



THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

14 November 2021, 11h00

Welcome to this service of worship

We are happy you are here! Although we are slowly removing restrictions put in place for Covid, we ask that you wear your mask while indoors. Creation Care is important to us, so at the end of the service, please take or recycle your bulletin.

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

We Gather

Prelude Variations on "Our Father in Heaven" *F. Mendelssohn*

Welcome, Greeting, and Announcements Paul Rock

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

 Call to Worship Don Lee

We've gathered together in the presence of God

to offer our praise and our prayers.

We come before God with confidence,

knowing that even when we can't find the words,

God's own Spirit is right here with us,

praying in us and for us, giving shape to our hopes and longings;

working all things together for good.

So let's come with joy to offer our worship

to God who knows and loves us all.

 Hymn No. 466 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing *tune: AZMON*

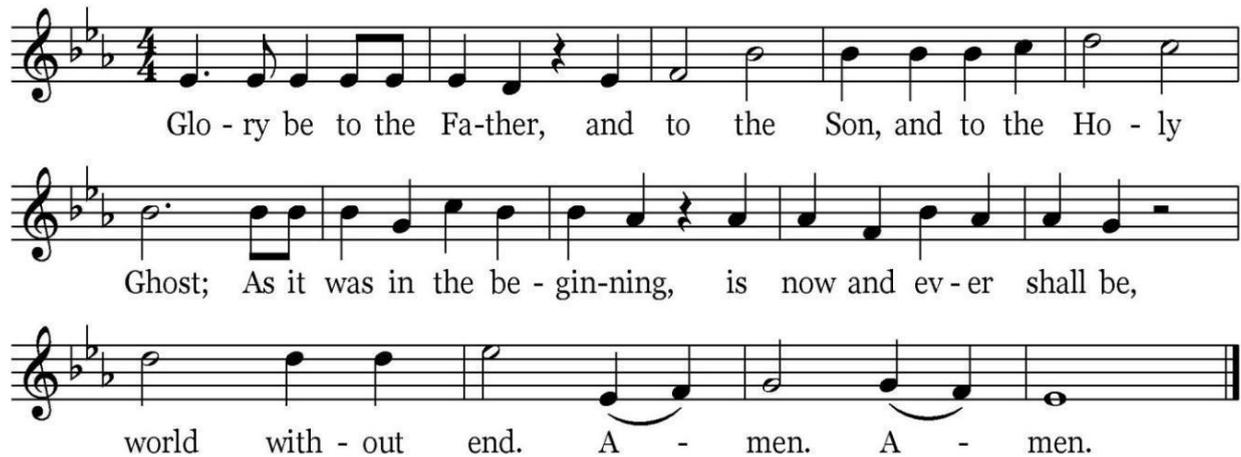
 Prayer of Common Confession

God, we confess that we often think that we know better than you do. We ask ourselves what is best for me, instead of what is best for the community. We set our sights on earthly ambitions and lose sight of the Great Commandment to love you and to love our neighbor. In a world with so many unknowns and new normals, it can feel overwhelming to think about submitting ourselves to your will over our own desires. Speak boldly to us, Almighty God, so that we may know what it is you would have us do. (time of silent prayer)

🌐 Words of Assurance

The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey. **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.

Music

Contemplation
The Celebration Ringers

Fred Gramann

Children's Blessing

Children may come forward for a pastoral blessing and then go to their worship space.

Allison Wheeler

🌐 Passing of the Peace

Generosity Campaign and Minute for Ministry: Finance, Stewardship,
and Development

Chris Kramme

O.T. Scripture Lesson

Psalm 150

Paul Kramme

(page 508 in the pew Bible)

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

Music

Grazioso
The ACP Bronze Ringers

Arnold Sherman

Sermon series: Renovating & Rebuilding the Post-Pandemic Church

Sermon

Can't Fight This Feeling

Elizabeth Murray

Acts 5:27-42 (page 889 in the pew Bibles)

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

Paul Rock

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

Call for Offering

Offertory Music

Amazing Grace

arr. *Fred Gramann*

Lisa Thenot and Fred Gramann, *handbell duet*

 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

Paul Rock

 Hymn 422 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending *tune: BEACH SPRING*

 Benediction

Elizabeth Murray

Congregational Amen



Postlude

The American Church in Paris

Welcome to worship – we are so glad that you are here! The **American Church in Paris** is a vibrant community, with many offerings in-person and online for worship, learning, spiritual formation, and Christian discipleship for youth, adults, and children alike. In addition to in-person worship in our sanctuary, ACP posts livestreamed worship at acparis.org. Please check our website for the latest news and opportunities to grow and connect every week. Our mission is “**to bear witness in word and deed to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.**”

A "Pass Sanitaire" is required to attend ACP services.

All congregants of more than 17 years of age will be required to present at least one of the following documents upon arrival:

1. Proof of completion of a full vaccination schedule at least 7 days old (or 4 weeks in the case of a single shot Johnson & Johnson vaccination).
2. A negative RT-PCR or antigenic test less than 72 hours old.
3. The result of a positive RT-PCR or antigenic test demonstrating recovery of Covid-19, at least 11 days old and less than 6 months old.

Proof will be accepted in the form of a paper certificate or digitally via the "TousAntiCovid" mobile phone application. Mask mandate protocols remain in place.

Announcements

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in gratitude by Diane Maas Ficarelli for the countless blessings during her 50 years at the American Church, as she leaves Paris for a new home in central France.

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.

Truth or Myth?? Generosity Campaign 2021-22:

ACP is Funded by the French government: truth or myth?

This is a myth. It would be great if the French government provided funds, but unlike many other churches in France, the ACP does not receive government support. In addition, the ACP is expected to pay property and other building-related taxes of approximately €50K per year. However, we are a nonprofit organization and not subject to taxes on revenues, and thus in years in which income exceeds expenses we can put such income back into our mission and ministries.

ACP is funded by AFCU: truth or myth?

This is part truth and part myth. The AFCU is the owner of the property, and it pays approximately €50K per year in property-related taxes plus the compensation package of the Senior Pastor. In addition, AFCU is a significant supporter of the ACP as AFCU members donate €40K-€60K toward the more than €1.2 million of annual expenses at ACP. AFCU members have also been very generous contributors to major capital projects such as the Audio Visual Ministry, the elevator and other capital campaigns. However, there are many costs that must be covered by the local congregation.

For more information about the 2021-22 Generosity Campaign and a donation matching opportunity, please visit acparis.org.

Atelier Concert Series: Tonight, 17h30 in our sanctuary: Enjoy “A Night at the Opera” featuring our own ACP talent. Free admission.

Community Thanksgiving Day Service: 25 November, 12h15 in the ACP Sanctuary with a coffee and cookie reception following.

Gather and Give Thanks: A Thanksgiving Dinner. 27 November, 17h30 in the Theater. Tickets are 25 euros for ages 13 and above, and 20 euros for children ages 5-12. Should you need assistance toward the cost of the ticket, please see Pastor Jodi. Tickets for limited seating can be purchased in the Theater after both services on Sundays 14 and 21 November, as seats remain available (cash or check only). Plan to join us for a time of thanks and good food!

November Thurber Conversation: 30 November at 19h30, in person in the Thurber Room or on Zoom. Join us for a conversation with Diana Butler Bass. Diana Butler Bass is an award-winning author, inspiring preacher, and passionate about where faith intersects with politics. Register online at acparis.org

Candlelight Christmas Concerts: 11 December at 17h and at 20h. Tickets go on sale today. Ticket order forms are available on our website and at the reception desk.

Our Evolving Sanctuary Project: The scaffolding has moved! This is a good sign, as it means the sound and light project is moving along. Hundreds of meters of wires have been run and new lights have been installed on one side of the sanctuary!

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.

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.

Children's Ministries

Kids' Monthly Bible Study: 21 November 12h15-13h15 in room G7. All children ages 7 and older are welcome! This year, we will be learning more about Jesus through studying the "I am" statements found in the Gospel of John. Please register your child at acparis.org.

Family Mission Sunday: 28 November at 12h15 in G7. Families with children of all ages are welcome to join us in making Christmas decorations! This festive work will go toward supporting the missions of our church. Contact Allison Wheeler at childrensworship@acparis.org with questions.

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 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. If you are an adult and are interested in joining our Children's Worship leadership team, contact Allison Wheeler at childrensworship@acparis.org.



Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Youth Ministry (collège, lycée): Youth meet weekly on Sundays, 12h30-13h45 in the Catacombs on the basement level of ACP. Follow our youth Instagram here to stay up-to-date: [@acpyouthsquad](https://www.instagram.com/acpyouthsquad). There will be a parent/adult meeting on 28 November 12h30. Contact youpastor@acparis.org for more information.

Young Adult Ministry (ages 18-30): Young Adults meet weekly on Tuesday nights, 19h30-21h30 in the Library. Follow our YA Instagram here to stay up-to-date: [@acp_ya](https://www.instagram.com/acp_ya). Contact youthpastor@acparis.org for more information.

Adult Ministries

Women's Fellowship: Today, 12h15-13h30 in the Thurber Room. Jemima Cardenas Meijers will speak on "Identity, Fellowship, and Praise," addressing life experiences and their effect; there is a choice to be made. All women are welcome to join. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring some snacks to share during the fellowship as you are able. No child care will be provided at this time due to staffing and resource constraints.

St. Paul: The Bridge Builder, Wednesday Evening Adult Learning at ACP: Weekly through 15 December 19h30-21h via Zoom. Join us each Wednesday evening as we explore the mission and vision of the Apostle Paul as revealed in his letters to the churches in Asia Minor. Register at acparis.org/signups.

Movie Discussion Group: 18 November 19h30, room G2 at ACP and on Zoom. Films to choose from on Netflix: *The Guilty* (2021, with Jake Gyllenhaal), *Searching*, *Passing* (from 10 November); and, in cinemas: *Julie (en 12 chapitres)*, *First Cow*, and *Pig*. For more info. and Zoom invitation contact movies@acparis.org.

Women's Monthly Bible Study: 21 November 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.

AA at American Church in Paris: discussion with Rev. Tana: 28 November, 12h30 in the Library (2nd floor). Rev. Tana McDonald will briefly share her experience growing up in an alcoholic family and her own struggle with addiction as a young adult. She will touch on her volunteer work in California the last two years at a Behavior Modification Hospital with parolee young mothers with addiction history. The talk will close with experiences in Paris and at the American Church working with those who struggle with addiction here. There will be time for Q&A.

African Fellowship: The first Sunday of each month is the Fellowship in the Thurber Room, and other Sundays in the month will be Bible study from 16h-17h via Zoom. Please register for the Zoom details at acparis.org.

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

Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study: Today, 14 November, this study group will meet in person! Gather in the library at 15h to finish up the study on Acts. A new study will resume in January. Information on that study will be forthcoming.

Men's Morning Bible Study at ACP: Thursdays 7h30-8h30. Information at 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. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity for sharing. Register at acparis.org for the Zoom link.

Recycling reminder: The garbage bins with yellow lids are for recycling paper, cans, and plastics. Please think about recycling your bulletin on the way out today!

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.

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

Ministers of the American Church in Paris

Ministers	The Entire Congregation	
Senior Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Paul Rock	paulrock@acparis.org
Interim Associate Pastor	The Rev. Jodi Fondell	associatepastor@acparis.org
Interim Associate Pastor	The Rev. Doug Fondell	ap2@acparis.org
Youth & Young Adult Pastor	The Rev. Elizabeth Murray	youthpastor@acparis.org
Children's Ministry Director	The Rev. Allison Wheeler	childrensworship@acparis.org
Visiting Pastor	The Rev. Don Lee	visitingpastor@acparis.org
Director of Music	Fred Gramann	music@acparis.org
Contemporary Music Dir.	Natalie Raynal	cmusic@acparis.org
Youth/Children Music Dir.	Sara Barton	ymusic@acparis.org
Pastoral Intern	Kate Snipes	pastorintern@acparis.org
Executive Secretary	Heather Walter	secretary@acparis.org
Wedding Coordinator	Jörg Kaldewey	weddings@acparis.org

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 (QR code below), email acctg@acparis.org, or visit 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



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American Church in Paris

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