



THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

5 September 2021, 11h00

Welcome to this service of worship

We are happy you are here! Please observe COVID protocols throughout worship; wear your mask, observe social distancing, and greet your neighbor without touch. Please follow the guidance of ushers, and take or recycle your bulletin.

We Gather

Prelude Prelude and Fugue in D minor *J.S. Bach*
Chorale on “God the Father live with us” *Johann Pachelbel*

Welcome, Greeting, and Announcements Jodi Fondell
The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Special Greeting from AFCU Board President Kris Richardson

Ringing of the Bells

† Call to Worship (Psalm 146) Allison Wheeler

Praise the LORD O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long. Do not put your trust in
princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope
is in the LORD who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all
that is in them; who keeps faith forever.**

We put our trust in the One who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry; who sets the prisoners free.

Let us worship God together!

† Prayer of Common Confession

**Holy God, help us so that we can amend our lives and grow
more each day into the image of Christ. We confess that we
fear what is different. We confess that it’s easier to lock the
doors of our community than to receive those who don’t look
like us, love like we love, vote the way we vote. We also,
unknowingly, lock ourselves into past notions and
experiences of You, O living God. We ask you to tap us on the
shoulder and help us to recognize the new thing you are
doing in our lives. Give us the energy, intelligence,
imagination, and love to be your people in all we say and do.**
(time of silent confession and reflection)

‡ Choral Response Kyrie eleison Fred Gramann
*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

‡ Words of Assurance

God is gracious and merciful and knows our shortcomings even before they reach our lips. Through Jesus, God has forgiven and restored us so that we might live to follow the resurrected Christ into the hope of tomorrow. **Amen.**

Children's Blessing Allison Wheeler
Children may come forward for a pastoral blessing and then go to their worship space.

‡ Passing of the Peace

Music Andante cantabile Hyacinthe Klosé
Carol Mundinger, *clarinet* Fred Gramann, *organ*

We Hear the Word

Scripture Lesson – Isaiah 35:4-7 Alison Benney

Say to those who are panicking: “Be strong! Don’t fear! Here’s your God, coming with vengeance; with divine retribution, God will come to save you.” Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be cleared. Then the lame will leap like the deer, and the tongue of the speechless will sing. Waters will spring up in the desert, and streams in the wilderness. The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground, fountains of water.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Music O Love That Casts Out Fear H. Alexander Matthews
Jennifer Young, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

Sermon Series: Renovating and Rebuilding the Post-Pandemic Church

Sermon How to Restore Power Paul Rock
Acts 1:1-11

We Respond and Are Sent into the World

Invitation and Prayer for the Giving of Tithes and Offerings Don Lee
*Offerings are received at the welcome table
or at acparis.org/donate (QR code on back page).*

Offertory Music Pietà, Signore *Alessandro Stradella*
Have mercy, Lord. Hear my prayer as it rises to you.
Look mercifully down on me.
Philip James Glenister, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Jodi Fondell, Doug Fondell, Paul Rock

The Invitation to the Table - The Eucharistic Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

**All: From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land,
in every tongue. Alleluia! (5x)**

One: The night that Jesus was betrayed
He blessed and broke the loaf and said, **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
"This is my body here for you,
my gift that frees and makes you new." **Alleluia! (5x)**

One: Then Jesus also took the cup,
After those gathered had all supped. **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
"This is my lifeblood shed for you,
The measure of my love for you." **Alleluia! (5x)**

One: "Do this," He said, "till time shall end,
In mem'ry of your living Friend." **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
"Meet at my table and record,
The love of your triumphant Lord." **Alleluia! (5x)**

**All: Jesus your feast we celebrate.
We eat the food you consecrate. Alleluia! Alleluia!
We glimpse that glad eternal feast,
To which you welcome great and least. Alleluia! (5x)**

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

(An usher will lead you to one of the different communion stations. If you would like be served in your seat, please let an usher know.)

Communion Solo Panis Angelicus *César Franck*
The bread of the angels becomes the bread for all people.
Frédéric Goncalves, *soloist*

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 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

The altar flowers today are given to the glory to God and in memory of Reverend George W. Wickersham II (Lexington, Virginia, USA), by Kandice Vettier. *ou make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.* – Psalm 16:11 (NIV)

Atelier Concerts: Sundays 17h30 in the sanctuary. **Today:** Jorge Herranz, *piano*. 12 Sept: Nicolas Chevereau, *piano* with Magali Leger, *soprano*. 19 Sept: Adam Heron, *piano*. 26 Sept: Our ACP Musicians (Jonathan Bloom, *cello*; Philip Glenister, *tenor*; Frédéric Goncalves, *baritone*; Laurana Mitchelmore, *piano*; Carol Munding, *clarinet*; Lisa Prevett, *flute*; Nicole Primmer, *soprano*; Debra Takakjian, *piano*; Nicole Taylor, *soprano*; Jennifer Young, *soprano*.) Admission is free. Passe sanitaire required.

Atelier Concert Volunteers Needed: Sundays 17h-19h. Please speak with Fred Gramann if you can assist on occasion.

Never Forget: 20 Years after 9/11, Thurber Conversation, 9 September 19h30 via Zoom. Guests are Larry and Carol Kalajainen, John Rogers, and Fred Gramann. Register at acparis.org.

ACP Rentrée Café: 10 September 19h30 in ACP's Courtyard. Celebrate the rentrée with live music in the courtyard featuring Devon Graves, Sienna Ball, Purple Sawdust, and more. Free admission. Carolina dogs and beverages for purchase. Passe sanitaire required.

9/11 Service of Remembrance: 11 September 16h in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to attend. Register at acparis.org.

What does it mean to be the church? Small group conversations with Pau Rock and your fellow ACP members and friends. Two 1-hour Zoom sessions are scheduled for 12 September at 16h30 and 14 September at 17h30; additional sessions are planned. Sign up now at acparis.org/signups.

Afghan support project: Sundays 12 and 19 September. With the present influx of refugees, particularly Afghans, there is an immediate need for size 39-43 men's shoes (clean and in good condition), men's jeans/pants (clean and in good condition), and men's socks and underwear (new and in packaging only). Please bring donations in a clean plastic bag to the Reception leave in the collection box there. Thank you! For more info contact Peter DeWit at missionoutreach@acparis.org.

The Accidental Docent: Season 2, Episode 1 now showing on acparis.org.

The Adult Choir and Handbell Choirs are resuming regular rehearsals. Please contact Fred at music@acparis.org for information on participating.

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.

Sunday Welcome Table: We are looking for volunteers to help staff our welcome table after worship. If you'd like to join this team, please let Pastor Jodi know at associatepastor@acparis.org.

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; other Sundays in the month will be Bible study. Please register for the Zoom details at acparis.org.

Silent Prayer Thursdays at ACP: Thursdays 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, and follow 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: Children's Worship is back in the ACP building beginning **today** at the 11h and 14h services! For safety reasons, all children must be registered for the program to attend. We also ask that, just as we have been registering to attend worship in the sanctuary, that parents register their child's attendance in advance of each coming Sunday. You can register your child for Children's Worship at acparis.org/cw-registration or by using the QR code seen here. If you an adult and are interested in joining our Children's Worship leadership team, or if you have any other questions, please write to Allison Wheeler at childrensworship@acparis.org.



Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Youth Ministry Kickoff: Today 12h30 in the Theater. The Youth Squad is back! Youth (Collège and Lycée) and parents are invited to a fun afternoon with pizza and refreshments. We are excited to see you all.

Young Adult Ministry Kickoff: 7 September 19h30 in the Courtyard. Calling on all young adults (ages 18-30)! Come out for an evening to connect with one another, eat together, have some fun as we relaunch the Young Adult ministry.

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.

Women's Fellowship: 12 September 12h15-13h30 in the Thurber Room. All women are welcome to join as we hear from our sister Chinwe Akujuobi, who will share her journey with us and speak on "The Goodness and Mercy of the Lord." Visit <https://acparis.churchcenter.com/groups/fellowship-and-community-groups/acp-women-s-fellowship> to receive regular Women's Fellowship communications.

Wednesday Evening Adult Learning at ACP – Everybody Always! Wednesdays, beginning 15 September, 19h30-21h via Zoom: "Becoming love in a world full of setbacks and difficult people." Please register online at acparis.org.

Movie discussion group: 16 September 19h30 on Zoom. Movies to see on Netflix: *Vivo*, *Beckett*, *Fantastic Fungi*. Movies to see in cinemas: *Free Guy*, *Reminiscence*, *Un Triomphe*. For info or Zoom invitation: movies@acparis.org

A Pathway Forward: Constructive Conversation on Homosexuality and the Bible – welcome and inclusion at ACP. Every second Thursday, beginning 23 September, 19h30-21h via Zoom. Please register online at acparis.org.

Women's Monthly Bible Study: 26 September, 12h30-13h30 in room F2 (1st floor). All women welcome to join us in a once-monthly study on women in parables! Register at acparis.org.

Alpha Online Course: Mondays, beginning 27 September, 20h30-22h. Got questions about life? Alpha Online offers you the chance to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, fun and friendly environment! See acparis.org/alpha.

Men's Morning Bible Study at ACP: Thursdays, beginning 9 September, 7h30-8h30. 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.

A "Passe Sanitaire" is required to attend ACP services.

All congregants of more than 17 years of age will be required to present at least one of the following documents upon arrival:

1. Proof of completion of a full vaccination schedule at least 7 days old (or 4 weeks in the case of a single shot Johnson & Johnson vaccination).
2. A negative RT-PCR or antigenic test less than 72 hours old.
3. The result of a positive RT-PCR or antigenic test demonstrating recovery of Covid-19, at least 11 days old and less than 6 months old.

Proof will be accepted in the form of a paper certificate or digitally via the "TousAntiCovid" mobile phone application. The current social distancing and mask mandate protocols will also remain in place.

Ministers of the American Church in Paris

Ministers	The Entire Congregation	
Senior Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Paul Rock	paulrock@acparis.org
Interim Associate Pastor	The Rev. Jodi Fondell	associatepastor@acparis.org
Interim Associate Pastor	The Rev. Doug Fondell	ap2@acparis.org
Children's Ministry Director	The Rev. Allison Wheeler	childrensworship@acparis.org
Visiting Pastor	The Rev. Don Lee	visitingpastor@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 [Facebook.com/AmericanChurchParis](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanChurchParis)

The Ministry of the American Church depends on you

The American Church in Paris depends on the generosity of members and alumni in Paris and worldwide who continue to be touched by its ministries. Please give at acparis.org/donate (QR code here) or visit acparis.org/support-us for more on being a part of ACP's ministry through regular stewardship or planned giving. You can also speak with a pastor after today's service. Gifts by those subject to French income tax receive a 66% reduction in their tax due (up to 20% of taxable income). The after-tax cost of your support is therefore only €34 for a €100 gift. This applies to gifts made online, by check or by bank transfer in EUR to The American Church in Paris.

For those who may prefer the smaller charitable deduction from taxable income in the US, checks in US dollars should be made out to The American and Foreign Christian Union (AFCU) and marked "ACP Stewardship".



The American Church in Paris
www.acparis.org



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American Church in Paris

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