



# THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

1 NOVEMBER 2020

WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE OF WORSHIP ONLINE

Announcements

Prelude

Sonata in F Major: Allegro  
Simon Fournier, *trumpet* Fred Gramann, *organ*

*G.F. Handel*

Welcome

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Hymn

For All the Saints

*tune: SINE NOMINE*

***For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***O blest communion, fellowship divine,  
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia! Alleluia!***

Prayer of Confession

Jodi Fondell

**Lord God, as we gather this All Saints Day we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts, minds, souls and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as we love ourselves. Forgive us for the times this week we have done harm even when our intent was not to do harm. Forgive us for the times we turn away from your Word and your Way. Forgive us when we forget the lives and lessons of those who have lived by faith before us, the cloud of witnesses who surround us here and now. Have mercy on us, precious Lord, as we offer our silent confession.**

*(Moments for silent confession)*

In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace

Whatever we have done, whatever we have failed to do, whoever we are, whoever we wish we were but are not: in Christ we are redeemed, healed, and set free. Hear and believe the Good news. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous. Amen.**

Gloria Patri

Blessing of the Children

Allison Wheeler

Musical Offering

Magnificent Reflections

*Devon Graves*

Josiah Woodson, *piano* Devon Graves, *lead vocals* Natalie Raynal, Kym Stewart, *backing vocals*

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

Prayer for Illumination

Victor Greene

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Musical Offering

Recit: Behold, I Tell You a Mystery

*G.F. Handel*

Air: The Trumpet Shall Sound

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

The Second Lesson – Matthew 5:1-12

Rose Marie Burke

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Cloud of Witnesses

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Naming of the Saints

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (*in your mother tongue*)

Invitation to the Giving of Tithes and Gifts

Doug Fondell

A Word of Gratitude

Neil Gibson

Offertory Music

I Will Not Give Up

Devon Graves

Josiah Woodson, *piano* Devon Graves and Natalie Raynal, *vocals*  
Jeff Hohener, *videography* Josiah Woodson, *production*

Prayer of Dedication

Jodi Fondell

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Odette Lockwood-Stewart and Doug Fondell

The Invitation to the Table - The Eucharistic Prayer

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery  
in which you have given yourself to us.  
Grant that in the strength of your Spirit  
we may give ourselves for others,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn

Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

*tune:* NETTLETON("Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing")

*Text:* Copyright © 2009 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

***Blessed are the poor in spirit; all God's realm is surely theirs.  
Those in mourning will find comfort as an answer to their prayers.  
Meek ones whom this world despises will inherit everything.  
God, your kingdom still surprises; may we seek the reign you bring.***

***Blessed, too, are those who hunger and who thirst for what is right.  
They will not be prone to wander, for your will is their delight.  
Those who show God's care and mercy will receive that mercy too.  
God, in Christ you show us clearly of the joy we have in you.***

***Those who share the peace God gives them will find blessings as God's own.  
Those oppressed for faithful living will call heaven's kingdom Home.  
When the world's ways seem distressing and we feel life's painful sting,  
God, remind us of the blessings of the wondrous life you bring.***

Benediction

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Congregational Amen

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## **The American Church in Paris re-gathered and also online**

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the **American Church in Paris** has been dedicated to remaining a vibrant community and to providing online resources for worship, learning, spiritual formation, and holistic health. We follow government guidelines to prudently re-open the church buildings for worship, schools and other community groups in a way that is safe, sustainable, and fair for all.

**ACP will worship online but not in the sanctuary during the month of confinement for the health and safety of all.**

Whether you are one of the thousands of viewers from many different countries who join us for online worship, or new to Paris and seeking a church family, we hope you will be patient until we can meet without restrictions again. In the meantime, we continue to pursue our mission **"to bear witness in word and deed to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ."** God's grace and peace be with you!

## Announcements

**The altar flowers today at ACP** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John Philcox, by John O'Donnell.

**A Musical Meditation for the Feast of All Saints** can be viewed at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org), featuring ACP musicians sharing music by Handel, Mendelssohn, Fauré, Gramann and Copland, as well as Spirituals.

**In need of prayer?** Members of our prayer team are available to pray with you in the Theater immediately following the worship service. 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 [prayerrequests@acparis.org](mailto:prayerrequests@acparis.org).

**Ushers Needed:** ACP is committed to moving forward with worship services in the sanctuary as Covid-19 protocols allow, and also providing a quality online experience for those not able to return to church for live worship. Volunteers are needed for each service to welcome and seat worshippers in a safe and efficient manner. Please do prayerfully consider how you could help out. Interested? Please email [connections@acparis.org](mailto:connections@acparis.org).

**Volunteers with artistic talent are needed:** Looking ahead to the season of Advent, which begins on 29 November, we would like to decorate the sanctuary Advent wreath differently for each of the four Sundays, possibly incorporating the same theme in the altar decorations. Please contact Fred Gramann for more details if you are interested in this special project. [music@acparis.org](mailto:music@acparis.org)

**ACP Today: Faith Talk from Paris** – 2 November, 20h45-21h30. Listen to it live by tuning in to Frequence Protestante at 100.7 FM or [frequenceprotestante.com](http://frequenceprotestante.com); listen to the recording later at [acparis.org/ACPToday](http://acparis.org/ACPToday).

## Children's Ministries

**Kids' Monthly Bible Study 2020-21:** 15 November, 12h45 via Zoom. This virtual monthly Bible study is for all children seven and older. We will spend the year studying the Lord's Prayer. Please contact Rev. Allison Wheeler at [childrensworsip@acparis.org](mailto:childrensworsip@acparis.org) for more information, and/or register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Threaded Together:** A Children's Ministry Initiative. During these days when we cannot safely experience the joy of being all together in person, our Threaded Together initiative offers different ways for us to stay connected, and for parents and children to experience support from church staff, volunteers, and other families. Register at [acparis.org/threadedtogether](http://acparis.org/threadedtogether) to participate in a family small group or contact [childrensworship@acparis.org](mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org) for information.

**ACP Children's Music Ministry Fall program 2020:** Join us in lifting a joyful noise unto the Lord through voice and instrument, in praise, prayer, and thanksgiving. The ACP children's choirs will continue via virtual choir rehearsals sent as private YouTube video links to watch, alternating with Zoom rehearsals. Children of all ages are welcome. See [acparis.org/childrensmusic](http://acparis.org/childrensmusic) for registration.

## Youth and Young Adult Ministries

**Fall 2020-2021 program *Out There: Together in One Place*.** For more information contact Pastor Victor Greene at [youthpastor@acparis.org](mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org).

## Adult Ministries

**African Fellowship Monthly Meeting:** Today, 11h30 in the Thurber Room. The ACP African Fellowship are reconvening today for their monthly gathering. [africanfellowship@acparis.org](mailto:africanfellowship@acparis.org)

**Monthly Women's Fellowship:** 8 November 16h via Zoom. Tendayi O. Chirawu, leader of ACP's Writers Group, will discuss the impact Luke 22:32 had on her life when in Namibia, and reflect on her life and faith considering Simon. Tendayi will also speak about the resilience of the ACP Writers' Group and their new anthology. Visit [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) for details on how to join.

**Virtual Thurber Conversation:** 10 November 19h30 via Zoom. Dr. Greg Garrett will speak on “Race, Film, and Hope: Living into Reconciliation.” Visit [acparis.org](http://acparis.org) for details on how to join or for more information.

**Bloom Where You’re Planted:** 14 November, 15h (Paris time). ACP’s popular expat orientation seminar will feature top speakers and informative workshops and this year it will be virtual. Participants will be able to watch from anywhere, live on Zoom, or later via a recording. For more information, see [BloomParis.org](http://BloomParis.org). Share the link with friends or colleagues who dream of moving to France one day.

**Women’s Monthly Bible Study:** 15 November, 13h30-14h30 via Zoom. All women are welcome to join this study on Women of the Old Testament, led by Teri Lee Valluy. Register at [acparis.org/women-sunday](http://acparis.org/women-sunday).

**Making Sense of the Bible:** This six-week, small group pursuit of greater Biblical understanding will begin early in November. If you would like to participate in a “Making Sense of the Bible” small group encounter with others via Zoom or in-person, please register your interest at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Sunday Afternoon Adult Bible Study:** Sundays 16h-17h30 via Zoom. All adults are welcome to join this study as hosts Nathaniel Akujobi and Patti Lafage lead us through an in-depth study of the book of Philippians. To register and receive the Zoom link please sign up at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Women’s Weekly Bible Study:** Tuesdays 10h-12h via Zoom. Join us for our virtual study of “Job, an Unlikely Story of Joy.” Contact Katherine for more information at [womensbiblestudy@acparis.org](mailto:womensbiblestudy@acparis.org).

**Men’s Ministry Bible Study at ACP:** Thursdays 7h30-8h30, in the ACP Theater. In-house and Zoom option available. Register at [acparis.org/men-thursday](http://acparis.org/men-thursday).

**Read all about it** – inspiration information, news, and events from ACP in the most recent edition of the Spire. Available now on the app, or at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

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

## Ministers of the American Church in Paris

Ministers  
Interim Senior Pastor

Interim Associate Pastor  
Interim Associate Pastor  
Youth / Young Adult Pastor  
Children's Ministry Director  
Director of Music  
Contemporary Music Dir.  
Youth / Children Music Dir.  
Executive Secretary  
Wedding Coordinator

The Entire Congregation  
The Rev. Odette Lockwood-Stewart

The Rev. Jodi Fondell  
The Rev. Doug Fondell  
Victor Greene (M.Div.)  
The Rev. Allison Wheeler  
Fred Gramann  
Natalie Raynal  
Sara Barton  
Heather Walter  
Jörg Kaldewey

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55<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

Bloom  
where  
you're  
planted



THE PREMIER EXPAT ORIENTATION SEMINAR

**WE'RE GOING VIRTUAL THIS YEAR!**

**LEARN HOW TO THRIVE  
IN YOUR NEW LIFE  
IN FRANCE**

**Notable expat speakers  
Informative workshops  
Attend from anywhere, anytime**

**SATURDAY, 14 NOV.  
LIVESTREAM: 3-7PM (9AM-1PM ET)  
OR WATCH ANYTIME**

 THE AMERICAN  
CHURCH IN PARIS

## 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" 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 the Reception desk to find out how.

### Congregational Giving Through Sept. Goal is €500,000

