



Here we identify some of the pros and cons of each to help you make a decision which will best serve your community.

Live streaming pros

- When an online community joins in worship with an onsite community, it creates a sense of unity – we are all here together as one.
- As the service is streaming live, there's no need to edit a video afterwards so in some ways it can be easier.

Live streaming cons

- A good broadband speed is required to ensure a good connection during livestreaming, which many churches may not have, if there is broadband available at all.
- It's important to remember that some elements of the service may not translate as well to those watching at home. Some consideration will need to be taken to help the online community participate, just as they would do if they were onsite.

Recording pros

- Where broadband speed is an issue or not available, recording the service to distribute later is the best option by far. Some choose to record a shorter service ahead of time so that the online community can watch an online, tailor-made service at the same time as those onsite.
- Elements of the service can be edited out or in afterwards to create a high quality recording.
- Accessibility can be addressed as subtitles, readings and hymn lyrics can be added in with simple editing.

Recording cons

- If recording the Sunday service as it happens to share afterwards, there will be a delay in distributing it which for some may not be ideal.
- Recording a service for the online community ahead of time will be beneficial and prevent the delay mentioned above, however will mean duplicating the service and add to the team's workload – you know best what you are able to accomplish with the time you have.

This blog is part of the Step-by-step guide to online and onsite services

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