

# CHURCH BROADCAST SCHOOL

A Communication Ministry of the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church

## EPISODE SIX: Live or Pre-recorded Worship

*“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

Matthew 5:14-16 NIV

### KEY IDEAS

- An advantage to live streaming is it allows both in-person and online worship to take place simultaneously.
- For time-strapped worship teams/pastors, it's hard to argue with this obvious advantage.
- Your online members get to worship in real time with your in-person congregation.
- Some congregations say they like having everyone worshipping at the same time.
- If your only choice is streaming a worship service live, do that over choosing nothing.
- The minuses to streaming live are that you share a service designed for in-person worship online.
- Live streaming means you must default to your in-person worshipers' needs.
- Live streaming limits when people can view the service.
- The downside is that pre-recorded online worship takes more time and more resources.
- Recording the service live clearly takes more time and energy.
- Do you need to be offering a full online worship experience, or would a brief devotion, maybe with music, be a more manageable way of reaching online audiences?
- If you do plan to edit, there is editing software for both Mac and pc.
- For Mac users, the basic [iMovie](#) is simple drop-and-drag technology that is easy to learn and use.
- Mac operating professionals use more expensive software like [Final Cut Pro](#) or [Adobe Premier](#).
- These are much more difficult to learn and master and cost significantly more to own, so this is not an ideal option for those just beginning.
- PC Users have more options, but there are not really any good options for beginners; [Movavi Video Editor Plus](#) and [Corel VideoStudio](#).
- [Adobe Premiere Pro for PC](#) is available, but it offers a steeper learning curve.
- Whether you live stream or pre-record; a good practice is to engage those who comment on the service; commenting assures that those watching online feel they are a part of the service.
- This engagement is critical to successful online worship.
- Integrate your social media so people know where and how to find your church online each week.