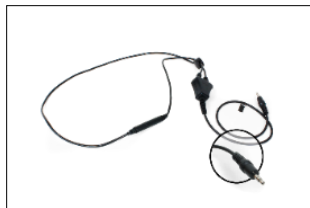
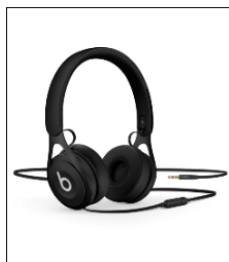


4. Use a personal “loop” system (very exciting new option). The Cathedral has 4 new personal “loop” systems. Some of you may be familiar with “loop” systems used in some facilities – it basically consists of a large wire running around the perimeter of the room which creates an electromagnetic field that sends the sound directly to a hearing aid with a telecoil – you hear only the sound from the loop and all the background noise is eliminated. Full-room “loop” systems are a great idea but are notoriously problematic. The personal “loop” system connects to the receiver and is worn around the neck to create a “loop” field just around your head. Put your hearing aid in telecoil mode, and the audio feeds directly into your hearing aid. Very fancy!



5. Bring your favorite earphones/headphones (existing option). Got a pair of yellow earbuds that complement your blouse? Want to rock worship with your favourite Dr. Dre Beats headphones? As long as it has a 3.5 mm plug (which is extremely common), it will work.



How to use Cathedral Assisted Listening Equipment

The Cathedral is pleased to let worshippers know that it is has recently refreshed some of its assisted listening equipment. The new equipment was funded by a 50/50 cost share between the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association – Newfoundland & Labrador and funds from the William & Victoria Clarke Sound System Fund (generously contributed by Mr. Harvey Clarke). The Cathedral is thankful for these contributions.

Why is assisted listening equipment important?

“The church was a huge echo chamber I was trapped inside... I was bombarded by noise all around me- by muffled and distorted echoes, rumbles of clatter. My hearing aids only made them louder and more piercing. By the time the service was over, I had a splitting headache.” – Michael Harvey, **Listen with the Heart**

Just as you would want all your friends or guests to be comfortable in your home, it is important that all worshippers be comfortable in a public house of worship. The Canadian Hard of Hearing Association advises that social isolation is one of the most common and damaging results of hearing loss; moreover, religious participation is 3 times as likely to decline among hearing-impaired adults.

Worship is a shared experience. In Matthew 18:20, Jesus tells us that *“where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them”*. With assisted listening equipment, the Cathedral is better able to spread the gospel and respond to Jesus’ call to worship together.

How do I use the assisted listening equipment?

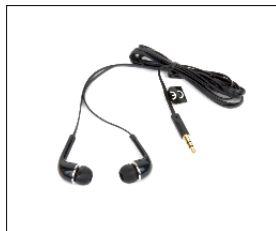
Assisted listening equipment is available from a sidesperson. For people who want to use the assisted listening equipment, it all starts with a receiver. The receiver is piece of equipment about the shape, size, and weight of a deck of playing cards that you can put in your pocket, clip on your belt, or put around your neck (the Cathedral needs to order some neckstraps).

The receiver picks up FM radio signals which are broadcast from the Cathedral's "house" audio system – if the sound is going through the house system (i.e. on a microphone), it gets sent to the receiver. The assisted listening system can also be used for worship in the Lady Chapel, upon request.

The Cathedral has 12 new rechargeable receivers, so there shouldn't be any more battery issues like there sometimes were with the old receivers – the new ones will get charged up each week. The new ones look fancier too – the old ones still work fine though. And, no, you can't bring your own radio... it is a special FM frequency.

Each receiver has a small output jack that is used to get the sound out of the receiver. You have 5 options for connecting to the receiver:

1. **Use a set of earbuds (existing option).** The Cathedral has a few sets of earbuds that you can use, but re-use of earbuds not a hygienic option, so the Cathedral doesn't re-use them (the Cathedral used to have disposable foam covers, but they didn't fit well and kept disappearing) – once you use the earbuds, you can keep them. Many people who have been using the assisted listening system in the past brought their favorite ear buds from home. Unfortunately, ear buds can't work with hearing aids.



2. **Use a pair of headphones (new option).** The Cathedral has purchased a bunch of headphones – they are more hygienic than earbuds, plus the Cathedral has a bunch of disposable foam covers to work with them. Unlike the ear buds, the headphones can "sort of" work with hearing aids, but not tremendously well. In assisted listening speak, they are "designed for individuals with mild and low gain hearing loss".



3. **Use an "earphone" (new option).** The Cathedral also has a bunch of "earphones". This unit simply slips around one of your ears. Like the headphones, they are more hygienic than earbuds, and the earphones use the same disposable foam covers as the headphones. The earphone only allows you to hear the sound in one ear but is more discreet than a pair of headphones. And, unlike headphones, you can wear it with your favourite Sunday hat or fascinator; or, if hats and fascinators are not your thing, then at least it won't mess up your hair in the same way the headphone might. Like the headphones, the ear piece can "sort of" work with hearing aids, but not tremendously well. The earphones are also "designed for individuals with mild and low gain hearing loss".

