



# THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

7 February 2021

### WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE OF WORSHIP ONLINE

Announcements

When Morning Guilds the Skies

Gathering Music

Prelude and Fugue in F Major  
Fred Gramann, *organ*

*J.S. Bach*

Welcome

Odette Lockwood-Stewart

Greeting and Call to Worship

Loving God, open our hearts

**so that we may feel the breath of your Holy Spirit.**

Unclench our hands

**so that we may reach out to one another in compassion and be healed.**

Open our lips

**that we may glorify you and praise your holy name.**

Open our ears

**to hear the music of creation.**

Open our eyes

**so that we may see Christ in friend and stranger.**

Breathe your Spirit into us

**that we may worship you all the days of our lives.**

Hymn

O God of Life, Your Healing Touch

*tune: ST. COLUMBA*

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Prayer of Confession

Jodi Fondell

We honor God by our honest confession. Let us pray.

**Gracious God, whose love surrounds us even when we are unaware of it, we confess that we have not claimed the power of your presence. We have let fears control us, and let resentments diminish our willingness to live the abundant lives you have promised. Forgive our limitations, transform our resentments, and fill us once again with the assurance that we are your beloved children.**

(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

Jesus Loves Me

*Anna B. Warner, William B. Bradbury*

George Mahkshigian, *guitar, vocals* Marta Hobbs, *production*

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

Doug Fondell

The First Lesson – Mark 1:34-38

Sharon Martin

And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.”

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

Music

Contemplation on Psalm 73  
The ACP Bronze Ringers

*Fred Gramann*

The Second Lesson – Micah 4:1-5

William Cuozzi

In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills. Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

For all the peoples walk, each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.

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

Sermon

Reaching for Better

Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan

Music

See the Love  
George Makhshigian, *guitar, vocals* Natalie Raynal, *vocals*

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (in your mother tongue)  
Invitation to offering

Victor Greene

Offertory Music

Notre Père (The Lord’s Prayer)  
Frédéric Goncalves, *soloist* Fred Gramann, *organ*

*Maurice Duruflé*

Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Doug Fondell, Odette Lockwood-Stewart

The Invitation - Prayer of Consecration  
Sharing of the Bread and the Cup  
Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Gracious and merciful God, together we receive your living Word, the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Our hands were empty, and you filled them. Thank you for the gift of new life. Now, O Lord, help us love you with all our minds, hearts, soul, and strength. Free us to give all that we are and all that we shall become to glorify you. We are nourished and strengthened for our journey as disciples of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

*tune:* LET US BREAK BREAD

Benediction

Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan

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

**We welcome the Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan to the pulpit today.** Dr. Kuan is the 7th President and Professor of Hebrew Bible at Claremont School of Theology. He earned his Ph.D. in Old Testament studies at Emory University. Dr. Kuan's research and teaching interests include ancient Israelite and Near Eastern history, Asian and Asian American hermeneutics, the Book of Job, as well as approaches to biblical instruction for the churches. As a theological educator, Rev. Kuan is a strong proponent of religious pluralism and passionately committed to justice issues in the global and local contexts.

**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).

**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 will continue with Worship in the Sanctuary at 11h and 14h. Registration in advance each Sunday is obligatory; register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org). 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](http://acparis.org/worship-fellowship).

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

## Children's Ministries

**Kids' Monthly Bible Study 2020-21:** Today at 12h45 via Zoom. This online 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](http://acparis.org).

**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](http://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

**Women's Monthly Bible Study:** Today at 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](http://acparis.org/women-sunday).

**Tuesday Conversations:** 16 February 19h30 via Zoom. Kathleen Dameron will speak on "From Racial Literacy to Racial Healing." Register at [acparis.org](http://acparis.org).

**Tuesday Conversations:** 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](http://acparis.org).

**Wednesday Evening Adult Learning at ACP:** 19h30-21h via Zoom. This is the final session of the 6-week study on The Sermon on the Mount: Living as Kingdom People. Register 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).

**African Fellowship Online:** Sundays 16h-17h via Zoom. Please register for the Zoom details 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).**

# 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 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.



The American Church in Paris  
[www.acparis.org](http://www.acparis.org)

## WELCOME to ACP

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[acparis.org/welcome](http://acparis.org/welcome)



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