" Can we stream from there with our streaming license? **No matter where you stream from, you need a license to send it out of that building.**
- so we can sing in our parking lot worship... copied music from hymnals **Yes, as long as you have a reproduction license (CCLI, OneLicense) that covers your hymn – it allows copies for congregational singing.**

Miscellaneous

- What was the source for the images that Kirsten mentioned? **I am not sure which images you are referring to, but if it was the video clips, that is CVLI.**
- I actually created a streaming license form on my website at <https://deannawitkowski.com/scores> so that churches can contact me directly to arrange for licensing (later this summer I'll be a member publisher affiliated with OneLicense). **Encouraging you to keep creating is why we all want to be diligent about licensing and copyright permissions! 😊**
- Was told on another Zoom that Facebook Live has a three strikes and you're out rule for those who "misunderstand" usage r rules regarding livestreaming. I.e. page gets kicked off after 3 offences. Does Facebook monitor and purge users in this way? **I am not sure about Facebook, but that is the policy for YouTube.**
- How can you send music on zoom? It's only 1 sound at a time and our songs are garbled. **That is a tech issue that is beyond my expertise. 😊 I struggle with music over Zoom as well.**