



## Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace

If anyone is in Christ Jesus, that person is a new creation. The old has passed away, the new has come. Thanks be to God! Friends, hear and believe the good news.

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

## Gloria Patri

Welcome

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Blessing of the Children

Allison Wheeler

Musical Offering

How Great Thou Art  
David Wallace, *guitar*

*arr. David Wallace*

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

Prayer for Illumination

Jodi Fondell

The First Lesson – Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Max Valluy

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die."

Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Musical Offering

Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray  
John Bernard, *soloist* Laurana Michelmore, *piano*

*arr. H.T. Burleigh*

The Second Lesson – Matthew 21:33-42

Felicia Henderson

"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent



# The American Church in Paris re-gathered and also virtual

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 continue to follow government guidance 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.

Please continue to check our website for the latest news. We have been re-gathering for **Worship in the Sanctuary** on Sundays at 11h. Capacity is limited and seating is reserved because of Covid-19 protocols. To register, please visit [acparis.org/register](https://acparis.org/register). These services are different from those before the pandemic, but we hope are still honoring to God and inspiring to our congregation and our extended community. We will continue the **Virtual Worship** services on [acparis.org](https://acparis.org) for the foreseeable future.

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

**In need of prayer?** During this difficult season of social distancing, our attempts to reduce the spread of the coronavirus bring stressors, worries, and fears that we may be struggling to manage. 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 during your time of struggle please contact us at [prayerrequests@acparis.org](mailto:prayerrequests@acparis.org).

**Ushers Needed:** ACP is committed to moving forward with **Worship in the Sanctuary** services 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 worshipers in a safe and efficient manner. Training is available and the commitment is for about 2.5 hours on a Sunday. Please do prayerfully consider how you could help out as we continue to adjust to worshipping in new and different ways. Interested? Please email [connections@acparis.org](mailto:connections@acparis.org).

## Children's Ministries

**Kids' Monthly Bible Study 2020-21: Today** 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 [childrensworship@acparis.org](mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org) for more information, and/or register at [acparis.org](https://acparis.org).

**Threaded Together:** A Children's Ministry Initiative. When it feels like everything is unraveling, we trust in God to thread us together more tightly with Him and with one another. 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](https://acparis.org/threadedtogether) to participate in a family small group. For more information, contact [childrensworship@acparis.org](mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org).

**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. Though we are not able to rehearse in person (yet!), 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. Whether you have participated in ACP choirs for years, or are new to singing, you have a home here – come and join us! See [acparis.org/childrensmusic](https://acparis.org/childrensmusic) for registration and more details.

# 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

**Women's Monthly Bible Study: today** 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](https://acparis.org/women-sunday).

**Monthly Women's Fellowship:** 11 October 16h via Zoom. Kymberli Stewart will speak of her journey through challenges, and how the challenges helped lead her back to God. Visit [acparis.org](https://acparis.org) for details on how to join.

**Virtual Thurber Conversation:** 13 October 19h30 via Zoom. Join this timely discussion on "Lament and Hope" led by Dr. Soong-Chang Rah, the Milton B. Engebretson Professor of Church Growth and Evangelism at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL – USA. Contact Pastor Jodi at [associatepastor@acparis.org](mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org) to register or for more information.

**Alpha and Alpha Campus online:** An 11-week course, Thursdays 20h30-22h via Zoom. Whether you've got questions, you're new to Christianity, or you want to revitalize your faith, the Alpha Course is a safe place to ask questions and explore faith. Each session starts with a video talk, followed by small groups (in English and French). For more information and to register: [alpha@acparis.org](mailto:alpha@acparis.org). Who will YOU invite?

**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](https://acparis.org/men-thursday).

**Adult Handbell Choirs:** The adult handbell choir ministry program has begun rehearsals: Celebration Ringers on Mondays, and Bronze Ringers on Thursdays. Rehearsals are held in accordance with strict health protocols, including masks and social distancing. If you are interested in more information, please contact Fred Gramann at [music@acparis.org](mailto:music@acparis.org).

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

# 2020 Generosity through August



Goal represents congregational giving goal (not including AFCU) for full year. Visit [acparis.org/support-us](http://acparis.org/support-us) for information on how to give!

# Please Give!



**Electronic GIVING is easy and efficient for ACP!** = We now have several ways to give electronically – by bank transfer/virement or online bank card giving to the ACP or through the AFCU for those who want a US tax deduction. We still accept checks too! More is explained on the ACP website at “Support Us.”

**Bank transfer or virement in Euros** – You can set up a one-time or periodic automatic bank transfer from your European bank directly to the ACP bank account. This is one of the most seamless methods of giving as your donation goes directly to the ACP bank account with no processing fees or commissions. How? Easy – read the [Simplify Your Stewardship](#) document on ACP’s webpage. Once you have set up your virement, please send an email to [acctg@acparis.org](mailto:acctg@acparis.org), as we want to ensure we have your contact details on file to facilitate sending you an annual French tax receipt.

**By Bank Card in France** – Go to our website and click on the button – it’s easy! Have your card information ready.

**Giving through the AFCU** – It is easy for US taxpayers to send your financial support for the ACP through the AFCU. To make a payment for the ACP using PayPal or credit card, visit the [AFCU website via the link on the website here](#). Please be sure to specify that your gift is designated “for ACP” in the instructions field. This documentation is required to ensure that your donation is designated for the American Church in Paris as the AFCU supports other international churches.

## **ACP IS A FRENCH NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

Giving by cash, direct bank transfer, electronically or check may be eligible for tax deduction if you are a French tax resident. We invite you to ask us if you require more information: [acctg@acparis.org](mailto:acctg@acparis.org)

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10*

# Thank you!

# Ministers of the American Church in Paris

Ministers	<b>The Entire Congregation</b>	
Interim Senior Pastor	<b>The Rev. Odette Lockwood-Stewart</b>	<a href="mailto:seniorpastor@acparis.org">seniorpastor@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>Victor Greene (M.Div.)</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>
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>
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Wedding Coordinator	<b>Jörg Kaldewey</b>	<a href="mailto:weddings@acparis.org">weddings@acparis.org</a>

[www.acparis.org](http://www.acparis.org) [Twitter.com/AmChurchParis](https://twitter.com/AmChurchParis) [Facebook.com/AmericanChurchParis](https://facebook.com/AmericanChurchParis)

## 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.



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