



THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

22 Jan 2023, 11h00

Welcome, we are so happy you are here!

ACP is a Christian community of all socio-economic backgrounds, ethnicities, races, nationalities, gender identities, and sexual orientations.


Creation Care is important to us, so please take or recycle your bulletin after the service.

Corporate words are in **bold**. You are invited to rise when you see this symbol 

We Gather

Prelude Trio Sonata N. 4, 3rd mvmt *J.S. Bach*
Edmond Reuze, organ

Welcome, Greeting Don Lee
The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

 Call to Worship (From Psalm 150) Elizabeth Murray
Praise the LORD!
Praise God in the sanctuary!
Praise God for the mighty firmament!
Praise God for mighty deeds!
Praise God for surpassing greatness!
Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!

 Hymn I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry *John Ylvisaker*
1985

*I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
To find where demons dwell.*

*When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.*

*If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make you verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.*

*In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young.
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.*

*When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.*

*I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old,
I rejoice the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.*

 Prayer of Confession

Elizabeth Murray

God of water and Spirit, we have so often forgotten that we are yours. At times we have been weak; at times, afraid; at times, simply uncaring. You have blessed us with your grace and we have responded with our unwillingness to share that grace. Yet, you keep loving, keep calling. Help us, O Lover of All, to dedicate our lives to you each and every day, that we might be your people of light in our darkened world.

 Words of Assurance

Christ has given himself for us. The grace of our Lord never ends. As we embrace this, we are forgiven and freed to live and love. **Amen.**

 Gloria Patri, No. 579

Sacrament of Baptism Allison Wheeler, Dan Michalek, Don Lee
*Children are invited to come to the front to watch the baptisms, then go to their
worship spaces during the passing of the peace.*

*Alexandre Aaron Lee, son of Daren Lee and Lisa El Abed
Adriel Shawn Wikrama Pathiranage, son of Harshani Sewwandi Dabare
Liyanage and Amith Ashantha Wikrama Pathiranage
Owen Ting, son of Michael Ting and H el ene Fohrer-Ting*

 Passing of the Peace

Anthem How Can I Keep from Singing? *Ellingboe*

Sermon Series: Back to the Basics—(Re)Introducing Christianity

Sermon I AM BAPTIZED! Don Lee
Mark 1:9-11; page 812 in the pew Bibles

Reaffirmation of Baptism

We are the people of God, born of water and the Spirit.

**We remember the creative force of God’s breath, moving over
the waters of chaos to bring life and light.**

We remember God’s mercy in saving a remnant through the great flood
to give us a new beginning.

**We remember God’s faithfulness to deliver Israel — and us —
from slavery into freedom.**

We remember Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan. Through his life he became
living water for us.

**We remember the water of Christ’s pierced side, for through
his death and resurrection we know that nothing can defeat
God’s love.**

We remember God’s grace extended toward each of us through the water
of our own baptisms.

**Through the water and the Spirit we are redeemed and reborn
to live as Christ’s disciples in the world. Amen.**

Hymn Chorus I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry *John Ylvisaker*
*I was there to hear your borne cry,
I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.*

We Respond and Are Sent into the World

Prayers of the People

Dan Michalek

The Lord's Prayer (*in your mother tongue*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Call for Offering and Commitments

Offertory Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters *Duck/White*
Lisa Allen-McLaurin

Congregants are invited to join in singing on the final verse.

***Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
Water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer,
Recreate us, God transform!***

 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

Dan Michalek

 Hymn No. 538, verses 1 & 2 Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

 Benediction

Don Lee

 Congregational Amen, No. 586

Postlude

Cantabile
Edmond Reuze, *organ*

Camille Saint-Saëns

Announcements

Join us for worship over the next few weeks as we get “**Back to the Basics**” and (re)introduce Christianity.

In need of prayer? If you are in need of prayer, a lay caregiver is available in the chapel (to the right of the sanctuary) to pray with you. If you have a prayer you'd like us to uphold for you, you may contact us at acparis.org/prayers.

Docent tour of the sanctuary: Today after the 11h service, meet at the front of the sanctuary. Discover ACP's sanctuary secrets.

Women's Monthly Sunday Bible Study: Today at 12h30-13h30 in room F2 (1st floor). Praying Scripture is a study on verses and Biblical truths to help direct our paths and continue our walks in Christ. All women are welcome! Contact Teri Lee Valluy at sundaywomensbible@acparis.org to register and for more information.

Beta: Six Weeks of Exploration Toward a Deepening Faith: Wednesdays 19h30-21h, beginning this week (25 January). Beta offers you the opportunity to look deeper at the Christian faith using the four cornerstones of theological thinking - scripture, tradition, reason, and experience. In-person attendance is strongly recommended, but a Zoom option is available. Register at acparis.org/signups.

Membership Inquiry Class: 29 January 12h30 in the Library on the 2nd floor. Interested in learning more about ACP: who we are and what we believe? Please join our membership inquiry class. Register at acparis.org/signups today!

ACP Town Hall 2023: 29 January 16h30 via Zoom. ACP members and congregants are invited to join Council Moderator Mark Primmer, Senior Pastor Paul Rock, and all Council Members for a town hall on key topics being addressed by your Council. Participants will be invited to share their thoughts and suggestions in an open format. Register at acparis.org/signups. We look forward to seeing you there.

Calling all singers! Adult Choir Open House: 4 February 9h30-14h in the Thurber Room. Current adult choir members and all who are curious will share a morning of music, food, and fellowship as we welcome our new visiting artist and scholar, the Rev. Dr. Lisa Allen-McLaurin. If you are interested in singing in ACP's adult choir, join us as Dr. Allen McLaurin introduces us to the Gospel Mass of Robert Ray, which she will direct at ACP this Lent. Register at acparis.org/signups.

100 NOW volunteers and items wanted: 100 Nights of Welcome (aka 100NOW) is an ACP mission that provides winter shelter, showers, laundry, and dinner to under-housed refugees in Paris from 1 January to 15 March. We need supplies every week! Please bring bags of hotel shampoos, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, individual bags of madeleines, nuts, fruit, tea bags, instant coffee, and new socks to the 100NOW table on Sundays and the reception desk at ACP (weekdays). More importantly, we need overnight volunteers – two per night, of which at least one is male – to ensure the safety and well-being of our guests during the night. It really does take a community to run a shelter. You can sign up at acparis.org/100NOW-volunteers. If you are curious or interested in joining the team of volunteers, contact Daniel Tostado (danieltostado1@gmail.com) to learn more.

We are very thankful for over 32k€ in donations using the electronic basket during 2022. For French taxpayers, those donations represent a potential total of over 21k€ in tax credits. If you give to the ACP by contactless bank card on the electronic baskets, please note that the baskets do not identify donors. If you would like to have your electronic basket giving count toward your French tax receipt (offsetting 66% or more of your donations), please provide us with additional information for each card you have used in 2022 by 15 February at acparis.org/ebasket. ACP takes data privacy very seriously and does not retain complete donor bank card numbers.

In Memoriam

Alba Powell, wife of former visiting pastor Rev. Jeff Powell, passed away on 3 January. Jeff writes: She got her wish to celebrate the new year with all our 3 children and 4 grandchildren before going on Hospice care and staying at home in her own bed. She was the love of my life, my partner in ministry and my world traveling companion. I miss her greatly. Alba was Christ-centered, joyful, caring, generous and creative. She called out the best in me and challenged me to renew my commitment to share the gospel of Jesus Christ wherever I go. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Our family appreciates your prayers. We are planning a memorial service for her on 25 February.

Nancy Ann Schendel Morgan, wife of former visiting pastor Rev. Bruce Morgan, passed away on 7 January. Bruce writes: Giving thanks for a life of talent, achievement, love, beauty, adventure, grace, and joy. Celebrating 60 years of marriage, two beautiful children, three wonderful grandchildren, and friends too numerous to count. Thanking God for a faith that sustained her in life and in death

Volunteer Needs

Nursery Volunteers: We need many new volunteers to welcome children into our nursery and toddler rooms at both the 11h and 14h services! If you would like to serve, contact Kelsey Poe at nursery@acparis.org.

Ushers and Greeters needed: It takes a team of volunteers to welcome our Sunday congregants with love, and to help them feel connected and ready to worship together. Agnès and Julien, Chairs of the Worship and Music Committee, welcome all who would like to join this precious group of leaders. Join the team at acparis.org/welcome&usher or contact worshipandmusic@acparis.org.

Audio Visual Ministry: If you'd like to be a part of our worship tech and A/V team for both Sunday services, we welcome your help. Contact: cmusic@acparis.org.

Children's Ministries

Nursery and Toddler Room: Please register your child's attendance in advance for each Sunday at acparis.org/signups.

Children's Worship: Children's Worship is held during the 11h and 14h services. For safety reasons, all children must be signed up in our system to be a member of Children's Worship and to be kept informed of activities. Please sign up here: acparis.org/cw-registration or by using the QR code: Also, please register your child's attendance in advance for each Sunday at acparis.org/signups.

Interested in joining our Children's Ministry team? Contact Allison childrensworship@acparis.org if you are an adult and want to know more.

Youth Music: Wednesday rehearsals except during school holidays; sing in church once a month. All children and youth are welcome! No sign-up is necessary; please come to our rehearsals and give it a try. 13h30-14h Angel Choir (ages 3-6); 14h-14h45 Spirit Choir (ages 7-18); 14h45-15h15 Choirchimes (ages 7-18); 15h15-15h45 Ethereal ensemble (audition-based, ages 10-18). Get in touch with Sara Barton at [ymusic@acparis.org](mailto:y music@acparis.org) with any questions.

Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Youth Ministry (collège, lycée): We meet Sundays 12h30-13h45 in the ACP Catacombs (-1 level). Light lunch is provided each week. If you have a child in collège or lycée and you do not receive regular email contact or you are new to the community, please email Elizabeth at the address below to get on the weekly email list. Follow us on Instagram here: [@acpyouth](https://www.instagram.com/acpyouth). Contact youthpastor@acparis.org for more information.

Young Adult Ministry (ages 18-30): We meet Tuesdays 19h30 in the ACP Catacombs (-1 level). Food is provided. Everyone is welcome. Come as you are! Contact youthpastor@acparis.org for more information. Follow our YA Group on Instagram for the calendar and latest updates: [@acp_ya](https://www.instagram.com/acp_ya) or Facebook: [ACP Young Adults](https://www.facebook.com/ACPYoungAdults).

More Adult Ministries

Prayer Bead Workshop: 19 February 12h15 in the Library (2nd floor). Join us to learn about this Lenten spiritual practice and use ecumenical prayer beads to enhance your prayer life. Registration at [acparis.org/signups](https://www.acparis.org/signups), and prayer beads will be available for the first 39 people who register.

Women's Fellowship Annual Retreat: 4 March 10h-16h in the Thurber Room. "Unveiled" with Sharon Garlough Brown. Are you longing to experience more intimacy with God and others, but not sure how? Sharon addresses common struggles and offers practices that help us live more authentic lives. 15€ per person. Register at [acparis.org/womensretreat](https://www.acparis.org/womensretreat).

African Fellowship: Fellowship first Sunday of the month 13h-15h in the Thurber Room. Zoom every other Sunday of the month 16h-17h. Register at [acparis.org/groups](https://www.acparis.org/groups).

Sunday Adult Bible Study: Sundays 15h30-17h at ACP and on Zoom. This Study on the book of Matthew meets weekly. Join the Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study Group at [acparis.org/groups](https://www.acparis.org/groups) to get connected and receive the Zoom details.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study meets online Tuesdays 10h-12h. Please register at [acparis.org/groups](https://www.acparis.org/groups).

Men's Bible Study at ACP: Thursday mornings 7h30-8h30. Information at [acparis.org/men-thursday](https://www.acparis.org/men-thursday). Meeting in person at church and on Zoom.

Silent Prayer Thursdays at ACP: Thursdays 18h-19h via Zoom. Join us for prayer in silence. We 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. Register at acparis.org/groups.

Sandwich Ministry: Come join us on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 17h-18h30 to help make sandwiches to help feed over 100 homeless persons a week. For more information, contact Stacy at reception@acparis.org.

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

Contact us:

Senior Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Paul Rock	paulrock@acparis.org
Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults	The Rev. Elizabeth Murray	youthpastor@acparis.org
Children's Ministry Director	The Rev. Allison Wheeler	childrensworship@acparis.org
Associate Pastor in Residence	The Rev Don Lee	associatepastor@acparis.org
Visiting Pastor	The Rev. Dan Michalek	visitingpastor@acparis.org
Contemporary Music Dir.	Natalie McConnell	cmusic@acparis.org
Youth/Children Music Dir.	Sara Barton	ymusic@acparis.org
Music Scholar in Residence	The Rev. Dr. Lisa Allen-McLaurin	vocal-choirs@acparis.org
Music inquiries	Please email...	general-music@acparis.org
Executive Secretary	Heather Walter	secretary@acparis.org
Director of Operations	Jörg Kaldewey	admin@acparis.org
Communications Coordinator	John Newman	connections@acparis.org

www.acparis.org [Facebook.com/AmericanChurchParis](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanChurchParis)



COME TOGETHER

ACP GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN 2023

Please pray about your financial commitment to ACP for 2023. Thank you for doing your part to support this community of love. To submit your financial commitment for 2023 as we finalize our ministry budget, go to acparis.org/estimatedgiving2023 or use the QR code here. And thank you for continuing your regular giving for this year's ministries at acparis.org/donate. Thank you so much!

