

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

January 24, 2021
www.AstoriaChurch.org

REFLECTION

“In the midst of the dark and habitual chaos of earth, a light penetrates the darkness. It cannot be extinguished; it is the light of the Kingdom of God.”

– Charles Colson

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 62:5-12

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

People: **He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

Leader: On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

People: **Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.**

Leader: Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath. Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

All: **Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For your repay to all according to their work.**

SONG OF PRAISE “Jesus shall reign”

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown his head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
The pris'ner leaps to loose his chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;

Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen! **DUKE STREET; Watts**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION Revelation 3:19-20

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Malachi 3:17, 4:1-2

“They will be mine,” says the Lord Almighty, “in the day when I make up my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him.... Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire,” says the Lord Almighty. “Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings.”

SONG OF RESPONSE “Build your kingdom here”

Come set your rule, and reign in our hearts again.
Increase in us, we pray. Unveil why we're made.
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope,
Like wildfire in our very souls;
Holy Spirit, come, invade us now.
We are your church; we need your pow'r in us.

We seek your kingdom first. We hunger and we thirst;
Refuse to waste our lives, for you're our joy and prize.
To see the captives' hearts released;
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace.
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause.
We are your church; we pray, revive this earth.
*Build your kingdom here. Let the darkness fear.
Show your mighty hand. Heal our streets and land.*

*Set your church on fire. Win this nation back.
Change the atmosphere.
Build your kingdom here, we pray!*

Unleash your kingdom's pow'r,
Reaching the near and far.
No force of hell can stop your beauty changing hearts.
You made us for much more than this;
Awake the kingdom seed in us.
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ.
We are your church; we are the hope on earth.

Gilkeson, Llewellyn, and Herron

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth....When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Mark 1:14-20

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him. When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING I Corinthians 7:29-31

What I mean, brothers and sisters, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they do not; those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who

buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE "River"

When the strong winds blow and the waters rise
When the mountains crumble at our feet
As the earth gives way, we shall not fear
For the help of the Lord is near

*His promises shall never be unmade
Though we wait we do not wait in vain
There is a river whose streams flow down
There is a city that will stay
God will help her at the break of day*

Though nations war, though kingdoms fall
If He lifts his voice the whole world would melt
He will break their guns, he will stop our bombs
He will bring peace and send the soldiers home

Peter LaGrande

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING Habakkuk 2:6-20 NIV

⁶ "Will not all of them taunt him with ridicule and scorn, saying,

"Woe to him who piles up stolen goods
and makes himself wealthy by extortion!
How long must this go on?"

⁷ Will not your creditors suddenly arise?
Will they not wake up and make you tremble?
Then you will become their prey.

⁸ Because you have plundered many nations,
the peoples who are left will plunder you.

For you have shed human blood;
you have destroyed lands and cities and everyone in them.

⁹ "Woe to him who builds his house by unjust gain,
setting his nest on high
to escape the clutches of ruin!

¹⁰ You have plotted the ruin of many peoples,
shaming your own house and forfeiting your life.

¹¹ The stones of the wall will cry out,
and the beams of the woodwork will echo it.

¹² "Woe to him who builds a city with bloodshed
and establishes a town by injustice!

¹³ Has not the LORD Almighty determined
that the people's labor is only fuel for the fire,
that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing?"

¹⁴ For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁵ “Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbors,
pouring it from the wineskin till they are drunk,
so that he can gaze on their naked bodies!

¹⁶ You will be filled with shame instead of glory.
Now it is your turn! Drink and let your nakedness
be exposed!

The cup from the LORD’s right hand is coming around
to you, and disgrace will cover your glory.

¹⁷ The violence you have done to Lebanon will
overwhelm you,
and your destruction of animals will terrify you.
For you have shed human blood;
you have destroyed lands and cities and everyone in
them.

¹⁸ “Of what value is an idol carved by a craftsman?
Or an image that teaches lies?

For the one who makes it trusts in his own creation;
he makes idols that cannot speak.

¹⁹ Woe to him who says to wood, ‘Come to life!’
Or to lifeless stone, ‘Wake up!’

Can it give guidance?
It is covered with gold and silver;
there is no breath in it.”

²⁰ The LORD is in his holy temple;
let all the earth be silent before him.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE “Kingdom come” J. David Ellis

THE LORD’S TABLE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is always right and proper, and our moral
duty, that we should at all times and in all places give
thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty and
Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and
archangels, and with all the inhabitants of heaven, we
honor and adore your glorious name, evermore
praising you and saying:

People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts!**
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory be to you, O Lord, most high. Amen

The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever
shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Leader: Christ our Passover has been
sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come eat and drink with thanksgiving.

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT “Is he worthy?”

Do you feel the world is broken? (We do)
Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do)
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light
from getting through? (We do)
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (We do)

Is all creation groaning? (It is)
Is a new creation coming? (It is)
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our
midst? (It is)
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It is)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom
the slave
Is he worthy? Is he worthy?
Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is he worthy of this? He is.

Does the Father truly love us? (He does)
Does the Spirit move among us? (He does)
And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those he
loves? (He does)
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (He does)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom
the slave
From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue,
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign
with the Son.
Is worthy? Is he worthy of all blessing and honor and
glory?
Is he worthy of this? He is. **Andrew Peterson**

BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of
you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VISITORS: We are so glad that you joined us for worship. If you are a visitor to ACC, please email admin@astoriachurch.org to be added to our email list. Or fill out a communication card at the Welcome Table (hard copy or QR code). We send out a weekly electronic newsletter and other announcement emails.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Session is calling a congregational meeting for all official members of ACC by zoom on **Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021 at 7:00PM** to vote to release Jeffrey Choi from his commitment as Associate Pastor of our church (dissolution of pastoral relation). See the newsletter for the Zoom link.

CHOI FAREWELL PARTY: We are planning a party to show our love and appreciation to Jeffrey and Christine Choi, as they move on to new ministry endeavors. The celebration will take place on Zoom on **Wednesday, February 17th at 7:00pm**. See the newsletter for the Zoom link.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS: Nominations are open for Elder, Deacon and Deaconess until February 12th. A description of each ministry role and how to nominate someone is on our website. Feel free to reach out to David at david@astoriachurch.org or Andrea at diaconate@astoriachurch.org with any questions you have.

PRAYER MEETINGS: We pray every **Thursday at 7PM** on Zoom. Please join us! An email goes out Thursday morning with the Zoom link.

MEN'S CLOTHING NEEDED: For the next pick up, the shelter is in desperate need of men's casual clothes: T-shirts, polo shirts, jeans, pants, socks, underwear (new), belts, jackets, and coats, all sizes. We will be taking donations on Sundays or at the church office through January. Questions? Contact Andrea at diaconate@astoriachurch.org.

SET UP AND BREAKDOWN TEAMS: We still need helpers for set up and breakdown. Let Andrea know if you can help once a month.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY UPDATES: We are providing a Children's Bulletin each week to help occupy your kids during the service and help them learn from the sermon both during the service and later at home with you. Secondly, we invite all ACC children to join Bible Club on Tuesdays from 7-7:30PM. We play a game, tell a bible story and sing a song each week! Kindergarten through 6th grade children/youth generally enjoy this format. To receive the Zoom link, please email Laura at laurakaufmann@gmail.com.

MEMBER NEWS: Email David@astoriachurch.org or Andrea at admin@astoriachurch.org with your news!

WELCOME TO ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

WORSHIP: Sundays, 10:30AM (Mixed Style)
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2102, Astoria, NY 11102
OFFICE: 22-07 Astoria Blvd., Cellar Entrance, Astoria, NY 11102
PHONE: 718-721-3440

WEBSITE: www.astoriachurch.org
WORSHIP LOCATION: Astoria Center of Israel Bldg
27-35 Crescent Street, Astoria, NY 11102
MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Andrea Mungo (admin@astoriachurch.org)
PASTOR: J. David Ellis (david@astoriachurch.org)
ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Jeffrey Choi (jeffrey@astoriachurch.org)



Facebook.com/AstoriaCommunityChurch

*Our mission is to proclaim the good news of
Jesus Christ to our neighbors,
to welcome them into loving community,
and to equip them to glorify God.*

Helpful Information:

Children and Youth Ministries

Currently we are not offering children's programming on Sundays due to COVID. **Pre-K – 6th Grade children are welcome to join our Tuesday Bible Club at 7PM on Zoom. Email laurakaufmann@gmail.com to receive the zoom link.** Our Youth Group meets by Zoom on Fridays. See below for more info.

Babies - Toddlers: There will be no nursery until further notice. (ackkids@astoriachurch.org)

Pre-K - Grade 2: There will be no children's church until further notice. (ackkids@astoriachurch.org)

Grades 3 - 5: Bryan Taylor (bryantaylornyc@gmail.com)

There will be no Sunday school until further notice.

Grades 6 - 12: Jeffrey Choi (remote on Fridays, Sept – June) (jeffrey@astoriachurch.org)

Community Groups

Small groups that meet on Zoom for fellowship, study, and prayer. Email: admin@astoriachurch.org for info

Physical, Financial, or Emotional Need

Church leaders are available to meet with you if you have a need. Please email diaconate@astoriachurch.org or call 718-721-3440. For the **Meals Ministry**, email accmeals@gmail.com

English as a Second Language Classes

(Saturdays) Info: QueensESL@gmail.com

Outreach Ministries

For info on service opportunities in Queens: diaconate@astoriachurch.org

Men's and Women's Ministry

Info for women, contact: admin@astoriachurch.org

Info for men, contact: mensministry@astoriachurch.org