



THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

18 April 2021

Welcome to this service of Worship Online

Gathering Music

My Song is Love Unknown
Fred Gramann, *organ*

R. Vaughan Williams

Greeting and Welcome

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

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

And also with you.

Introit

O Salutaris Hostia

Charles Gounod

O saving Victim, opening wide for us the gate of heaven; Our foes press hard on every side;
Thine aid supply; thy strength bestow. (*St. Thomas Aquinas*)

Jennifer Young, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

Call to Worship

Doug Fondell

We gather with joy in new life this Easter.

The risen Christ is with us.

God's love breaks all barriers and gives us a future with hope.

Christ has defeated death. Let us rejoice and be glad!

Come and worship with hearts full of praise.

Spirit of the Living God, receive our grateful Alleluias!

Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

tune: HYFRYDOL

Prayer of Common Confession

Doug Fondell

Almighty and ever merciful God, in his resurrection, Jesus promised to be with us always. Yet we confess we are sometimes uncertain about your power and your presence, unsure if we can trust the promise of resurrection for our lives and for our world. Forgive us when we struggle to trust your goodness. Forgive us when we miss the signs of your love in our midst. Forgive us when we do harm to others. Forgive us when we do harm to ourselves. Forgive us. Heal us. Free us, O God. In the precious name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Words of Assurance

Scripture tells us that there is a time for every matter under heaven.

Now is the time to rejoice in God's mercy. Now is the time to abide in God's love.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and freed to new life.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and freed to new life.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Gloria Patri

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

Allison Wheeler

Music

Keep the Hope

George Makhshigian

George Makhshigian, *vocals* John Arndt, *piano* Josiah Woodson, *flute*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

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

Music Alleluia *Franz Schubert*
Frédéric Goncalves, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

The Second Lesson – I John 4:17-21

Rose Marie Burke

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

Sermon By This We Know Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Music Can I? *Josiah Woodson*
Kym Stewart, *vocals* Josiah Woodson, *piano*

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (in your mother tongue) Jodi Fondell

Invitation to offering

Offertory Music Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini *Camille Saint-Saëns*
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Jennifer Young and Frédéric Goncalves, *duet* Fred Gramann, *organ*

Prayer of Dedication Doug Fondell

Hymn Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me *tune: ST. CATHERINE*

Benediction Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Closing Response Lord, Now Let Thy Servant Depart in Peace *Fred Gramann*
Jennifer Young, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *piano*

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 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

The altar flowers today are given in loving memory of Dominique M. Ghezo, by Solomon and Loveline Sholesi and family.

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.

Zoom Membership Orientation Meeting: 6 May 19h30-21h on Zoom. All who are interested in becoming a member at ACP are invited to sign up for this casual and interactive Zoom meeting. You'll learn about the history, the vision, beliefs, values, and governance of ACP, and you'll get to know your pastors and some of the members of our lay care ministry team. Together we'll explore opportunities for involvement that will enable you to serve, connect, and grow at ACP. Register at 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.

ACP Weekly

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

Sundays 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 acparis.org – 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 acparis.org for the Zoom link.

Children's Ministries

ACP Children's Music Ministry program 2021: 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: Mary's Playlist: Listen. Chat. Pray. Repeat. Featuring selected songs from the Rolling Stone's top 500 songs of all time playlist, YAYA gatherings will use the art / artists as interlocutors to help exegete the ways Mary's song (Luke 1:46-55) is imprinted on the Resurrected body of Jesus and on the world that is, the world we hope to be, and the world we hope to come Join us! May 2021. Online – and maybe, in person should COVID protocols change. For more information contact Pastor Victor Greene at youthpastor@acparis.org.

Adult Ministries

The Power of Scripture for Today: 21 April 19h30-21h on Zoom. Join a special Zoom conversation with Pastors Odette, Jodi, and Doug as a follow-up to Adam Hamilton's Thurber Lecture on 15 April. For more information and to register, visit acparis.org.

Wednesday Evening Adult Learning at ACP: 5 May – 23 June 19h30-21h00 via Zoom. Join us as we embark on a new learning journey focused on John's Letter of hope to the Seven Churches of Revelation. For more information and to register for the Zoom link, please visit acparis.org.

African Fellowship Online: Sundays 16h-17h via Zoom. The first Sunday of each month is the fellowship, and additional Sundays in the month will be a study. We are currently studying Adam Hamilton's *Making Sense of the Bible*. Please register for the Zoom details at 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.

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 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	
Interim Senior Pastor	The Rev. Odette Lockwood-Stewart	seniorpastor@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	Victor Greene (M.Div.)	youthpastor@acparis.org
Children's Ministry Director	The Rev. Allison Wheeler	childrensworship@acparis.org
Director of Music	Fred Gramann	music@acparis.org
Contemporary Music Director	Natalie Raynal	cmusic@acparis.org
Youth/Children Music Director	Sara Barton	ymusic@acparis.org
Executive Secretary	Heather Walter	secretary@acparis.org
Wedding Coordinator	Jörg Kaldewey	weddings@acparis.org

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 to find out how.



The American Church in Paris

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