



# THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

## Epiphany and Baptism of the Lord Sunday 9 January 2022, 11h00

### Welcome to this service of worship

We are happy you are here! With the ongoing challenges of Covid, we ask that you continue to wear your mask while indoors. Creation Care is important to us, so please take or recycle your bulletin at the end of the service.


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



You are invited to rise in body or in spirit when you see this symbol

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### We Gather

- Prelude                                      Four Festive Preludes                                      *Gilbert Martin*  
Fred Gramann, *organ*
- Welcome, Greeting, and Announcements                                      Paul Rock  
The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**
- Introit                                      The Three Kings                                      *Peter Cornelius*  
John Bernard, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *organ*
-  Call to Worship                                      Jodi Fondell

Friends, in this new year, know that we are planted in Christ.

**But the ground is cold and hard, and the sap of the spirit is slow to move to our branches.**

But together, with time, yielding, humility, patience, and faith...

**We know the energy of God's love through Christ is doing its work in and through us.**

**So let us worship God!**



⊗ Prayer of Common Confession (from R. Niebuhr's "Serenity Prayer")

Jodi Fondell

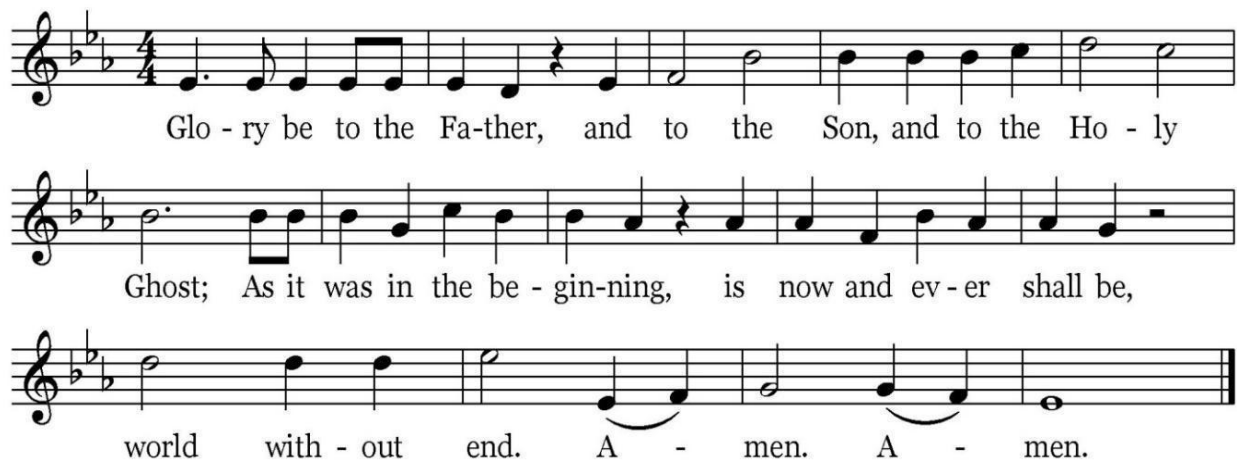
**Dear God, on Epiphany Sunday in this new year, grant us the serenity to accept the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things that can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Help us to remember to live one day at a time, enjoy one moment at a time, and accept hardship as a pathway to peace. Help us, like Jesus, to receive this broken world and broken people as they are, not as we would have them be; trusting your Spirit at work in the world to make all things right according to your will. (*time of silent prayer*)**

⊗ Words of Assurance

Friends, as we rest in God's forgiveness and surrender to God's will, we shall not only be more at peace, but will also be filled with the hope that God is indeed making all things new, amazingly, through imperfect people like us.

**Thanks be to God in Christ. Amen.**

⊗ Gloria Patri



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly  
Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be,  
world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

⊗ Passing of the Peace

Music

Simon of Samaria  
(based on Acts 8:9-25)

*Fred Gramann*

Adult Choir Marie Engle and John Bernard, *soloists*

**Sermon series: Renovating & Rebuilding the Post-Pandemic Church**

Sermon

What Annoying People Can Teach Us  
Acts 8:9-25 (*page 892 in the pew Bibles*)

Paul Rock

A Moment of Reflection and Ringing of the Bells

**We Respond and Are Sent into the World**

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Doug Fondell

We bring our struggles, celebrations, our gifts, and ourselves to God in prayer.

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in  
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us  
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against  
us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from  
evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Call for Offering

Daniel Tostado

Offertory Music

O Divine Redeemer

*Charles Gounod*

Nicole Taylor, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

 Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
In heav'n above and earth below!  
One God, three persons, we adore  
To God be praise forevermore!**

 Prayer of Dedication

Elizabeth Murray

***Once long ago, the wise men sought a king — a little child.  
They brought him gifts so they could honor him;  
Perhaps he smiled!***

***How can we honor Christ with what we bring?  
How can we now give presents to our king?***

***We seek you, Christ, and far away we hear  
A child's small cry.***

***She lives with war, with constant daily fear,  
As loved ones die.***

***Christ, can we honor you with what we bring?  
Can deeds for peace be gifts to you, our king?***

***We seek you, Christ, and close at home we see  
A child who's poor.***

***His family tries to pay for food and heat,  
But both cost more.***

***Christ, can we honor you with what we bring?  
Can deeds of mercy make you smile, our king?***

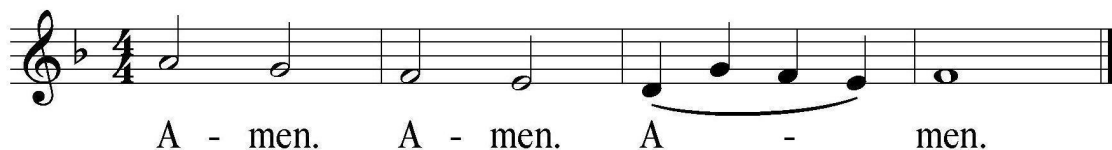
***As we love neighbors, Christ, we also show  
Our love for you.***

***When we serve those we may not even know,  
We serve you, too.***

***Now may we see what you would have us bring:  
Our love for neighbors honors you, our king.***

Benediction

Congregational Amen



Postlude

## Pandemic practices at ACP

- A "Pass Sanitaire" is required for all events, meetings, and worship services at ACP.
  - Mask wearing (over both mouth and nose) is obligatory, and good social distancing is requested, at all times while indoors at ACP – including at Coffee Fellowship.
  - We invite you to register for all worship services at [acparis.org/signups](https://acparis.org/signups) (beginning Mondays at 12h) until further notice for contact tracing and seating capacity purposes.
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## Submitting your Giving Commitment for 2022

Did you miss Commitment Sunday? No worries, you can still make your 2022 giving commitment online at [acparis.org/estimatedgiving2022](https://acparis.org/estimatedgiving2022). We could really use your support as we continue to rebuild and renovate the post-pandemic church!

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## Announcements

**Affirmation of Welcome:** At ACP, we believe that we are called to love and welcome people of all socio-economic backgrounds, ethnicities, races, nationalities, gender identities, and sexual orientations, and that those who place their faith in Christ and seek to be his disciple are invited to become full members. Welcome!

**In need of prayer?** If you are in need of prayer today, a lay caregiver is available in the chapel (to the right of the sanctuary) to pray with you. 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](https://acparis.org/prayers).

**Alcoholics Anonymous Paris (English):** "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism." (Excerpted from the *AA Preamble*) To learn more or seek help, see [aaparis.org](https://aaparis.org).

**Narcotics Anonymous France (French):** To learn more or seek help, see [www.narcotiquesanonymes.org](https://www.narcotiquesanonymes.org).

**Coffee Fellowship** will be on break until further notice, but please feel free to greet your neighbors after worship before you leave. If you are new, also stop by our newcomer table so we can welcome you to ACP!

**The New Season of Atelier Concerts** begins this evening at 17h30 with a piano recital by Brian Hsu, a graduate of Juillard, Yale, and the University of Michigan. Come hear virtuosic works by Franz Liszt. Admission is free.

**100 Nights of Welcome:** Begins tomorrow, 10 January. We have the opportunity to host some refugee gentlemen here at ACP once again this winter, providing them with some food, and a warm place to sleep for the night. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact Daniel Tostado at [danieltostado1@gmail.com](mailto:danieltostado1@gmail.com).

**Thurber Conversation:** 18 January 19h30-21h via Zoom. Rev. Grace Imathiu, a leading activist/pastor for Welcome and Inclusion will teach on “Our next best steps!” Register for the Zoom link at [acparis.org/signups](https://acparis.org/signups).

**Matching Campaign News:** We are enormously grateful for every euro and dollar that our ACP and AFCU friends and family contributed to the 2021 Matching Campaign. The offer we received to match up to 100k€ of additional giving was exceptionally generous! Thanks to that offer and to your overwhelming response, we have achieved the goal. Together we made a 200k€ reduction in a worrisome projected loss for 2021. Thanks be to God!

**Our wonderful new Audio Visual system is in place!** If you'd like to be a part of our worship tech and A/V team, please contact us at [avm@acparis.org](mailto:avm@acparis.org).

**Tech help needed for 14h service:** Calling all techies! If you are interested, please contact Natalie Raynal at [cmusic@acparis.org](mailto:cmusic@acparis.org).

**Sunday Newcomer 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](mailto: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](mailto:communications@acparis.org).

## Children's Ministries

**Children's Worship:** Children's Worship is held during the 11h and 14h services. For safety reasons, all children must be registered for the program to attend. You can register your child for Children's Worship at [acparis.org/cw-registration](https://acparis.org/cw-registration) or by using the QR code here. We also ask that you register your child's attendance in advance of each Sunday at [acparis.org/signups](https://acparis.org/signups). If you are an adult and are interested in joining our Children's Worship leadership team, contact Allison Wheeler at [childrensworship@acparis.org](mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org).



## Youth and Young Adult Ministries

**Youth Ministry (collège, lycée):** Youth group meets weekly on Sundays 12h30-13h45 in the Catacombs on the basement level of ACP. *We will not be serving food for the month of January.* Scan the QR code for our 2022 winter calendar. Follow our Youth Group on Instagram here: [@acpyouthsquad](https://www.instagram.com/acpyouthsquad). Contact [youthpastor@acparis.org](mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org) for more information.



**Young Adult Ministry (ages 18-30):** Young adults meet weekly on Tuesday nights 19h30-21h30 in the Thurber Room (2nd floor). Contact [youthpastor@acparis.org](mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org) for more information. Follow our YA Group on Instagram here for the latest updates: [https://www.instagram.com/acp\\_ya/](https://www.instagram.com/acp_ya/).

## Adult Ministries

**Sandwich Ministry:** Come join us on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 17h-18h30 to help make sandwiches to be distributed to those in need by the Serve the City Paris team. For more information, contact [reception@acparis.org](mailto:reception@acparis.org).

**Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study:** Beginning today, 17h30-19h30 on Zoom. We will be studying Hebrews in the New Year. Register for Zoom details at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Deepening Our Faith:** Wednesdays: 12, 19 January, 2, 16, February, 16, 23 March. Whether you're new to Christianity or wanting to refresh your faith, this program is offering you the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of what we believe as a Christian community. Register at [acparis.org/signups](http://acparis.org/signups).

**Movie discussion group:** 13 January 19h30 on Zoom. Films to choose from on Netflix: *Tokyo Godfathers*, *Don't Look Up*, *The Lost Daughter*, *Robin Robin/Ruby tombée du nid*. In cinemas: *Un héros*, *The Card Counter*, *Belle*, *Licorice Pizza*. For more info or Zoom invitation: [movies@acparis.org](mailto:movies@acparis.org).

**Women's Monthly Bible Study:** 16 January 12h30-13h30 in room F2 (1st floor). All women are welcome to join us in a once-monthly study on women in parables! Register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Be the Bridge book study:** 26 Jan., 9 Feb., 23 Feb., and 9 March, 19h30-21h via Zoom. A congregational conversation on race, healing, and communication, based on the book *Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation*, by Latasha Morrison. Register at [acparis.org/signups](http://acparis.org/signups).

**Fighting For Respect film and discussion:** 12 February 19h-21h in the Sanctuary. All are invited to a special screening of the highly acclaimed film *Fighting for Respect* – a 1 hour documentary on the compelling, yet neglected story of 200,000 African American soldiers fighting for democracy in WWI while being denied civil rights at home – followed by a discussion with the film's writer and director Joanne Burke. Register at [acparis.org/signups](http://acparis.org/signups).

**Men's Morning Bible Study at ACP:** Thursdays 7h30-8h30. Information at [acparis.org/men-thursday](http://acparis.org/men-thursday). Live and zoom options.

**Silent Prayer Thursdays at ACP:** Thursdays 18h-19h 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, followed by the reading of a short sacred text according to the method of Lectio Divina. Register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**African Fellowship:** Fellowship in the Thurber Room at 13h the first Sunday of the month. Other Sundays in the month will be Bible study from 16h-17h via Zoom. Please register for the Zoom details at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Filipino Fellowship** meets the third and fourth Sundays of the month at 12h30 in the Thurber Room.

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

# Ministers of the American Church in Paris

Ministers	<b>The Entire Congregation</b>	
Senior Pastor	<b>The Rev. Dr. Paul Rock</b>	<a href="mailto:paulrock@acparis.org">paulrock@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>
Youth & Young Adult Pastor	<b>The Rev. Elizabeth Murray</b>	<a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a>
Children's Ministry Director	<b>The Rev. Allison Wheeler</b>	<a href="mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org">childrensworship@acparis.org</a>
Visiting Pastor	<b>The Rev. Don Lee</b>	<a href="mailto:visitingpastor@acparis.org">visitingpastor@acparis.org</a>
Director of Music	<b>Fred Gramann</b>	<a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a>
Contemporary Music Dir.	<b>Natalie Raynal</b>	<a href="mailto:cmusic@acparis.org">cmusic@acparis.org</a>
Youth/Children Music Dir.	<b>Sara Barton</b>	<a href="mailto:ymusic@acparis.org">ymusic@acparis.org</a>
Pastoral Intern	<b>Kate Snipes</b>	<a href="mailto:pastorintern@acparis.org">pastorintern@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) [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](http://acparis.org/donate) (QR code below), email [acctg@acparis.org](mailto:acctg@acparis.org), or visit [acparis.org/support-us](http://acparis.org/support-us) for more information 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 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](http://www.acparis.org)



## WELCOME to ACP

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[acparis.org/welcome](http://acparis.org/welcome)



**American Church in Paris**

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