

How to Live-Stream Church for Free

Note: This approach uses Facebook, but a parishioner **does not** need a Facebook account to watch the live stream.

Level One: Stream Video via Facebook Live

What you'll need:

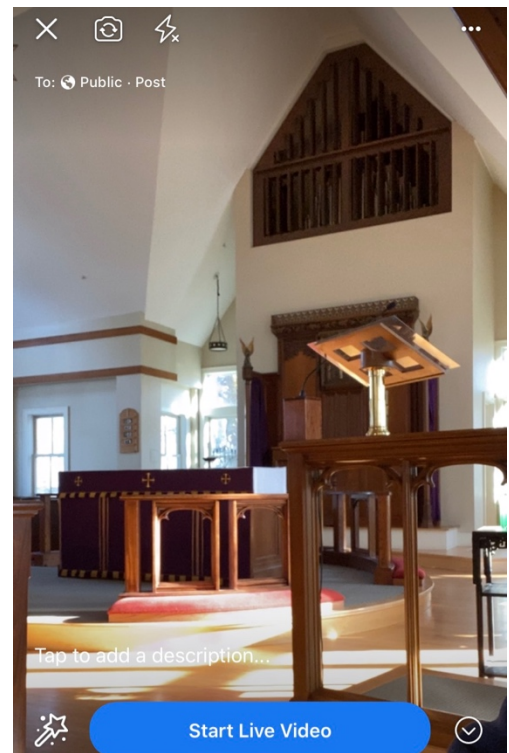
- A smartphone or tablet with the Facebook app (or a laptop w/ Facebook open in browser)
- WiFi in the Sanctuary (or good data service and a BIG data plan)
- A public church Facebook page (*not* your personal Facebook page, *not* a church Facebook group) (You need to be an admin of this page)
- (Optional) A charger for your smartphone/tablet
- (Recommended) Someone to watch the video stream from inside the room, muted, to make sure it's working at the beginning and to check in throughout the service.

What to do:

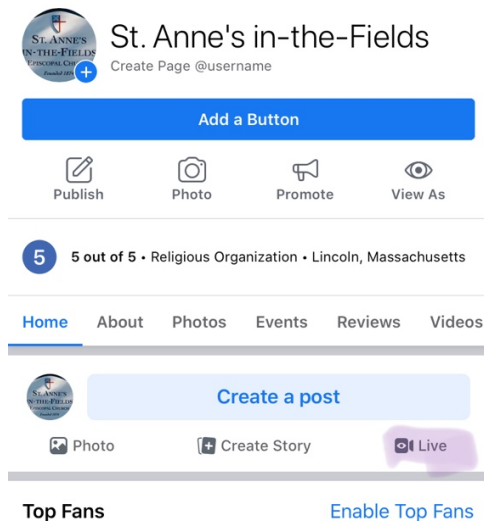
1. **(In advance)** Tell parishioners they can watch worship live via your church's Facebook page. Make sure they all have the link. It will look something like this:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Annes-in-the-Fields-169553359801538/>

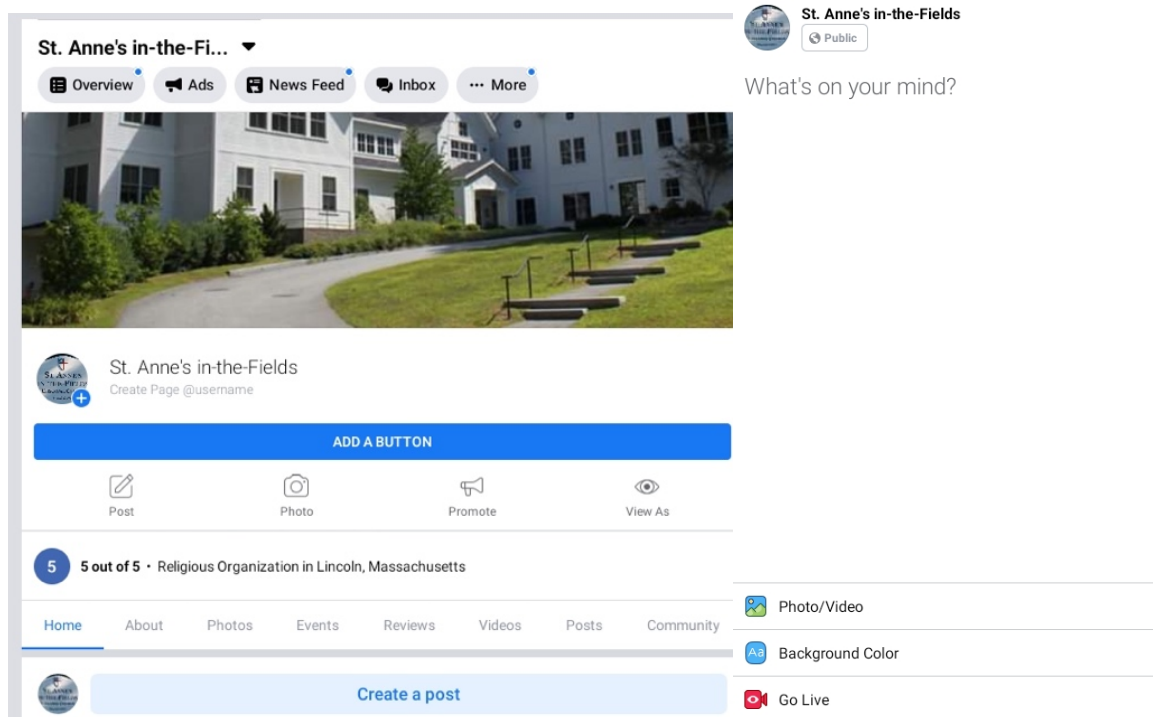
2. **(In advance)** Find the best location for a camera in portrait mode (i.e., vertical) to capture the pulpit and altar.
 - a. For us, this was a phone propped up on a column in front of the pulpit.
 - b. For you, a small table or tripod might work.



3. **(15 minutes before the service)** Put your phone into Airplane mode/do not disturb
 - a. Depending on your device, receiving a phone call/FaceTime/etc. will probably cause the video to stop recording.
 - b. So put it on Airplane, but make sure WiFi is connected.
4. **(10 minutes before the service)** Go Live on Facebook on the phone/laptop.
 - a. Open the Facebook app
 - b. Navigate to the church's Facebook page by typing its name into the search bar
 - c. iPhone/iPad: Press "Live"



- d. Android: Press "Create a Post" then "Go Live"



5. At the end of the service, when you stop the stream, Facebook will give you the option of posting the video to your feed. It's a neat idea!

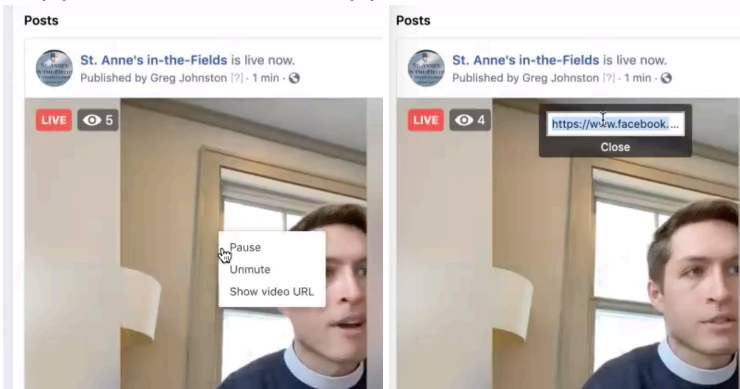
Level Two: Embed Live Videos into Your Church Website

What you'll need

- A laptop or desktop with Internet access
- Access to edit your church website

What to do

1. **(In advance)** Decide where you want to put the live videos
 - a. In our case, I create a new Squarespace page at stanneslincoln.org/live
2. **(In advance)** Publicize that information to the congregation.
3. **(20 minutes before the service)** Follow all the steps in **Level One** to begin streaming.
4. **(15 minutes before the service)** Get the video URL
 - a. On the computer (not a phone/tablet), open your church's Facebook page.
 - b. You should see the streaming video on your page.
 - c. If not...panic! (Don't panic. Wait a few seconds or refresh the browser.)
 - d. Right-click on the video, and it should show a URL.
 - e. Copy this URL. (Edit > Copy or Command-C on a Mac or Control-C on Windows.)

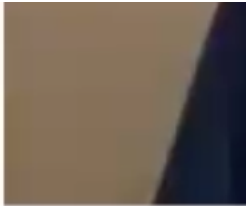


5. Convert to an iFrame
 - a. Go to this page: <https://developers.facebook.com/docs/plugins/embedded-video-player/>
 - b. Under "Embedded Video Player Configurator," paste the video URL you just copied into "URL of video" (Edit > Paste or Command-V or Control-V)
 - c. Scroll down and click "Get Code"
 - d. Click "iFrame"
 - e. Copy the scary-looking HTML code that begins <iframe... all the way through </iframe>
 - i. If you just click on the text, the page will probably select everything you need; then you can copy it.

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FAQs
Deprecated
On This Page

Embedded Video & Live Player

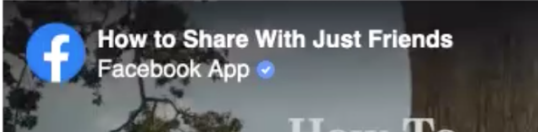


Get Code

Embedded Video Player Configurator

URL of video The pixel width c

☐ Include full post



JavaScript SDK IFrame

Step 1: Choose your App ID

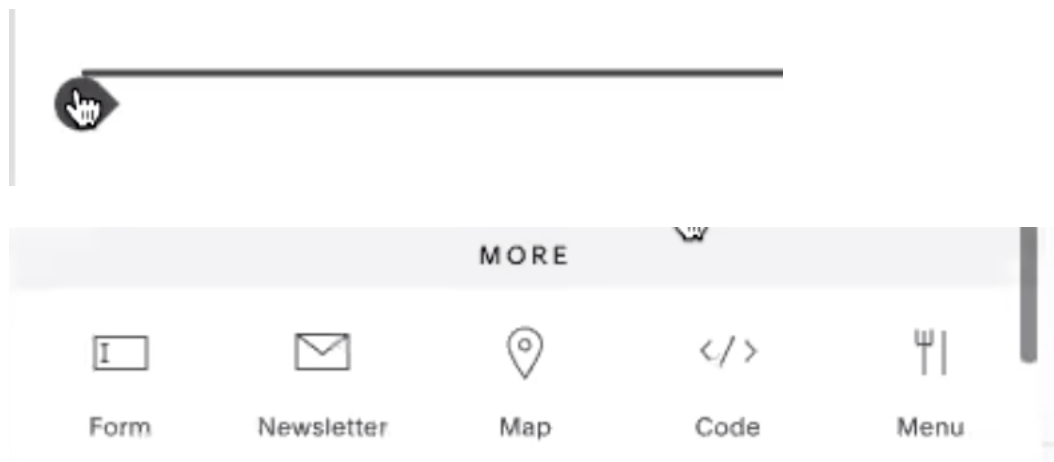
Step 2: Place this code wherever you want the plugin to appear on your page.

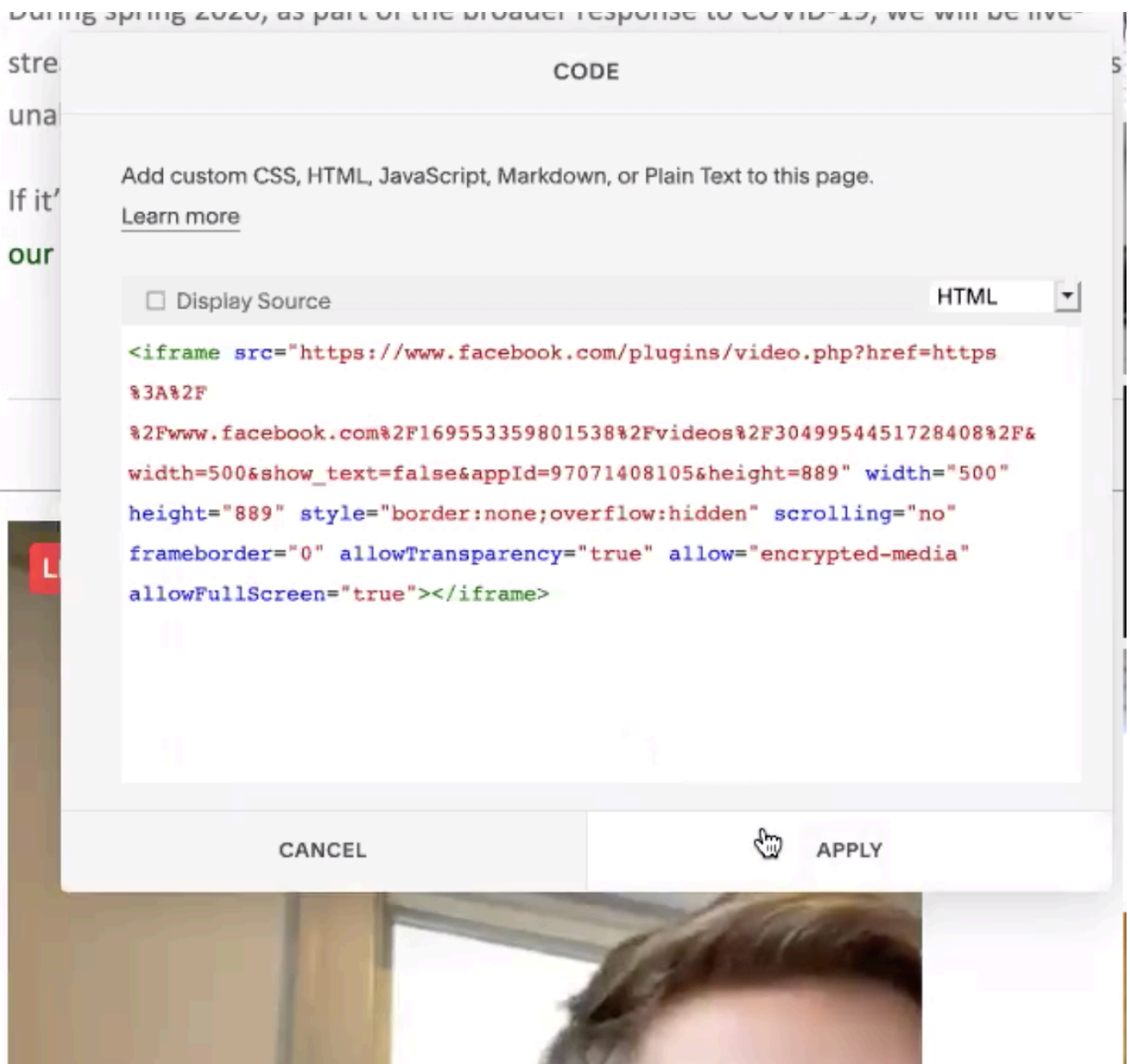
```
<iframe src="https://www.facebook.com/plugins/video.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2F169553359801538%2Fvideos%2F3049954451728408%2F&width=500&show_text=false&appId=97071408105&height=889" width="500" height="889" style="border:none;overflow:hidden" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" allowTransparency="true" allow="encrypted-media" allowFullScreen="true"></iframe>
```

6. Plop the iFrame into your website

a. Squarespace

- Open the page where you want to put the video
- Edit page content
- Create a "Code" block
- Paste the iFrame code in





b. Other platforms

- i. Hopefully, you're able to embed arbitrary HTML code into your website and can insert the iFrame code where you want it
 - ii. If that sentence means nothing to you, consult whoever put your website together. Or send me an email at greg@stanneslincoln.org and we'll set up a time to talk by phone.
- 7. (Every week)** You will need to repeat steps #4-7 every week – I'm sorry to say as far as I can tell, the iFrame code is *not* reusable.