



The American Church in Paris

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10 May 2020

WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE OF WORSHIP

The congregation's spoken words are in **bold**
and the sung words are in ***bold italics***

Prelude

Sonata No. 2: Allegro Maestoso *Felix Mendelssohn*
Fred Gramann, *organist*

Ringing of the bells

*These two Whitechapel bells were given by
the Aller and Bivin families.*

Greeting for Worship

Grant Mongin

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Call to Worship

The promises Jesus makes are sure:

he will never abandon us as orphans.

He will come to us and show us mercy.

He is the Way, he is the Truth, he is the Life.

By faith we know Christ and through Christ know God.

**Even though the world will not be able to see him,
we will see him.**

Because Christ is alive, we also will live.

We are like living stones, built into the household of God.

And so we come to worship you,

Gracious God; Three in One; Perfect love.

Hymn

God's Only Son, the Living Stone

tune: SOLID ROCK ("My hope is built on nothing less")

lyrics based on I Peter 2:2-10: © 2020 Fred Gramann

God's only son, the Living Stone,

Was once rejected and alone;

Yet, chosen by the Lord of light

Was loved and precious in God's sight.

The stone that once was cast away

Is central in our lives today;

Is central in our lives today!

*Like living stones, we're called to build
Our spiritual homes as God has willed;
Make sacrifices worthy of
Acceptance by the God of love.
The stone that once was cast away
Is central in our lives today;
Is central in our lives today!*

*When faith and trust we do sustain
God will not see us put to shame;
But for all those who don't believe,
A weak foundation shall receive.
The stone that once was cast away
Is central in our lives today;
Is central in our lives today!*

*A chosen race, we are God's own;
Our hope rests on the cornerstone
Which brings us forth from darkest night
Into the day's all glorious light.
The stone that once was cast away
Is central in our lives today;
Is central in our lives today!*

Confession of Sin

**Loving God, your Word to us in Christ is freedom from sin and "the way, the truth and the life." But we confess our hearts are troubled. We are fearful and anxious, and we have neither listened to nor believed in your Word. Too often we have given up. We have taken shortcuts to your new way of self-giving love; we have watered down the grace of the gospel; we have taken shortcuts to the fullness of your new Kingdom life; and so much more. Forgive us, and in the power of your Spirit, lead us to genuine faith and repentance. We pray that you might change us, that we may become faithful disciples, growing into the joy of your salvation...
(silent prayers of confession)**

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, Jesus has not forgotten nor will ever forsake us. He is our Truth, our Way, our Life, and so we put our trust anew in this good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous. Amen.

[Welcome](#)

Scott Herr

[Minute for Stewardship](#)

Don Farnan

Link to [ACP Missions](#) video

Link to [ACP Symphony](#) video

[Children's Blessing](#)

Allison Wheeler

[Musical Offering](#)

Prelude on "Herzliebter Jesu"

Fred Gramann

Based on the Gregorian chant for Easter,

and the hymn tunes KEDRON and HERZLIEBSTER JESU

The Bay View Week of Handbells Fred Gramann, *director*

(Video courtesy of Pierpont Productions)

[Lighting the Candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace](#)

Prayer for Illumination

Victor Greene

[The First Lesson](#) – I Peter 2:2-10

Lector: Peter DeWit

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

[Anthem](#)

As A New Day Dawns

David Gungor

[The Second Lesson](#) – John 14:1-14

Lector: Fran Michalek

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

[Sermon](#)

Believing Mercy

Scott Herr

[Musical Response](#)

O How Glorious is the Kingdom

Fred Gramann

[Prayers of the People](#)

Jodi Fondell

[Offering of Tithes and Gifts](#)

[Offertory Music](#)

The Blessing

Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe

Prayer of Dedication

Doug Fondell

[Hymn](#)

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy *tune: IN BABILONE*

There's a wideness in God's mercy,

Like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice,

Which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows

Are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings

Have such kindly judgement given.

***For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
We would gladly trust God's Word,
And our lives reflect thanksgiving
For the goodness of our Lord.***

[Benediction](#)

Scott Herr

Congregational Amen

[Organ Postlude](#)

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!
Fred Gramann, *organist*

arr. *Joyce Jones*

#ACPNotCancelled

Together in Christ, While Physically Apart

Grace and peace to you! In the midst of the unprecedented Coronavirus pandemic, the American Church in Paris is dedicated to remaining a vibrant community and to provide you with resources for worship, learning, spiritual formation, and holistic health. We seek to grow spiritually closer as a community while observing physical distancing for safety.

While all activities at the ACP church sanctuary and Church House are cancelled until the confinement is lifted, the congregation is coming alive in new on-line and virtual ways. Stay tuned to acparis.org.

We pray that even during this crisis, we will continue to live into our mission "to bear witness in word and deed to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ."

God be with you 'til we meet again!



American Church in Paris

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