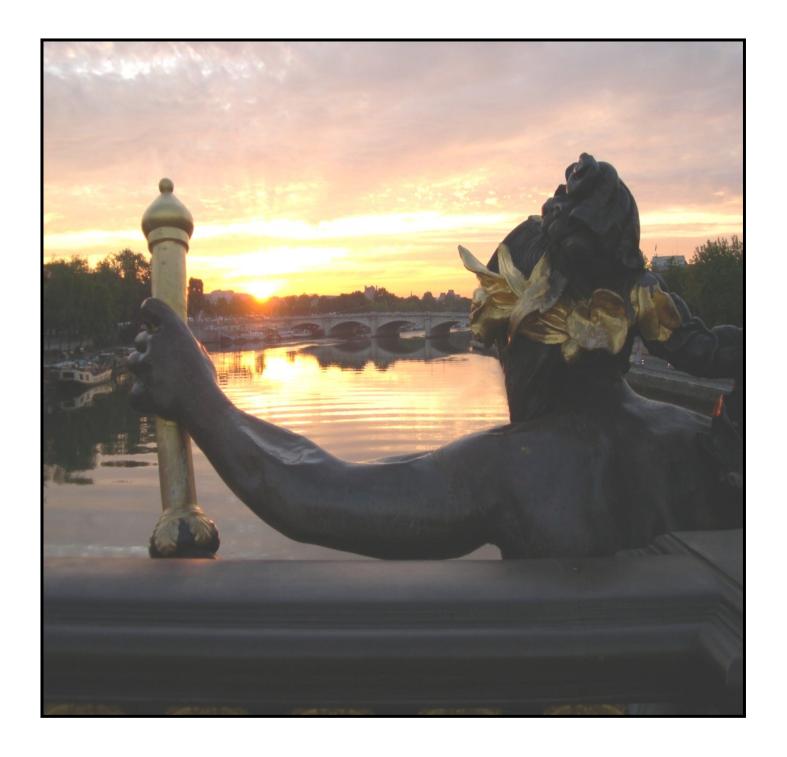


The American Church in Paris



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
4 April 2021
Celebration of
the Resurrection of Christ

Welcome to this service of worship online!

Opening Meditation

Down in the River to Pray arr. Fred Gramann

The Easter Story Awakens Us

Victor Greene

At early dawn

They came

They found the stone rolled away

They went in

Why

Look

For the living

Among the dead

Why look

Among the dead

For the living

Why

He is not here

He is here

He is not here

He is here

He is

Risen.

At early dawn

They came

Welcome

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

A Reading from the Easter Sermon of John Chrysostom (circa 400) Jodi Fondell, Doug Fondell

Are there any who are devout lovers of God?

Let them enjoy this beautiful bright festival!

Are there any who are grateful servants?

Let them rejoice and enter into the joy of their Lord!

And he who arrived only at the eleventh hour,

let him not be afraid by reason of his delay.

For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first.

Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord!

Let no one go away hungry. Partake, all, of the cup of faith.

Enjoy all the riches of His goodness!

Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again;

for forgiveness has risen from the grave.

Let no one fear death, for the Death of our Savior has set us free.

He has destroyed it by enduring it.

Hell took a body, and discovered God.

It took earth, and encountered Heaven.

It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it did not see.

O death, where is thy sting?

O Hell, where is thy victory?

Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!

Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead;

for Christ having risen from the dead,

is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

To God be glory and power forever and ever. Amen!

Song of Response

Resurrection Song

Devon Graves

Devon Graves, vocals Mimi Sunnerstam, cello Josiah Woodson, videography, production, piano

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-18

Marta Hobbs

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Message Rise Up! Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Song of Response Forever Kari Jobe, Bethel Music arr. Josiah Woodson

Natalie Raynal, *vocals* Devon Graves, *piano*, *vocals* Mimi Sunnerstam, *cello* Ella Mundinger, *violin* Lisa Prevett, *flute* Jeff Hohener, *videography* Josiah Woodson, *videography*, *production*

Prayers for the World Doug Fondell

Benediction Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Closing Song Down In the River Spiritual Devon Graves, vocals Natalie Raynal, vocals

On behalf of all the members, Council, and staff of the American Church in Paris, we wish you a Happy Easter!

The American Church in Paris Online Community

Welcome to worship! 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. We continue to **Worship Online** at <u>acparis.org</u>. Please continue to check our website for the latest news and to participate in new opportunities every week. 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

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting, 11 April 13h: The Council of the American Church in Paris requests the presence of all voting members of the ACP – and welcomes all congregants – to attend the semi-annual congregational meeting via Zoom video conference. We will receive the 2020 Ministry Reports from the Council and pastoral leadership of the ACP, present the 2020 preliminary financial results, and vote to approve the 2021 budget. This meeting will be held virtually online due to COVID-19 constraints. The meeting link, instructions, and meeting documents will be sent soon via email.

Please plan to attend this virtual meeting, but if you cannot be present, make sure your vote counts by completing the electronic proxy at acparis.org/proxy. We kindly request that you submit your electronic proxy by Saturday 10 April, in order to save time at the Congregational Meeting. We will be voting on important church business during the video conference. The Zoom virtual meeting system allows only one vote per connected device. If your household includes more than one ACP member, please have each member log-on with separate devices or fill out an electronic proxy (acparis.org/proxy) for each additional ACP member on the same device. If you have any questions, please contact connections@acparis.org.

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 <u>acparis.org/prayers</u>.

Easter Worship Online Services: Today at <u>acparis.org</u>. The Traditional Easter Celebration will be aired starting at 9h, and the Easter Sunrise Service will be aired starting at 7h.

Volunteer Editor for *The Spire*: ACP's thriving monthly magazine *The Spire* is looking for a volunteer editor-in-chief. The ideal candidate or team is skilled at content planning, text layout, photo-editing, graphics design, copy-editing, and proofreading. The position requires a native English speaker with a good grasp of French, excellent writing skills, good interpersonal skills, and sharp attention to detail. Interested? Please contact communications@acparis.org.

ACP Weekly

Sunday Worship: We worship online, with weekly postings starting from 9h at <u>acparis.org</u>.

Sundays 11h or 12h via Zoom – Worship/Coffee Fellowship Online: Join this Sunday for worship and fellowship time on zoom. *Note, we have resumed watching Worship Online together at 11h during the confinement period.* Join anytime, but please be muted if you join mid-service. If you would like the Zoom link, please register at: acparis.org/worship-fellowship.

Wednesdays from 6h at <u>acparis.org</u> – Sanctuary Sessions Join *Natalie Raynal* and ACP Contemporary Worship Musicians for acoustic sessions online.

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. 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 <u>acparis.org</u> for the Zoom link.

Children's Ministries

ACP Children's Music Ministry 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 online choir rehearsals sent as private YouTube video links to watch, alternating with Zoom rehearsals. Children of all ages are welcome. See 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.

Adult Ministries

ACP Women's Fellowship: 11 April 16h via Zoom. We will hear the journey of Yvonne Hazelton as she speaks on the themes "Don't Throw Baby Jesus out with the Bathwater" and "Why is Yvonne Still a Christian?' Please register for the Zoom details at acparis.org.

Adam Hamilton Virtual Thurber Conversation: 15 April 19h30 via Zoom. Adam Hamilton will speak on his book that we have been studying as a congregation: *Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today*. More information and registration at <u>acparis.org</u>.

African Fellowship Online: Sundays 16h-17h via Zoom. The first Sunday of the month is the monthly fellowship, and additional Sundays in the month will be a study. On 11 April we will begin the study on Adam Hamilton's *Making Sense of the Bible*. Please register for the Zoom details at <u>acparis.org</u>.

Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study: Sundays 17h30-19h via Zoom. This Bible study on the Gospel of John is hosted by Patti Lafage and Nathaniel Akujuobi, via Zoom. All are welcome. To register and receive the Zoom link, please sign up at 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.

Men's Morning Bible Study at ACP: Thursdays 7h30-8h30 via Zoom. Register at 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 <u>acparis.org</u>.

For more information on all the offerings for children, youth, adults, and mission and service opportunities, see <u>acparis.org</u>.

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 Director
Youth/Children Music Director
Executive Secretary
Wedding Coordinator

The Entire Congregation

The Rev. Odette Lockwood-Stewart

The Rev. Jodi Fondell

The Rev. Doug Fondell

Victor Greene (M.Div.)

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Jörg Kaldewey

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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 to find out how.

