

DEPENDABLE AV SYSTEM CONNECTS CONGREGATION

# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

## St. Stephen's Episcopal Upgrades to Automated Livestreaming with Q-SYS

📍 Richmond, Virginia

[St. Stephen's Episcopal Church](#), renowned for its beautiful worship and community ministries, sought to enhance its livestreaming and audio capabilities to maintain the highest level of service for its congregation. Recognizing the existing system needed an upgrade, they contracted [RTW Media](#) to install a cutting-edge AV system. With their strong affinity for [Q-SYS](#) products, RTW selected Q-SYS as the ideal technology to provide the church with a unified, adaptable solution.



“With Q-SYS, we built one of the most sophisticated systems, all with a terrific user interface, and it's rock solid.”

**Zack Guida**

A/V Integrator, RTW Media

## Challenges

### Uplifting Audio Experience

Zack Guida, A/V Integrator at RTW Media, saw the need to offer St. Stephen's broadcast-quality audio for their livestream. Guida commented, "For those sitting in the church, the sound produced by the organ and the choir was clean and vibrant. However, those watching the livestream outside the church had difficulty hearing anything clearly, creating a noticeable contrast between the sound experienced in person and the sound coming through the livestream." Given that intelligible audio for the congregation is an essential component of an uplifting experience, Guida chose Q-SYS because of its native AES67 capability, advanced DSP, and control capability. Moreover, Q-SYS offers integrators a cost-effective solution, with the ability to stream audio between the Q-SYS system and third-party products supporting native networked audio technology.

 RTW  
MEDIA

## Solutions

### Automated Livestreaming

“We have a Q-SYS Core 510i processor (now available as the updated [Q-SYS Core 610](#)) running the entire system,” explained Guida. “The Core is located next door in an adjacent building, which was easy to hide and flexible to install. We have [Q-SYS I/O Frames](#) for the microphones at the altar and PTZ cameras tucked away in little nooks in the sanctuary to provide broadcast-quality video. We designed the system to be flexible and handle the various services; including weekday prayer, traditional Sunday morning services, contemplative evening services, and funerals. During morning prayer services on weekdays, the Q-SYS system automatically turns on at a specified time and provides a hands-off solution delivering quality audio and video for the livestream. The system auto-selects the microphone and camera needed for this livestream. During Sunday services, where there are up to fifteen open microphones and six PTZ cameras in use, the Q-SYS system provides the control and audio DSP needed to deliver a quality finished product. All control is handled from the control room by St. Stephen’s technical director, who simultaneously manages the audio controls for the in-room experience and livestream, video broadcast, cameras, lower thirds and captions, overflow audio and video routing. During Sunday morning’s complex services, Q-SYS provides the control for the director to accomplish what many other churches need three or four dedicated members for.”

### Making Technology Accessible

Guida noted that one of the key motivations for St. Stephen’s to invest in Q-SYS products was the shorter learning curve to allow for end-user changes over time. “Many of our clients want a system that isn’t complicated, and with [Q-SYS Designer Software](#), engaging [training videos](#) and custom-built [user control interfaces](#) (UCI), it’s super flexible and easy to learn. With Q-SYS, we built one of the most sophisticated systems, all with a terrific user interface, and it’s rock solid.”

### Room Environment Flexibility

Guida highlighted the advantages of using Q-SYS for traditional churches that are interested in livestreaming. “Many of our clients have dedicated staff or volunteers on Sundays but are in great need of weekday technical support that can assist with the pop-up meeting, conference, or funeral, that may require simple AV on weekdays. Q-SYS enables churches to gain access to a high-quality audio and video system that can be automated and can be scheduled to begin running whenever they need it. Q-SYS can also provide incredible audio control during Sunday services. For example, the Q-SYS system at St. Stephen’s can mix up to six lavalier microphones, podium microphones, choir microphones, organ and ambient microphones for congregation pickup. Along with utilizing various gates, compressors and other audio features, Q-SYS can create an in-room lift and a separate livestream mix off the touch panel that automatically runs in the background.” With Q-SYS, St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church has been able to create a dependable ecosystem that allows them to focus on what matters most: connecting with their congregation.



Q-SYS is a globally recognized manufacturer of audio, video and control (AV&C) solutions for huddle rooms to stadiums—and everything in between. Our systems make it easy for your team to design and integrate flexible, scalable solutions and deliver the native IT integration and standards-based technology your customers expect.

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