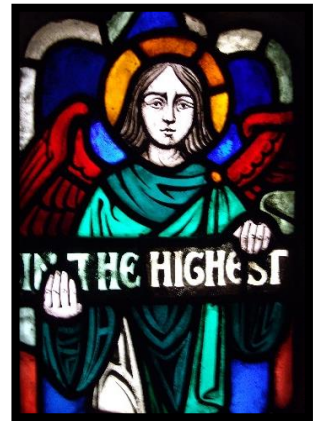




**THE AMERICAN CHURCH  
IN PARIS**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

**WORSHIP ONLINE**



# WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE OF WORSHIP

## Prelude

Aria from Cantata 147: Ich will von Jesu Wunden singen *J.S. Bach*  
*I will be singing of Jesus' wonders and my lips will bring glad offerings.*  
Frédéric Goncalves, *soloist* Simon Fournier, *trumpet*  
Fred Gramann, *organ*

Domine, ego credidi (from the Christmas Oratorio) *Camille Saint-Saëns*  
*In my heart I believe, O Lord, that thou indeed art Christ,*  
*Son of the living God, who has to come into this world.*  
John Bernard, *soloist* Laurana Mitchelmore, *piano* Fred Gramann, *organ*

Ukrainian Bell Carol *arr. Matthew Prins*  
Handbell Choir

Comfort Ye / Every Valley (from the Messiah) *G.F. Handel*  
Philip James Glenister, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *organ*

Prelude and Allemande from suite No. 1 for cello *J.S. Bach*  
Jonathan Bloom, *cello*

## Ringing of the Bells

Lighting the Christ Candle *Chris and Kate Snipes*

We gather here tonight to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ,  
son of Mary and Joseph, and son of God.  
*(The Christ Candle is lit.)*  
The light of God has entered the world, and the darkness has not overcome it.  
We lift up our heads in hope!  
Christ offers us reconciliation with God, with ourselves, and with each other.  
We will prepare the way for peace!  
Christ's Spirit is making all things new.  
We lift up our voices in joy!  
The Christ Child makes God's people into family.  
We will walk in the light of Christ's love!

Welcome *Odette Lockwood Stewart*

Passing the Peace of Christ

Musical Offering *In dulci jubilo* *Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau*  
Fred Gramann, *organ*

First Reading from Holy Scripture – Isaiah 9:1-7 *Jodi Fondell*

Musical Offering *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* *arr. Fred Gramann*  
Handbell Choir

Second Reading from Holy Scripture – Matthew 1:18-25 *Chinwe Akujuobi*

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Musical Offering    Tecum principium (from the Christmas Oratorio)    *Camille Saint-Saëns*  
*With you is sovereignty in the splendor of holiness on the day of your birth. (Psalm 110:3)*  
Jennifer Young, John Bernard, Frédéric Goncalves, *trio*    Laurana Mitchelmore, *piano*

Third Reading from Holy Scripture – Luke 2:1-7    Walter Dickerson

Musical Offering    Sarabande    *J.S. Bach*  
Jonathan Bloom, *cello*

Fourth Reading from Holy Scripture – Luke 2:8-20    William Cuozzi

Musical Offering    Ave Maria    *Pietro Mascagni*  
Nicole Primmer, *soloist*    Carol Munding, *clarinet*  
Debra Takakjian, *piano*

Fifth Reading from Holy Scripture – John 1:1-5, 14    Victor Greene

Christmas Eve Meditation    Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Musical Offering    O Holy Night    *Adolphe Adam, arr. P.J. Glenister*  
Jennifer Young and Philip James Glenister, *duet*  
Laurana Mitchemore, *piano*

Prayer for Christmas Eve and the Lord's Prayer    Doug Fondell

Christmas Offering

Musical Offering    Ave Maria    *Giulio Caccini*  
Simon Fournier, *trumpet*    Fred Gramann, *organ*

Sharing the Light of the Christ Candle    Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Benediction

Carol    Silent Night, Holy Night    *Tune: Stille Nacht*

Postlude

### **WORSHIP LEADERS AND COORDINATORS**

The Reverend Odette Lockwood-Stewart, *Interim Senior Pastor*

The Reverends Jodi and Doug Fondell, *Interim Associate Pastors*

Victor Greene, *Youth and Young Adult Pastor*

Fred Gramann, *Director of Music*

Charlie Gay and Anna Dai, *Worship Committee Council Leaders*

**WE WELCOME YOU TO THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS** as we celebrate the birth of Christ the Lord on this Christmas Eve. The American Church in Paris is an international, ecumenical congregation composed of Christians from around 50 nations and numerous denominational traditions around the globe. If you are visiting Paris during this holiday season, we extend a special welcome to you. If you are living in Paris, we invite you to join us by participating in our worship and congregational life in the coming New Year. We pray that you will hear the good news and have hope, receive anew God's gift of love in your heart, and believe that Christ the Savior is born for you!

**IF YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR A SPIRITUAL HOME AND A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN THE CITY OF PARIS**, we extend a warm invitation to you to become an active member of the American Church by attending the next New Member Orientation class on **11 March** at 19h via Zoom. RSVP: [laycaregivers@acparis.org](mailto:laycaregivers@acparis.org). Please take the time to familiarize yourself with ACP events described on our website, and feel free to join in: [www.acparis.org](http://www.acparis.org).

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING:** During this season of sharing, ACP's Christmas Eve offering will go to support the various ministries and missions of the American Church in Paris both locally and internationally. We hope that you will give generously as we seek to be a faithful "Beacon on the Seine," sharing God's love, grace, and peace with all people.

### **UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP:**

#### **WEEKLY WORSHIP**

**In the Sanctuary and online:** We will continue with Worship in the Sanctuary on Sundays at 11h on 27 December, and beginning on 3 January, we will also hold weekly services of prayer, music and meditation at on Sundays at 14h. Worship Online will continue with weekly postings starting from 9h on Sundays at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

#### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

**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 Spring program 2021:** 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**

**2021 program Theology on the Ground.** For more information contact Pastor Victor Greene at [youthpastor@acparis.org](mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org).

#### **ADULT MINISTRIES**

**Wednesday Evening Adult Learning at ACP:** Beginning 6 January 19h30-21h via Zoom. The Sermon on the Mount: Living as Kingdom People (a six-week study). Register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**A Thursday Evening Discipleship Encounter for New Christians:** beginning 7 January 19h-20h via Zoom. Walking in His Steps: Living as a Disciple of Jesus (an 8-week encounter). Register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

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**Sunday Afternoon Adult Bible Study:** Sundays 16h-17h30 via Zoom. All adults are welcome to join this study as hosts Nathaniel Akujuobi 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 via Zoom. Register at [acparis.org/men-thursday](http://acparis.org/men-thursday).

**African Fellowship Online:** Sundays 16h-17h via Zoom. Please register for the Zoom details at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

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

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALL THE OFFERINGS FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, ADULTS, AND MISSION AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES, SEE [ACPARIS.ORG](http://ACPARIS.ORG).**

**A SPECIAL THANKS** to all who are participating in leading the Christmas Eve services: the ushering teams, handbell choir, soloists, instrumentalists, readers, and preparation volunteers. All have helped to make the services a wonderful time of celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord and the mystery of the incarnation.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the ACP church house and office will be closed for the holidays from Friday 25 December through Saturday 26 December, and Monday 28 December through Saturday 2 January.

### **OUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND...**

In memory of her beloved parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Olaniyi Dorcas Adelokiki,  
by Bukola Adelokiki

In memory of Monica, by Agnès Adex

In honor of her mother, Pearl Benney, and in memory of her father, John Benney,  
by Alison Benney

In honor of Scott & Kim Herr and family, by Alison Benney

In honor of Lisa Prevett and the leaders of the Alpha program for their devotion to sharing  
the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Pascal and MaryClaire Berger

In honor of her parents, JW & Nancy Bohl, by Pam Bohl

In memory of her sister, Patti Bohl Kirk, by Pam Bohl

In honor of the ACP and all the blessings received by many members here, by Michel Bral  
In memory of their parents, Helen Vorys and Carl Engel, and Dorothy and Richard Comfort,  
by Carolyn and Richard Comfort

In honor of their children, Alison Comfort and Brad Comfort and their families,  
by Carolyn and Richard Comfort

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In memory of their siblings, Richard Engel and Robin Comfort,  
by Carolyn and Richard Comfort

In honor of her grandparents, by Mary D.

In memory of Ted and Rose Ann Mullen and Paul Fondell, by Jodi and Doug Fondell

In memory of Dr. Fred Michael Gramann,  
father of Fred Gramann and father-in-law of Nancy Gramann

In memory of Dianne Hafer, Owen V. Hafer, and Joseph T. Daniel, by the Hafer family

In Memory of Walter and Mary Lockwood and Don and Mildred Stewart

In honor of our pastors and music directors who serve with care and dedication especially  
during these complex times, by Lela Hastey-Losq

In memory of her husband, Etienne, sister-in-law, Bettie, and the other Hastey/Losq  
family members who have passed away, by Lela Hastey-Losq

In honor and with deep appreciation to the members of the church council who commit  
their time and talents in service to our community of faith, by Lela Hastey-Losq

In memory of her mother, Marie Mann, by Martha Mann

In loving memory of Tim O'Neill, Bill McWilliams, and Becky Tepfer,  
by Sharon and John Martin

In loving memory of John Philcox, by John O'Donnell

In honor of Marie and Daniel Grout, by Gigi Oyog

In honor of her mother Vicenta, sisters Lily and Shirley, and brother Raffy, by Gigi Oyog.

In recognition of Fred Fred Gramamm who blessed our family for many years, by the  
family of the late David Payne, his wife Gayle and their children Rocky and Jessica Payne

In memory of Darren McAuliffe, by his sister, Amanda Rafidiarimanda

In tribute to the birth of Christ, our savior, and for a peaceful, joyful Christmas, by  
Andrea Richard

In honor of Fred Gramann and the Bronze Ringers, by Megan Staley

In memory of John, Sr. and Elizabeth Takakjian by their daughter, Debra Takakjian



***ON BEHALF OF ALL THE MEMBERS,  
COUNCIL, AND STAFF OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS,  
WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!***



**The American Church in Paris**

**Website:** [www.acparis.org](http://www.acparis.org) **Telephone:** 01 40 62 05 00 **Fax:** 01 40 62 05 11