



Music

Be Thou My Vision  
Alexia Rabé, *piano* Josiah Woodson, *flute*  
Jeff Hohener, *videography* Josiah Woodson, *production*

Arr. Josiah Woodson

Candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

The First Lesson – Genesis 1:1-5

Teri Lee Valluy

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Music

Laudamus Te  
*We praise Thee. We bless Thee. We adore Thee. We glorify Thee.*  
Jennifer Young and Caroline Drury, *duet* Fred Gramann, *piano*

Antonio Vivaldi

The Second Lesson – Mark 1:4-11

Rose Marie Burke

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Ringling of the Bells

Sermon

Beloved

Jodi Fondell

Music

Beloved  
Devon Graves, *vocals* Natalie Raynal, *vocals* John Arndt, *piano, production*

Devon Graves

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (in your mother tongue)  
Invitation to offering

Victor Greene

Offertory Music

Cantique  
*In the midst of the stars, I open my hands full of grace to every weeping soul;  
to every sin which occurs.*

Nadia Boulanger

Caroline Drury, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

Prayer of Dedication

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Hymn

Baptized in Water

tune: BUNESSAN

Benediction

Jodi Fondell

Congregational Amen

# The American Church in Paris Online Community

Welcome to worship! During the Covid-19 pandemic, the **American Church in Paris** remains a vibrant community with online resources for worship, learning, spiritual formation, and Christian discipleship. We follow government guidelines to carefully re-open church buildings for schools, worship, and community groups in a way that is safe, sustainable, and fair for all. We continue to **Worship Online** at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org). Please continue to check our website for the latest news and to participate in new opportunities every week. We continue to pursue our mission “**to bear witness in word and deed to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.**” God's grace and peace be with you!

## Announcements

**The altar flowers today** are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of David Deitz, by several of David and his surviving wife Jane's many friends at ACP.

**In need of prayer?** If you would like members of the lay care ministry team, members of the prayer chain, and the pastoral team to uphold you in prayer you may contact us at [prayerrequests@acparis.org](mailto:prayerrequests@acparis.org).

**Volunteer Editor for *The Spire*:** ACP's thriving monthly magazine *The Spire* is looking for a volunteer editor-in-chief. The ideal candidate or team is skilled at content planning, text layout, photo-editing, graphics design, copy-editing, and proofreading. The position requires a native English speaker with a good grasp of French, excellent writing skills, good interpersonal skills, and sharp attention to detail. Interested? Please contact [communications@acparis.org](mailto:communications@acparis.org).

## ACP Weekly

**Sunday Worship:** We will continue with Worship in the Sanctuary at 11h, Worship Online with weekly postings starting from 9h at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org), and prayer, music and meditation at 14h.

### **Sundays from 10h55 via Zoom – Worship/Coffee Fellowship Online**

At 11h, we will worship online together via shared screen. Once the service has ended, we will have Zoom fellowship. If you worship online at another time, please feel free to join the Zoom meeting for the fellowship at noon! If you would like the Zoom link, please register at: [acparis.org/worship-fellowship](http://acparis.org/worship-fellowship).

**Mondays from 6h at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) – Monday Musings with the Maestro** *ACP Music Director Fred Gramann* shares the behind-the-scenes stories about music and musicians associated with the American Church in Paris over its long history. Whether you're up for cogitating, ruminating, or just pondering with Fred, you're welcome to tune in and perhaps be, well, a-mused.

**Wednesdays from 6h at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) – Sanctuary Sessions** Join *Natalie Raynal and ACP Contemporary Worship Musicians* for acoustic sessions in the sanctuary.

## Children's Ministries

**Kids' Monthly Bible Study 2020-21:** 17 January 12h45 via Zoom. This virtual monthly Bible study is for all children seven and older. We will spend the year studying the Lord's Prayer. Please contact Rev. Allison Wheeler at [childrensworship@acparis.org](mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org) for more information, and/or register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**ACP Children's Music Ministry program 2021:** Join us in lifting a joyful noise unto the Lord through voice and instrument, in praise, prayer, and thanksgiving. The ACP children's choirs will continue via virtual choir rehearsals sent as private YouTube video links to watch, alternating with Zoom rehearsals. Children of all ages are welcome. See [acparis.org/childrensmusic](http://acparis.org/childrensmusic) for registration.

# Youth and Young Adult Ministries

**2021 program** *Theology on the Ground*. For more information contact Pastor Victor Greene at [youthpastor@acparis.org](mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org).

## Adult Ministries

**Women's Monthly Bible Study:** 17 January 13h30-14h30 via Zoom. All women are welcome to join this study on Women of the Old Testament, led by Teri Lee Valluy. Register at [acparis.org/women-sunday](http://acparis.org/women-sunday).

**Virtual Thurber Conversation:** 19 January 19h30 via Zoom. Dr. Steed Davidson who recently served as our guest preacher on 27 December will speak on "Letters of Hope and Contention: Reading the Letters of Jeremiah 29". Register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**ACP Monthly Women's Fellowship:** 24 January 16h via Zoom. Pastor Jodi Fondell will speak about her book *I Was A Stranger: Encouraging the Church to Welcome and Embrace the Foreigner*, and experience of pastoring internationally for many years. All women are welcome to sign up to join the Zoom at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Wednesday Evening Adult Learning at ACP:** 19h30-21h via Zoom. The Sermon on the Mount: Living as Kingdom People (a 6-week study). Register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**A Thursday Evening Discipleship Encounter for New and seeking to be renewed Christians:** 19h-20h via Zoom. Walking in His Steps: Living as a Disciple of Jesus (an 8-week encounter). Register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study:** Sundays 17h30-19h via Zoom. This Bible study on the Gospel of John will be hosted by Patti Lafage and Nathaniel Akujuobi via Zoom. All are welcome. To register and receive the Zoom link please sign up at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**African Fellowship Online:** Sundays 16h-17h via Zoom. Please register for the Zoom details at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Women's Weekly Bible Study:** Tuesdays 10h-12h via Zoom. Join us for our virtual study of "Job, an Unlikely Story of Joy." Contact Katherine for more information at [womensbiblestudy@acparis.org](mailto:womensbiblestudy@acparis.org).

**Men's Ministry Bible Study at ACP:** Thursdays 7h30-8h30 via Zoom. Register at [acparis.org/men-thursday](http://acparis.org/men-thursday).

**Read all about it** – inspiration, information, news, and events from ACP in the most recent edition of the Spire. Available on the app, or at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

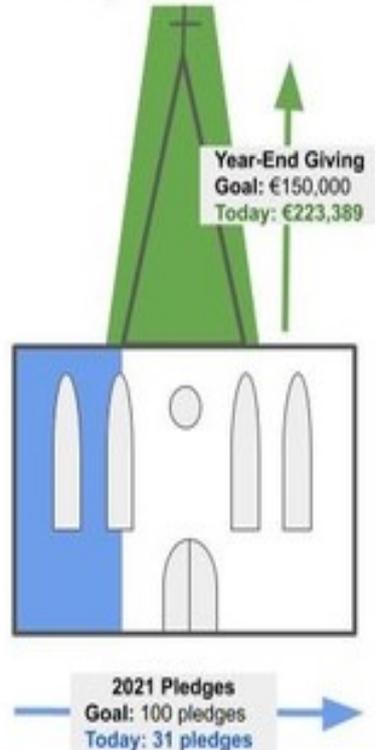
**For more information on all the offerings for children, youth, adults, and mission and service opportunities, see [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).**



*A Future with Hope - Strengthened through Generosity*

## ACP 2020 Generosity Campaign Update

*as of December 31st*



## Generosity Campaign Update

Recall that we had two goals for our 2020 Generosity Campaign:

- 100 pledges from individuals and families to ACP for 2021
- €150,000 in seasonal giving - an 11% increase over 2019

Thank you for the blessings of your generosity as a congregation during the holiday season. Whether through time, talent or sharing of treasure, you showed your gratitude to others!!

We are excited that we surpassed our seasonal giving goal, as you generously donated €223,389 in November and December, allowing the continued critical support of ACP. Recall that 58% of your donations support our worship services, missions and ministries, and 28% of your donations allow us to maintain our amazing sanctuary and related facilities. This level of giving enables us to partially offset the nearly €570,000 reduction in wedding and rental revenue in 2020, so THANK YOU! With the uncertainty of Covid-19's continued impact, we humbly ask that for those that are fortunate enough to continue to do so, to please continue supporting ACP.

We remain far from our second goal of 100 with just 31 pledges through December 31, 2020, but there is still time to make a pledge for 2021! Remember, this goal is not focused on the amount that each individual or family commits but about the very act of pledging to be purposeful about our role in carrying out the ACP's mission. Let's show our collective generosity and pledge now for 2021. If you choose to pledge electronically, go to [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) under "Welcome" and then "Generosity campaign" where there is a link.

Once again, thank you for all of your generous support of ACP! "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11

## Ministers of the American Church in Paris

Ministers	<b>The Entire Congregation</b>	
Interim Senior Pastor	<b>The Rev. Odette Lockwood-Stewart</b>	<a href="mailto:seniorpastor@acparis.org">seniorpastor@acparis.org</a>
Interim Associate Pastor	<b>The Rev. Jodi Fondell</b>	<a href="mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org">associatepastor@acparis.org</a>
Interim Associate Pastor	<b>The Rev. Doug Fondell</b>	<a href="mailto:ap2@acparis.org">ap2@acparis.org</a>
Youth / Young Adult Pastor	<b>Victor Greene (M.Div.)</b>	<a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a>
Children's Ministry Director	<b>The Rev. Allison Wheeler</b>	<a href="mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org">childrensworship@acparis.org</a>
Director of Music	<b>Fred Gramann</b>	<a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a>
Contemporary Music Director	<b>Natalie Raynal</b>	<a href="mailto:cmusic@acparis.org">cmusic@acparis.org</a>
Youth/Children Music Director	<b>Sara Barton</b>	<a href="mailto:ymusic@acparis.org">ymusic@acparis.org</a>
Executive Secretary	<b>Heather Walter</b>	<a href="mailto:secretary@acparis.org">secretary@acparis.org</a>
Wedding Coordinator	<b>Jörg Kaldewey</b>	<a href="mailto:weddings@acparis.org">weddings@acparis.org</a>

[www.acparis.org](http://www.acparis.org) [Twitter.com/AmChurchParis](https://twitter.com/AmChurchParis) [Facebook.com/AmericanChurchParis](https://facebook.com/AmericanChurchParis)

### **The Ministry of the American Church depends on you**

The American Church's operating costs depend primarily on the generosity of its members and alumni around the world who have been touched by its ministry. If you wish your gift to be tax-deductible in the United States, you must make your check payable to our parent organization "The American and Foreign Christian Union" (AFCU) and put the words "for ACP" on the memo line of your check. In France, your gift in Euros is deductible under the category "*réduction pour dons à des organismes d'intérêt général.*" The church issues year-end receipts of giving acceptable for French tax authorities. Contributions in either euros or US dollars are accepted by both the ACP and the AFCU. To find out more about how you can help secure the future of the ACP through bequests, charitable trusts, and other forms of planned giving, please speak to one of the pastors. If you would like to set up recurring electronic fund transfers to facilitate giving, please visit [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) to find out how.



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