A Comprehensive Guide to the Best Church Streaming Equipment



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The way people gather has shifted. Some are in the room, others are watching from across town — or across the world. Live streaming isn't just a tech add-on anymore; it's the bridge that keeps your community connected and your message cutting through the noise.

But clarity and impact don't happen by accident. Every piece of your setup matters — from cameras and audio to encoders and platforms. Get it right, and distractions disappear. Get it wrong, and attention slips away.

The right equipment is the backbone of that experience. From cameras and encoders to audio gear and streaming platforms, every piece plays a role in how your services are seen and heard.

That's why we built this guide: Real gear, tested in real services, sized for churches at every stage. So you can step into Sunday knowing your stream will just work — **and your message will land.**





Top Livestream Cameras for Churches

Your camera is the first step in capturing high-quality video for your livestream. From budget-friendly basics to cinematic broadcast rigs, here's what we recommend.

Pro Tip: Match your camera choice to your environment and volunteers' experience level. A \$10,000 camera won't help if it's too complex for your operators—or if your streaming resolution is still 1080p.

Basic

Blackmagic Pocket Cinema Camera 4K: Compact and budget-friendly, this camera delivers rich colors, sharp detail, and a cinematic look. Ideal for small to mid-size churches looking for a visual upgrade without breaking the bank.

Lens Pairing: Panasonic 100-400mm f/4-6.3 II ASPH. POWER O.I.S. Lens

Recommended For: Small to mid-size churches wanting a step up in image quality on a budget.

<u>Canon XA70 / XA75</u>: Versatile camcorders with dependable autofocus, HDMI output on the XA70, and SDI on the XA75 for longer cable runs and pro workflows. Great for volunteer teams needing an easy learning curve.

Recommended For: Churches needing dependable camcorders with minimal setup complexity.

<u>Sony Z300</u>: A rugged camcorder built for reliability with smooth servo zoom and excellent low-light performance, making it a workhorse for sanctuary lighting conditions.

Recommended For: Medium-size churches with dim lighting and long zoom requirements.

Pro Tip: Consider cameras that have the option for a remote zoom and focus



control that can be attached to your tripod. This makes it easier for a camera operator to work your camera smoothly and easily.

Professional

<u>Canon C80 / C400</u>: Professional-grade cinema cameras with Canon's renowned color science, wide dynamic range, and customizable shooting options for polished broadcast productions.

Lens Pairing: Canon RF 100-500mm f/4.5-7.1 L IS USM Lens

Recommended For: Churches producing cinematic livestreams with trained camera operators.

Red Cine Broadcast: A premium cinema platform for ministries who demand unmatched detail, dynamic range, and creative flexibility. Perfect for multi-camera cinematic livestreams.

Recommended For: Large churches with high-end production teams and cinematic goals.

Pro Tip: Go with the Komodo line for a compact, high-quality cinema camera. Step up to the Raptor line for full broadcast control using its new cinema fiber back.

<u>Sony FX6</u> – Full-frame cinematic capture in a lightweight body with incredible low-light performance, perfect for dramatic sanctuary shots.

Lens Pairing: Sony FE PZ 28-135mm f/4 G OSS Full-Frame Power Zoom Lens

Recommended For: Churches that want a cinematic, full-frame look without heavy rigging.

PTZ (Pan-Tilt Zoom) camera recommendations

PTZ cameras offer the added benefit of remote control. They allow you to pan, tilt, and zoom to capture different angles while focusing on various parts of your church service. Here are some top PTZ camera recommendations



for churches:

<u>Canon CR-N300</u>: Crisp, reliable image capture with smooth pan, tilt, and zoom. Great for discreet placement in your worship center.

Recommended For: Medium to large churches needing remote-operated cameras in fixed positions.

<u>BirdDog X4 Ultra</u>: NDI-enabled PTZ camera with advanced color tools and flexible IP workflows, excellent for integrating into modern AV systems.

<u>Sony FR7</u>: The first full-frame PTZ camera, offering cinematic shallow depth-of-field shots with remote control—ideal for creative angles without extra operators.

Lens Pairing: <u>Sony FE PZ 28-135mm f/4 G OSS Full-Frame Power Zoom</u> Lens

Recommended For: High-production churches wanting cinematic quality from remote cameras.

Utility

<u>Marshall Camera</u> - Small-form-factor POV camera that's perfect for close-ups on drums, keyboards, or congregation shots without obstructing the view.

Recommended For: Churches wanting creative angle shots without visible camera operators.



Video Switchers

The switcher is the nerve center of your livestream. It controls which camera angles, graphics, and videos your viewers see at any moment.



Pro Tip: Choose a switcher that not only meets today's needs but also has room for future growth—like extra inputs for added cameras or graphics sources.

<u>RodeCaster Video</u> – HDMI – Simple, intuitive HDMI switcher for smaller setups, offering straightforward control and minimal setup time.

Recommended For: Small churches with volunteer-led video teams.

<u>Blackmagic ATEM Switchers</u> (Mini SDI, Television Studio HD8, Constellation) – Flexible, scalable switcher options to fit churches of every size, from portable rigs to full-scale broadcast.

Recommended For: Any church size—choose model based on number of inputs and complexity.

Ross Switcher Ecosystem (Solo to Ultramax) – Industry-grade switchers built for reliability and precision in complex productions.

Recommended For: Large production churches and broadcast campuses.

All-In-One Video Bundles

If you want an out-of-the-box solution, an all-in-one bundle gives you everything you need to get up and streaming fast.

Pro Tip: Bundles work best for churches that don't have time or experience to piece together separate components—but be sure the included gear matches your long-term vision.

<u>Blackmagic House of Worship Bundle</u> – A pre-configured kit tailored for houses of worship, combining cameras, switchers, and accessories into a ready-to-deploy streaming system.

Recommended For: Churches starting from scratch who want an instant, proven setup.



Audio Equipment for Church Livestreams

While many churches believe having the best camera is the most important part of producing an amazing livestream, in actuality, investing in a solid audio system is just as important in order to get the result that you're looking for. In this section, we'll be covering our top picks for microphones, plus tips on where to place them, as well as recommendations for audio mixers that can give you the best sound for your stream.

Microphone selection

Clear, accurate audio is just as important as sharp video. These mics cover every instrument and vocal source in a typical worship setup.

Pro Tip: Prioritize vocal clarity for the message, then add instrument mics and DIs as your budget allows. Your audience will forgive slightly lower video quality before they forgive poor audio.

Drums - <u>Shure Beta 52 Drum Mic Package</u> - Delivers punchy, defined drum sounds with excellent isolation, ensuring your livestream mix captures energy without mud.

Recommended For: Churches wanting full, powerful drum sound in their livestream mix.

Bass DI – <u>Rupert Neve DI</u> – Adds warmth and character while keeping the low end tight and focused.

Recommended For: Bass players needing consistent tone with minimal setup.

Electric Guitar Amp – <u>Sennheiser 609</u> – Compact design sits flat against the amp grill, delivering consistent tone without a mic stand.

Recommended For: Electric guitarists with amps placed on crowded stages.



Accoustic Guitar DI – <u>Rupert Neve DI</u> – Preserves the natural, dynamic sound of your acoustic guitar directly into the console.

Recommended For: Worship leaders playing acoustic guitar live on stage.

Keys DI – Radial Stereo DI – Clean, full-range stereo capture for keyboards, pads, and synths.

Recommended For: Keyboardists using stereo patches or layered sounds.

Vocals – <u>Shure SM58</u> – The gold standard for live vocals—durable, reliable, and great sounding in almost any environment.

Recommended For: Lead and background vocalists in any worship setting.

Headsets

Perfect for pastors, worship leaders, and speakers who need to move freely while keeping their voice clear and consistent.

Pro Tip: Invest in at least one high-quality headset mic for key speakers—you'll get consistent levels and far fewer "mic drifting away from the mouth" moments.

<u>Countryman H6</u> – Lightweight, nearly invisible, and delivers crystal-clear sound for spoken word.

Recommended For: Pastors or speakers who want an unobtrusive mic with natural tone.

<u>DPA 4066 / 4088</u> - Premium headset mics with exceptional clarity and excellent rejection of background noise.

Recommended For: Speakers in loud environments or with high production standards.

<u>Thor Hammer</u> – Rugged and dependable, designed to withstand regular use while maintaining consistent performance.



Recommended For: Outdoor services or high-movement presentations.

Audio Consoles

Your console is the command center for all audio, both in the room and for your livestream.

Pro Tip: A dedicated audio mix for livestream often produces the biggest quality jump for online viewers—pick a console that supports this easily.

<u>Waves Classic</u> – Powerful digital console with integrated plugin processing for precise control.

Recommended For: Churches that want advanced audio shaping without outboard gear.

<u>Yamaha DM Series</u> – Proven reliability, smooth workflow, and a familiar interface for volunteers and pros alike.

Recommended For: Churches needing rock-solid performance and volunteer-friendly operation.



Allen & Heath <u>SQ6</u> & <u>Avantis</u> Series – Excellent sound quality with flexible routing and modern touchscreen workflow.

Recommended For: Mid to large churches needing versatility for both FOH and livestream mixes.

Audio Embedders

These devices combine audio and video into a single signal, making your livestream feed seamless and sync-locked.

Pro Tip: Always check compatibility with your switcher and streaming encoder to avoid last-minute surprises on Sunday morning.



<u>Blackmagic Audio to SDI 4K</u> - Compact, cost-effective solution for embedding high-quality audio into SDI video feeds.

Recommended For: Churches already using SDI-based video workflows.

AJA 3G-AMA – Professional-grade embedder/de-embedder offering reliable performance in broadcast workflows.

Recommended For: Broadcast campuses and advanced video control rooms.

<u>Cobalt Blue Box</u> – Rugged solution built for consistent audio/video sync in demanding setups.

Recommended For: Churches with permanent, high-reliability production setups.

<u>Sonifex Dante</u> – Directly embeds Dante network audio into SDI feeds for fully networked AV systems.

Recommended For: Churches using Dante audio networks for production.

Encoders and Decoders

Encoders and decoders are the bridge between your in-room production and your online audience. The encoder takes your camera and audio feeds, compresses them, and sends them out to your streaming platform, while the decoder receives and reconstructs that signal at a remote location.

Whether you're streaming to a global audience, broadcasting to multiple campuses, or feeding overflow rooms, Resi offers a number of encoder and decoder options to fit your organization's streaming needs.

Portable Encoders for Web Streaming

Mini Encoder with HDMI — This sleek, portable device brings the power of Resi's Resilient Streaming Protocol (RSP) to a smaller frame — making professional-grade encoding more affordable and accessible than ever. Its small form factor fits easily in a backpack, making it a versatile solution for portable churches, youth rooms, traveling speakers, and more.





Mini Encoder with SDI — The Serial Digital Interface (SDI) variant of the bestselling Mini Encoder offers better reliability for SDI workflows, longer cable runs, and SDI Loop Out for in-room monitoring.

Server-Grade Encoders for Multisite and 4K Streaming

<u>E1200 Single-Channel Encoder</u> — A compact, single-channel encoder with HDMI or 6G-SDI input and a single power supply—built for reliable, straightforward multi-site streaming.

<u>E2211 Dual-Channel Encoder</u> — A dual-channel encoder with HDMI or dual 6G-SDI inputs and redundant power supply for rock-solid, professional-grade reliability.

E4310 Dual-Channel 4K60 Encoder — A powerful dual-channel encoder supporting 12G-SDI or dual 6G-SDI inputs, redundant power, and AV1 capability — delivering next-generation, ultra-high-quality 4K60 streaming.

Bringing It All Together

Getting the right equipment in place is important, but live streaming is more than cables, cameras, or encoders. It's about the moment your message reaches people clearly, without distraction — the moment all the work behind the scenes pays off.

That's why Resi exists. We've been where you are, and we've built a platform that takes the pressure off so you can focus on what really matters. From volunteer-friendly tools to expert support when you need it most, we're here to help you reach your congregation with excellence and confidence.

With Resi, you don't just go live — you go live with confidence.

No matter how you share your message - live, across campuses, or



on-demand — Resi has a plan built to match your vision and scale with your growth.

Request a demo today and see what it's like to stream with a partner who truly understands your church.





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