

Copyright information and resources for online worship

Hello Worship Leader!

Here's some information for you about copyright as it pertains to online worship.

In-person worship allows us to use pretty much any resources without worrying about copyright. Going onto Zoom blurs the lines a bit. For any services or pieces of services that we want to rebroadcast (post to YouTube or share with AWAKE), we need to be aware of and honor copyright permissions.

Short and sweet - if the material is original to you, you own the copyright! If you did not create the material yourself (writing or music or video creation), someone else owns the copyright, and we need to give them credit.

To find the copyright information for a piece of work, follow this guide:

- Book: Look on the front inside of the book, on the backside of the Title page. Information you need to include in the copyright listing: title, author, publisher, publishing location, and year of publication. If you quote a passage, it would also be good to include the page numbers and/or chapter. This is a little different if you are using a Kindle device (because the page numbers shift); in that case, the chapter would be good.
- Music: A CD case or online listing should be able to tell you: the performer, who wrote the lyrics, who wrote the music, the name of the album, and the year the album (or song) was released (published).
- YouTube video: Information written under the video should give you the following information: Who posted the video (the channel or subscriber), the copyright information of any music used in the video, any other pieces within the video that are copyrighted, the year the video was posted. Some videos say "we don't own the rights to this music" - in which case, it's a good idea to figure out who does own the rights.

You don't need to stress over finding this information; just do the best you can.

If there is a copyrighted piece that is critical to your message, so you want to do all you can to make sure it can be included in the online presentation (YouTube / AWAKE) of your service, you can reach out to the copyright holder and ask for permission to use the piece. You will want to give yourself plenty of time before your service - 4-6 weeks at least. Ask them for permission to use the piece in the rebroadcast of a worship service via YouTube; they will know what to write to make it legal, then we can put that information under our YouTube video.

Before your worship service, please write down all the copyright information you have for the pieces in your service, including any permissions you received. Send those, along with your Order of Service, to Karen at admin@tolit.org by the Friday just before your service.

This guide will be updated as we learn new information. Feel free to reach out to Carrie with any specific questions.

**Here are some options for pieces that have no copyright protections
or where the copyright is already granted:**

(You still need to write down where the pieces come from to send to Karen.)

An Option From YouTube:

Need copyright-safe songs? When choosing music for your next video, you can avoid copyright-related issues by picking a song from the YouTube Audio Library. We're adding new tracks all the time!

- The YouTube Team

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHae4C99XJORB7log62wqvw>

Audio Library is a channel dedicated to search, catalog, sort and publish No Copyright Music, Vlog Music and Royalty Free Music for content creators · <https://www.audiolibrary.com.co>
<https://www.youtube.com/c/audiolibrary-channel/about>

UUA resources:

The Unitarian Universalist Association has compiled many resources for “doing church” online. Please be sure to cite the correct copyright information if you use any of them. I am fully aware that we at Tree of Life Interfaith Temple are NOT a UUA church and have no affiliation with the UUA. I offer these here, since I am familiar with them. **If anyone has resources from other churches / denominations / religious traditions, I would be thrilled to add them to this resource.**

This UUA Link provides some pre-recorded hymns (with singing) we are allowed to broadcast.

<https://www.uua.org/worship/lab/music-online-worship>

List of Free Use Hymns and Readings from our Hymnals provided by UUA

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/hymns_and_readings_for_use_in_uu_worship_updated_520_0.pdf

Readings (allowed) from ‘Lifting Our Voices’, compiled & formatted by Bonnie Rankin

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/13vGxq3RP8zedoedAb1dFq4QO96djo9WW0kY8TeuT5w0/edit#slide=id.g8861aaf98c_0_114

Worship Resources: List of Free Use Websites (Images, Videos, Music) and Copyright Info
Compiled by Kathy Talbot

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1w0gn3Eo8ASMcvzJDGe-EesMfASXjnKFW_EgMIULyt9g/edit

Readings, Chalice Lightings, Poetry, Stories, etc. From the UUA - written specifically around the pandemic

<https://www.uua.org/worship/lab/worship-resources-covid-19-pandemic>

Readings, Chalice Lightings, Poetry, Stories, etc AND guidance on using materials in online worship services:

<https://www.uua.org/worship>

Here are some articles about the issue of copyright in ministry:

(Just keep in mind that your Tree of Life Leadership Council is reading the fine print and taking care of the details on this. Consider these articles as “fun reads,” but know that you don’t NEED to do anything beyond what we ask for specifically.)

<https://www.haivision.com/blog/faith-worship/copyright-issues-live-streaming-ministry/>

<https://presbyterian.ca/2020/06/22/music-copyright-online-worship/>

<https://hackingchristianity.net/2020/03/covid-19-lockdown-creating-live-streamed-worship-in-3-days.html>

<https://au.thegospelcoalition.org/article/real-law-for-virtual-gatherings-copyright-and-the-livestream-church/>

<https://www.brotherhoodmutual.com/resources/safety-library/risk-management-articles/administrative-staff-and-finance/documents-and-data/complying-with-copyright-laws/>

Language to post under YouTube videos, and some free-to-stream resources

<https://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/streaming-worship-services-and-copyrights-in-a-time-of-social-distancing>