



THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

20 June 2021, 11h00

Welcome to this service of Worship

For the health and safety of us all, we worship respecting Covid-19 pandemic protocols. We kindly invite you to keep your masks on throughout worship, and to refrain from greeting your neighbor using touch (hugs, handshakes, etc.).

Please speak prayers aloud as led by our pastors.

The offering plates will not be passed but will be located at stations as you enter and exit the Sanctuary. Please make your offering to God with a generous heart here today or electronically at acparis.org/donate.

When leaving the sanctuary, please follow the guidance of ushers, and maintain safe physical distancing. Remember to take your bulletin with you when you leave or recycle it in the designated bin on your way out.

Thank you for joining us today!

We Gather

Prelude Prelude and Fugue in G Major *Felix Mendelssohn*
Fred Gramann, *organ*

Welcome and Greeting Odette Lockwood-Stewart
The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

† Call to Worship Victor Greene

Come, let us worship God!

Come, let us worship God in spirit and in truth!

Welcome, everyone,

to the love of God!

Food for the hungry...

Rest for the weary...

Hope for the children...

Welcome everyone to the love of God!

† Tolling Bells Call to Confession

‡ Prayer of Common Confession

God of the widow and the stranger, you are made known in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Born as a migrant, exiled as a refugee, Jesus knew the pain of homelessness. He taught his friends the meaning and challenge of love. Forgive us when we do not recognize Jesus in strangers and sojourners. Forgive us, free us to be ever more faithful, lead us as we build communities rooted in hospitality and justice. Amen.

‡ Silent Prayers of Confession

In Jesus' Name, we pray. **Amen.**

‡ Words of Assurance

Brothers and Sisters, hear and believe the Gospel.
For God, all things are possible.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and freed for new life! Amen.

‡ Passing of the Peace

Organ Interlude

Andante

Felix Mendelssohn

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

Victor Greene

We Hear the Word

The First Lesson – Psalm 9:9-20

Elizabeth Eposi

The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.

And those who know your name put their trust in you,
for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.

Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion.

Declare his deeds among the peoples.

For he who avenges blood is mindful of them;
he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.

Be gracious to me, O LORD.

See what I suffer from those who hate me;
you are the one who lifts me up from the gates of death,
so that I may recount all your praises

and, in the gates of daughter Zion, rejoice in your deliverance.

The nations have sunk in the pit that they made;

in the net that they hid their own foot has been caught.

The LORD has made himself known, he has executed judgement;
the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands.

Offertory Music	Espérance	<i>Hyacinthe Klosé</i>
	Carol Mundinger, <i>clarinet</i>	Fred Gramann, <i>piano</i>
Benediction		Odette Lockwood-Stewart
Postlude	Allegro Maestoso	<i>Felix Mendelssohn</i>

The American Church in Paris Online Community

Welcome to worship! We are so glad that you are here! 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. In addition to in-person worship in our sanctuary, ACP posts **livestreamed worship, Children's Worship and much more** at acparis.org. Please continue to check our website for the latest news and to participate in new opportunities every week. Our mission is **“to bear witness in word and deed to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.”**

Announcements

Sunday Worship: Children's Worship Online is at acparis.org starting at 9h. Traditional Worship is in the Sanctuary at 11h, and is livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube (see acparis.org for links). We are building a volunteer tech team to run the livestream each week; contact secretary@acparis.org if you would like to join the team! Contemporary Worship is in the Sanctuary at 14h. Registration is required for both Worship in the Sanctuary services; see acparis.org Mondays at 12h to reserve your seats.

All-church Movie Night: Saturday, 26 June at 19h via Zoom. Join us in fellowship as we meet to watch and discuss a movie together. Our feature film is *The Girl Who Believes in Miracles*, a 2021 American Christian drama directed and produced by Richard Correl. The film will be followed by a discussion led by Kym Stewart and son Zia. For Zoom details, please join the All-Church Fellowship Group at acparis.org.

Gospel Welcome: 27 June: You belong here, all belong here. We welcome you! Join us for the 14h Contemporary Worship service and then meet us across the quai for some fellowship time following the service. Bring a snack if you would like! Please register at acparis.org.

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 acparis.org/prayers.

Volunteer Editor for *The Spire*: ACP's thriving monthly magazine *The Spire* is looking for a volunteer editor-in-chief. Interested? For further information please contact us at communications@acparis.org.

ACP Weekly

African Fellowship Online: Sundays 16h-17h via Zoom. The first Sunday of each month is the Fellowship and additional Sundays in the month will be Bible study. Please register for the Zoom details at acparis.org.

Silent Prayer Thursdays at ACP: Thursdays at 19h-20h via Zoom. Join us for prayer in silence. We will practice 25 minutes of praying together in stillness according to the method of Centering Prayer. This period is followed by the reading of a short sacred text according to the method of Lectio Divina. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity for sharing. Register at acparis.org for the Zoom link.

Children's Ministries

Children's Worship Online: Sundays online starting at 9h. Visit acparis.org for link or contact Allison Wheeler at childrensworship@acparis.org.

Kids' Monthly Bible Study 2020-21: Today at 12h45 via Zoom. This is our last study for all children seven and older studying the Lord's Prayer. A new study for children will begin this fall. Please contact Rev. Allison Wheeler at childrensworship@acparis.org for more information, and/or register at acparis.org.

ACP Children's Music Ministry program 2021: The ACP children's choirs will continue via online choir rehearsals sent as private YouTube video links to watch, alternating with Zoom rehearsals. See acparis.org/childrensmusic for registration.

Vacation Bible School 2021: Monday-Thursday, 23-26 August, 9h-12h each day. Our theme is "Knights of the North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor," which "invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power by exploring how we put on the armor of God." All children from ages 3-10 are welcome, and you can register here acparis.org/VBS2021.

Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Youth: People Power. Sundays through 27 June at 15h30 via Zoom.

Young Adults: Mary's Playlist: Listen. Chat. Pray. Repeat. Featuring selected songs from the *Rolling Stone's* top 500 songs of all time playlist, YAYA gatherings are using the art / artists as interlocutors to help exegete the ways Mary's song (Luke 1:46-55) is imprinted on the Resurrected body of Jesus and on the world that is, the world we hope to be, and the world we hope to come. For more information contact Pastor Victor Greene at youthpastor@acparis.org.

Adult Ministries

Women's Monthly Bible Study: Today at 13h30-14h30 via Zoom. This is the final day of our study on "Israelite Women in the Wilderness," led by Teri Lee Valluy. Our fall study will begin in September. Register at acparis.org/women-sunday.

Wednesday Evening Adult Learning at ACP: Through 23 June, 19h30-21h00 via Zoom. Join us on our final learning journey focused on John's Letter of Hope to the Seven Churches of Revelation. For more information and to register for the Zoom link, please visit acparis.org.

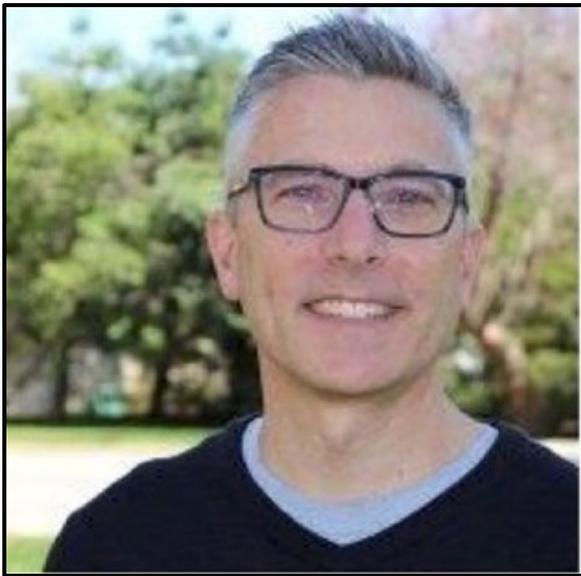
Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study: Sundays 17h30-19h via Zoom. This Bible study on the Book of Acts is hosted by Patti Lafage and Nathaniel Akujuobi, via Zoom. All are welcome. To register and receive the Zoom link, please sign up at acparis.org.

Men's Morning Bible Study at ACP: Thursdays 7h30-8h30 via Zoom.
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.

For more information on all the offerings for children, youth, adults, and mission and service opportunities, see acparis.org.

Meet our new Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Paul Rock, who will be joining us in August 2021!



The Rev. Dr. Paul Thomas Rock grew up in Concord, Massachusetts, Springfield, Virginia, and Stillwater, Minnesota. Paul has been engaged in mission and pastoral work for 25 years, beginning with a three-year stint as a tent-maker missionary in Budapest, Hungary. He served as an associate pastor in Santa Clarita, CA (Los Angeles area) and at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian in New York City before coming to Second Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Missouri. He received his Doctor of Ministry in 2011 from Drew University. He earned his Master of Divinity with honors from Fuller Theological Seminary in 1998. Paul has two books published by Westminster John Knox Press.

Paul is a disciple of Jesus Christ for many reasons. He has always been spiritually inclined and curious and was raised in a loving family where Christian faith and practice shaped routines and formed character. Through three years of mission work and three years of seminary, God's Spirit lovingly helped Paul reconstruct his young adult faith and he fell in love with the Jesus of his Reformed heritage. He is tremendously thankful that, throughout his life-long faith journey, he has never felt separated from God's immense and encompassing love for him. Therefore, he is, and continues to be, a thankful and committed follower of Jesus Christ. In Paul's own words, "Jesus's love claims me and gives my life hope, sustaining strength and purpose. In response, I try to know, love, serve and follow Christ each day."

Paul's understanding of the Church is that it is a diverse community composed of imperfect people, filled with the Spirit, through whom God continues Christ's work of reconciliation and healing in the world. As a part of this community, we are all invited to embrace our priestly calling and grow in knowledge, faith and skill so that each of us can be actively engaged in the furtherance of God's Kingdom. As a pastor, Paul understands he is not the shepherd, Christ is.

Ministers of the American Church in Paris

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

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 Stewardship" 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 to find out how.

The American Church in Paris
www.acparis.org



WELCOME to ACP

Learn about us
Get involved
Become a member
Request a prayer or other help
Support us



acparis.org/welcome

ACP Vacation Bible School 2021



Knights of the North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor

Place: American Church in Paris

Dates: Monday to Thursday, 23-26 August

Times: 9h-12h

Who: Children ages 3-10

Please mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School at ACP. Our theme is "**Knights of the North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor**," which "invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power by exploring how we put on the armor of God."

All children from ages 3-10 are welcome. Although the program will be conducted primarily in English, VBS is for open to all children regardless of spoken language or level of ability, ages 3-10 years old.

As long as it remains safe and prudent to do so, we will be hosting VBS in person! This means that we will need lots of adult volunteers to assist, so please contact Allison Wheeler, Children's Ministry Director at childrensworship@acparis.org if you'd like to join us as a knight at the VBS roundtable.

Register your child at acparis.org.



American Church in Paris

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