



# THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

4 July 2021, 11h00

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### Welcome to this service of worship

Please observe COVID protocols throughout worship; wear your mask, observe social distancing and greet your neighbor without touch. Offerings may be made at [acparis.org/online-giving](http://acparis.org/online-giving) or here today at the welcome table. Please follow the guidance of ushers, and take or recycle your bulletin. We are happy you are here!

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### We Gather

Prelude    Prelude on “Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness”    *J.S. Bach*  
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.**

Introit    Quia respexit    *J.S. Bach*  
*He has regarded the lowliness of His servant.*  
*Behold, from henceforth, I will be called blessed.*  
Nicole Primmer, *soloist*    Fred Gramann, *piano*

† Call to Worship    Jim Lockwood-Stewart  
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
**Your praise reaches to the ends of the earth, O God!**  
Let the cities rejoice! Let the nations be glad!  
**The God of all creation calls us to worship.**  
Jesus calls us  
**to hearing and healing, to service and celebration.**  
**Jesus calls us to love.**  
The Spirit calls us  
**to just love in action, to worship together with joy!**

† Bells Call to Confession

† Prayer of Common Confession

Let us come before the Lord our God just as we are.  
Let us confess our sin and our need of God.

**Christ Jesus, we hear your invitation: “Follow me.”**

**We want to follow, but we also want to stay where we are.**



*Please rise in spirit or body and read the bold print of the Gospel as led.*

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue,

**and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joseph and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.**

Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

**Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.**

He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.”

**So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.**

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Music

Jesu, dir sei Dank

*Johann Kuhnau*

*Jesus, our thanks be sung unto you. To you be honor and glory!*

*For my lot in all things was cast for that most dear: you, you are mine.*

Philip James Glenister, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *organ*

Sermon

Called. Gathered. Sent.

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

A Moment of Silent Meditation

Ringling of the Bells



## Announcements

**Sunday Worship:** Children's Worship Online is at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) starting at 9h. Traditional Worship is in the Sanctuary at 11h and is livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube (see [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) for links). We are building a volunteer tech team to run the livestream each week; contact [secretary@acparis.org](mailto: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](http://acparis.org) Mondays at 12h to reserve your seats.

**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](http://acparis.org/prayers).

**Tune in to ACP Today** – Monday 5 July, 20h45-21h15, with co-hosts John Price and Rev. Jim Lockwood-Steward at 100.7 FM or [frequenceprotestante.com/ecouter-en-direct](http://frequenceprotestante.com/ecouter-en-direct).

**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](mailto: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](http://acparis.org).

**Thursdays with Paul:** Thursdays on our weekly E-blast and posted at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org). We invite you get to know our called Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Paul Rock, a little more via a series of short video conversations where he thoughtfully answers questions that were asked by ACP members during our Special Congregational Meeting of 30 May 2021.

**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](http://acparis.org) for the Zoom link.

## Children's Ministries

**Children's Worship Online:** Sundays online starting at 9h. Visit [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) for link or contact Allison Wheeler at [childrensworship@acparis.org](mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org).

**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](http://acparis.org/VBS2021).

## Youth and Young Adult Ministries

**Youth:** On break for summer, stay tuned to [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) for updates.

**Young Adults:** On break for summer, stay tuned to [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) for updates.

## Adult Ministries

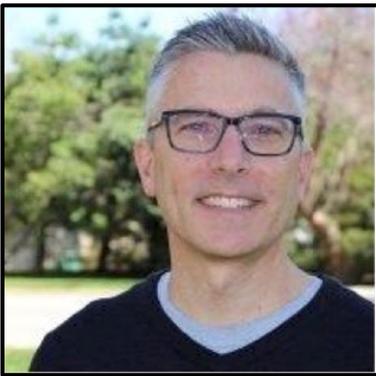
**Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study:** Sundays 17h30-19h via Zoom. This Bible study on the Book of Acts is hosted by Patti Lafage and Nathaniel Akujuobi, via Zoom. All are welcome. To register and receive the Zoom link: [acparis.org](https://acparis.org).

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

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

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### **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."

# OPERATION GREEN THUMB



Help adorn the senior pastor apartment with lovely plants for the arrival of Paul and Stacey Rock. Here is Stacey's reaction to the idea:

**"I absolutely love the idea of Operation Green Thumb! My daughter turned me into a plant person during the pandemic and of all our things, I am truly saddest to leave the house plants I have cultivated. I just said to Paul yesterday - really! - that it will be fun to add plants to the apartment. How wonderful if some could be starters from church members - there's something very beautiful about that."**

You may bring a plant or a cash donation towards a plant to the reception desk in care of Fred Gramann anytime before August 10. Each plant will have a note identifying the donor(s). For more information, please contact Fred at [music@acparis.org](mailto:music@acparis.org).

## **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](http://acparis.org) to find out how.



# 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."

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](mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org) if you'd like to join us as a knight at the VBS roundtable.

**Register your child at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).**

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## 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>
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)



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