



THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

12 JULY 2020

WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE OF WORSHIP

[Announcements](#)

[Prelude](#)

Litanies

Jehan Alain

The composer placed these words on the score of "Litanies": "Quand l'âme chrétienne ne trouve plus de mots nouveaux dans la détresse pour implorer la miséricorde de Dieu, elle répète sans cesse la même invocation avec une foi véhémence. La raison atteint sa limite. Seule la foi poursuit son ascension." ("When, in its distress, the Christian soul can no longer find words to invoke God's mercy, it repeats endlessly the same litany....for reason has reached its limit; only faith can take one higher.")

Fred Gramann, *organ*

[Greeting for Worship](#)

Victor Greene

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

And also with you.

Call to Worship (based on Micah 6:8)

Sisters, Brothers, Siblings in Christ, let us come before the Lord in worship, knowing what is required of us:

to do justice.

Remembering what is required of us:

to love kindness.

Knowing what is required of us:

to walk humbly with our God.

Remembering that we are never alone,

because Christ is with us and for us.

Knowing that we are never alone,

because we have one another.

Thanks be to God!

Alleluia, Amen!

[Hymn](#)

Christ, You Walked Among the Grain Fields

tune: BEACH SPRING ("God Whose Giving Knows No Ending")
lyrics © Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Christ, you walked among the grain fields, finding lessons all around:

"Like the harvest that the earth yields, so God's kingdom will abound."

"See! A sower goes out planting; some seed grows a hundredfold."

Here on earth you gave us heaven in the stories that you told.

Lord, you shared God's kingdom-bounty, yet you know our pain and need.

Some are poor in lands of plenty, often hurt by others' greed.

Some, possessed by their possessions, look for more to buy and keep;

Others long for simpler blessings: "Let my hungry children eat."

Lord, you send us out to labor, to pass on the love you give;

City friend and country neighbor work as one so all may live.

Lending land and tools and vision, sharing costs and planting seed —

Work we love becomes our mission as we serve your world in need.

**May our harvest celebration build new food security;
As we care for your creation, may we find community.
By your Holy Spirit bless us and may what we grow increase
Till the whole world sees new glimpses of your joyful banquet feast.**

[Prayer of Confession \(unison\)](#)

God of Harvest, we thank you for your planting seeds of justice and liberation in our hearts. We acknowledge that all too often we make our hearts not into useable soil but allow our acts of justice and mercy to be choked out by selfish concerns and unconscious biases. We intend good things for our neighbor but are regularly too blinded by our privileges to see the ways we contribute to systems of injustice. We pray you will help us to repent and turn away from selfishness, because we have faith that your Word is good and pray you will help us till the soil of our hearts so we can bear fruits of justice, and liberation for the oppressed.

(Moment of silent reflection)

All of this is offered in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace

We are invited to come to the Lord. There is healing and rest in the Lord. He meets us where we are and promises redemption and new life.

So, friends, hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven and made righteous. **Amen.**

[Gloria Patri](#)

[Welcome](#)

Scott Herr

[Blessing of the Children](#)

Allison Wheeler

[Sending candle for Grant Mongin, Youth Intern](#)

[Musical Offering](#)

I Surrender All
Alexia Rabé: *piano, vocals*

W.S. Weeden & J.W. Van Deventer
arr. Alexia Rabé

*I surrender all, I surrender all,
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.*

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

Prayer for Illumination

Jodi Fondell

[The First Lesson](#) – Micah 6:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Delia Esteban

[Musical Offering](#)

Recit: Behold, I tell you a mystery
Air: The trumpet shall sound

G.F. Handel

Frédéric Goncalves, *soloist* Simon Fournier, *trumpet* Fred Gramann, organ

[The Second Lesson](#) – Mark 4:1-20

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MaryClaire King

[Sermon](#)

Good Soil Bears Good Fruit

Grant Mongin

[Musical Offering](#)

I Will Not Give Up
*I will run and not grow weary
Knowing you will fill my cup
I'll persevere in the race before me
I will not give up, I will not give up*

Devon Graves

*I will not give up, no
I can do all things through the Lord, my Strength
So I will not give up*

[Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer](#) (in your mother tongue)

Doug Fondell

[The Offering of Tithes and Gifts](#)

[Offertory Music](#)

Recit: Ye people, rend your hearts
Air: If with all your hearts ye truly seek me
John Bernard, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

Felix Mendelssohn

[Dedication of Our Tithes and Offerings](#)

Scott Herr

[Hymn](#)

Christ Taught Us as a Farmer

*tune: AURELIA ("The Church's One Foundation")
lyrics © Carolyn Winfrey Gillette*

***Christ taught us of a farmer who went out sowing seeds.
A few had trouble growing among the rocks and weeds.
But others grew till harvest in soil that was so good.
O God, you sow the gospel: The seed is your own word.***

***You sowed your word of love here so many years ago.*
Your message found a welcome; your word began to grow.
By grace, this church was built here by saints who followed you.
The seed took root and flourished: we hear and follow, too.***

***We thank you for each member who lives in loving ways,
For those who seek to serve you without expecting praise.
For hearts and songs uplifted, for work and sacrifice.
The seed you planted grows here: we grow in Jesus Christ.***

***In times of joy we praise you, in struggling times we search,
And always we are learning to be your faithful church.
Your Spirit gives us vision, and hearts and lives made new.
Your harvest is for sharing: sent out, we work for you.***

[Benediction](#)

Grant Mongin

[Congregational Amen](#)

Announcements

Sanctuary Worship Registration: You will be able to sign up for "Worship in the Sanctuary" each week via a web link on acparis.org, appearing Mondays at 12h00. There is space for 130 participants each week. We look forward to having you with us again!

Pastor Scott's last worship service at ACP is next Sunday, 19 July at 11h00. Plans for a farewell are in the works. Please stay tuned as additional details will be forthcoming by email to the congregation and at acparis.org. If you are not receiving our emails and would like to, please contact eblast@acparis.org.

2020 Congregational **GIVING**



Our budgeted goal for 2020 giving.

We are behind budget by about €15,000 through May, but we are up slightly over last year – thank you for your generosity. Help ACP fund our missions, ministries and improve our facilities.

Goal represents congregational giving goal (not including AFCU) for full year. Visit acparis.org/support-us for information on how to give.

Please Give!



Electronic GIVING is easy and efficient for ACP! = We now have several ways to give electronically – by bank transfer/virement or online bank card giving to the ACP or through the AFCU for those who want a US tax deduction. We still accept checks too! More is explained on the ACP website at “Support Us.”

Bank transfer or virement in Euros – You can set up a one-time or periodic automatic bank transfer from your European bank directly to the ACP bank account. This is one of the most seamless methods of giving as your donation goes directly to the ACP bank account with no processing fees or commissions. How? Easy – read the [Simplify Your Stewardship](#) document on ACP’s webpage. Once you have set up your virement, please send an email to acctg@acparis.org, as we want to ensure we have your contact details on file to facilitate sending you an annual French tax receipt.

By Bank Card in France – Go to our website and click on the button – it’s easy! Have your card information ready!

Giving through the AFCU – It is easy for US taxpayers to send your financial support for the ACP through the AFCU. To make a payment for the ACP using PayPal or credit card, visit the [AFCU website via the link on the website here](#). Please be sure to specify that your gift is designated “for ACP” in the instructions field. This documentation is required to ensure that your donation is designated for the American Church in Paris as the AFCU supports other international churches.

ACP IS A FRENCH NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Giving by cash, direct bank transfer, electronically or check may be eligible for tax deduction if you are a French tax resident. We invite you to ask us if you require more information: acctg@acparis.org

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

Thank you!



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