

With worship services being called off everywhere, streaming is a good way to keep in touch with your congregation. Here are some things you need to know to proceed and not break copyright laws.

We get calls about our licensing and congregations ability to stream the singing portion of their worship services along with the sermon. I hope that this short article will clearly state the copyright situation that arises from streaming the music, slides, and audio. *Please keep in mind that I am not a lawyer and the information I give here is only my opinion and should not be considered a full explanation of the copyright laws or even an accurate depiction of the laws concerning this subject.*

First of all, The Paperless Hymnal, LLC, does not own any songs and therefore does not have the right to authorize congregations to use our slides outside the user license confines that accompanies your material. The showing of slides during your services for the audience present at that time is the **ONLY** thing we can authorize. That is the only thing that our contracts with the song owners or administrators allows us to authorize. Showing these slides is covered in our contracts under commercial print licensing. Streaming is **NOT** a part of that licensing.

If you decide to stream or post your live services on youtube, facebook, or any other online application the music portion of your services, several things need to be considered. Each song must be considered separately.

- IF THE SONG IS PUBLIC DOMAIN, then you are allowed to stream the **live audio** and the slides with or without musical notation without further consideration.
- IF THE SONG IS UNDER COPYRIGHT PROTECTION, then you must obtain permission and pay any fees associated with using the song to the owner or administrator for that song.
- IF YOU USE ANY RECORDED AUDIO instead of live sound, then you must obtain permission from the producer of that audio, whether or not the song is under copyright protection or not. This audio is not part of the CCLI streaming licensing.

Obtaining a streaming license for each song can be a time consuming task and may be cost prohibitive. That is why there is a separate CCLI steaming license for congregations that already have a standard license with CCLI. By the way, the video license from CCLI is NOT the same thing as a streaming license and does not replace the streaming license from CCLI. The CCLI Video license is for showing movies only. With the CCLI streaming license, you may post online live audio, the lyrics and/or The Paperless Hymnal slides if the song is covered by CCLI. **NOT ALL SONGS ARE COVERED BY CCLI.** A good resource for this information is either the song select page at CCLI or the index file in your "tph" folder or obtaining a new download of the file.

To find the Streaming page at CCLI, it is best to Google "CCLI Streaming License"

www.paperlesshymnal.com/tph/free/indexes.zip

We are usually available to take your questions, either at (512)785-9303 or James.tph@att.net.