



Prayer of Confession

Doug Fondell

**Jesus, we confess our failure to listen to you because of the distractions of the gods of this world. When this happens our attitudes conceal rather than reveal your glory and your love. We confess that we conceal your glory when we fail to serve people in need. We confess that we conceal your glory when we skirt the truth to make ourselves look better. We confess that we conceal your glory when we pursue power instead of defending the powerless. We confess that we conceal your glory when we refuse to pursue compassion and justice and instead choose selfish gain. Lord Jesus, cleanse our lives of all shameful attitudes of mind and heart so that we reveal your glory in and through all we do and say and are. This we pray in your name and in the power of the Holy Spirit. (a moment for silent confession)**

This we pray in the name and spirit of Jesus. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Brothers and Sisters, hear and believe the Gospel. For in God, all things are possible.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and freed for new life! Amen.**

Gloria Patri

Children's Blessing

Allison Wheeler

Music

I Love The Lord  
Alexia Rabé, *piano, vocals* Josiah Woodson, *production*

Richard Smallwood

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

Victor Greene

The First Lesson – Psalm 50:1-6

Alexis Akujuobi

The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him. He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people: "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!" The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

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

Music

O Love That Casts Out Fear  
Jennifer Young, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

H. Alexander Matthews

The Second Lesson – Mark 9:2-9

Elizabeth Eposi

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"

Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

Sermon

The Path to Glory

Jodi Fondell

Music	Beloved	<i>Devon Graves</i>
	Devon Graves, <i>vocals</i> Natalie Raynal, <i>vocals</i> John Arndt, <i>piano, production</i>	
Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (in your mother tongue) Invitation to offering		Odette Lockwood-Stewart
Offertory Music	Be Thou My Vision Jennifer Young, <i>soloist</i> Fred Gramann, <i>piano</i>	<i>Bob Chilcott</i>
Prayer of Dedication		Victor Greene
Hymn	O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair	<i>tune: MARYTON</i>
Benediction		Jodi Fondell
Congregational Amen		

## 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 follow government guidelines to carefully re-open church buildings for worship schools, and community groups in a way that is safe, sustainable, and fair for all. We continue to **Worship Online** at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org). 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

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

**What Are You Giving Up For Lent?** Have you thought about it? Lent begins this Wednesday! Need an idea? How about your eyeglasses? No, not the ones you currently wear. I'm talking about those old pairs gathering dust in a drawer. All kinds are welcome: prescription, non-prescription, sunglasses and reading glasses. Bring them to church any time during Lent and put them in the special box in the narthex or leave them at the reception desk. Thanks to the *Fondation La Cause*, they will be given to folks in Africa who cannot easily afford glasses. *La Cause* is a French Protestant organization that ACP has been supporting since 1997. So please, bring in those no longer used eyeglasses. Contact Fred Gramann for more information at [music@acparis.org](mailto:music@acparis.org).

**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](mailto:communications@acparis.org).

## ACP Weekly

**Sunday Worship:** We continue to Worship in the Sanctuary at 11h and 14h. Registration in advance each Sunday is obligatory; register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org). We also Worship Online with weekly postings starting from 9h at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

## **Sundays from 10h55 via Zoom – Worship/Coffee Fellowship Online**

At 11h00, we will Worship Online together via shared screen. Once the service has ended (about 12h), we will break into 30-minute coffee fellowship groups. 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](https://acparis.org/worship-fellowship).

**Wednesdays from 6h at [acparis.org](https://acparis.org) – Sanctuary Sessions** Join *Natalie Raynal and ACP Contemporary Worship Musicians* for acoustic sessions online.

## **Lent**

**Ash Wednesday: 17 February.** We will Worship Online from 12h at [acparis.org](https://acparis.org).

**Morning Prayer at ACP via Zoom – A Lenten Journey:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays 8h-8h30 on Zoom (beginning Wednesday 17 February). Start your day with prayer, meditative scripture readings and silence in the tradition of the Anglican Morning Prayer. The prayer will be led by ACP staff member, Jörg Kaldewey. Register at [acparis.org](https://acparis.org) for Zoom link.

**Silent Prayer Thursdays at ACP:** Thursdays 19h-20h via Zoom (beginning Thursday 18 February). 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 [acparis.org](https://acparis.org) for 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](https://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**

### **Two Tuesdays in February:**

- 16 February 19h30 via Zoom. Kathleen Dameron, multicultural trainer and coach, will speak on "From Racial Literacy to Racial Healing." Register at [acparis.org](https://acparis.org).
- 23 February 19h30 via Zoom. Lola Akinmade Åkerström, author and photographer, will speak on "The Power of Asking Why Not: Unlocking Unconscious Bias in the Church." Register at [acparis.org](https://acparis.org).

**Movie discussion group:** 18 February 19h30 via Zoom. To see in advance (on Netflix): *The Fundamentals of Caring*, *Malcolm & Marie*, *The Dig*, and *The White Tiger (Le Tigre blanc)*. Contact [movies@acparis.org](mailto:movies@acparis.org) for further information and Zoom invitation.

**Alpha Online:** Starting 22 February 20h30-22h via Zoom, in English and French. In this season, when many of us are struggling to understand what is going on in the world, feeling isolated and facing challenges, the Alpha Course provides a safe space to ask life's biggest questions and explore the Christian faith. If you've never tried Alpha or you know someone who has questions about life and faith, join us on a Monday night as we explore together. Contact [alpha@acparis.org](mailto:alpha@acparis.org) to receive the connection link.

**ACP Women's Fellowship:** 28 February 16h on Zoom. Anna Dai will speak about her personal and faith journey from China to Paris and the American Church in Paris. Please register for the Zoom details at [acparis.org](https://acparis.org).

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

**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](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).

**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).**

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## Ministers of the American Church in Paris

Ministers	The Entire Congregation	
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 Director	<b>Natalie Raynal</b>	<a href="mailto:cmusic@acparis.org">cmusic@acparis.org</a>
Youth/Children Music Director	<b>Sara Barton</b>	<a href="mailto:ymusic@acparis.org">ymusic@acparis.org</a>
Executive Secretary	<b>Heather Walter</b>	<a href="mailto:secretary@acparis.org">secretary@acparis.org</a>
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 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](http://acparis.org) to find out how.



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