

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

October 18, 2020
www.AstoriaChurch.org

REFLECTION

“God’s plan for enlarging His kingdom is so simple – one person telling another person about the Savior.”

– Charles Stanley

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 96

Leader: O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

People: **Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.**

Leader: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous work among all the peoples.

People: **For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.**

Leader: For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

SONG OF PRAISE

“Great is thy faithfulness”

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever will be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

FAITHFULNESS; Chisolm

PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION Joel 2:12-13

“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate,

slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON I Peter 3:18a

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

"Speak, O Lord"

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you,
To receive the food of your holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in your likeness;
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us
All your purposes for your glory.

Teach us Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise,
Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til your church is built
As the earth is filled with your glory. Townend: Getty

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 45:1-7

“This is what the LORD says to his anointed,
to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their armor,
to open doors before him
so that gates will not be shut:
I will go before you
and will level the mountains;
I will break down gates of bronze

and cut through bars of iron.
 I will give you hidden treasures,
 riches stored in secret places,
 so that you may know that I am the LORD,
 the God of Israel, who summons you by name.
 For the sake of Jacob my servant,
 of Israel my chosen,
 I summon you by name
 and bestow on you a title of honor,
 though you do not acknowledge me.
 I am the LORD, and there is no other;
 apart from me there is no God.
 I will strengthen you,
 though you have not acknowledged me,
 so that from the rising of the sun
 to the place of its setting
 people may know there is none besides me.
 I am the LORD, and there is no other.
 I form the light and create darkness,
 I bring prosperity and create disaster;
 I, the LORD, do all these things.

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

GOSPEL READING Matthew 22:15-22
 Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?” But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax.” They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?” “Caesar’s,” they replied. Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below;
 Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.
OLD HUNDRETH; Ken

SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 1:24-2:5 *NIV*

^{1:24} Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. ²⁵ I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— ²⁶ the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord’s people. ²⁷ To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

²⁸ He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

^{2:1} I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. ² My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments.

⁵ For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is.

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

MESSAGE “Christ proclaimed” 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 MEDITATION “O, to see the dawn”

O, to see the dawn of the darkest day;
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

*This the pow’r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame bore the wrath,
We stand forgiven at the cross.*

O, to see the pain written on your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev’ry bitter thought, ev’ry evil deed
Crowning your bloodstained brow.

Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath
Quakes as its maker bows his head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life—
Finished! the victory cry.

O, to see my name written in the wounds,
For through your suffr’ing I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live,
Won through your selfless love!

Final refrain:

*This the pow’r of the cross:
Son of God—slain for us.
What a love, what a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross. Getty; Townend*

BENEDICTION

2 John 2:3

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father’s Son, will be with us in truth and love.

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 see the QR code on the Welcome Table for our communication card. We send out a weekly electronic newsletter.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: We will be having our Fall congregational meeting on **Wednesday, October 28th from 8-9PM** on Zoom. The agenda will be presentation of the financial report, presentation of the budget and election of one trustee. If you are an official ACC member, please join via Zoom Meeting. The link will be provided in the newsletter or you can email admin@astoriachurch.org for the link.

WARM CLOTHING ALERT: As the weather gets cooler, please wear warm clothes/jackets to the worship service as we will continue to leave doors open and run fans for ventilation.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SOUND TEAM: Are you interested in sound technology and savvy with digital technology? We need to add members to our sound team for Sunday mornings. We will train you! Commitment is once a month to run sound at our 10:30AM service. Please contact Andrea at admin@astoriachurch.org.

PRAYER MEETINGS: Join us for our weekly prayer meetings on Thursdays at 7PM. The link for this Zoom meeting is sent separately in weekly emails.

SHORT-TERM COMMUNITY GROUPS: It's not too late to join an 8-week Community Group. We are discussing the new sermon series on the book of Colossians. **There are 3 groups to choose from: Tuesdays at 7:30PM, Wednesdays at 7:30PM and Sundays at 6:30PM.** These groups are all remote meetings on Zoom. If you are interested in joining one, please contact David at david@astoriachurch.org.

iPHONES NEEDED: We are in need of 4 iPhones for our livestream set up. We have been using 3 borrowed phones and need to add a 4th. If anyone has an Apple 6S or newer that they are no longer using, we would be happy to take it off your hands! It needs to be able to maintain a charge for at least 2 hours. Please contact Andrea at admin@astoriachurch.org if you have one to donate. Thank you!

ESL UPDATE: Our ESL ministry, under new leadership, started up again fully remote on September 26th. We have had 3 students return from previous semesters and 10 new students join in! Please continue to pray for this ministry to our neighbors here in Queens. And a huge thank you to our new leaders Annette Scattoni and Breanne Doyle for pivoting to a remote format that seems to be working very well!

VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY: Good news! We started up tutoring this past week with 3 students and Bible Club had 8 youth attending! School tutoring happens from 5:00-6:30 pm and Bible Club from 7:00-7:30 pm via Zoom. We could still use more volunteers! This could be a great opportunity if you wanted to participate in the past but didn't have time. Please contact Laura at laurakaufmann@gmail.com for more information.

CHURCH FINANCES: You may also leave your offering in the offering basket as you exit the sanctuary as we will not be passing the offering baskets during the service. We are significantly behind in our budget so if you haven't given your tithe recently, please do. Thank you! Our mailing address is Astoria Community Church to PO Box 2102, Astoria, NY. 11102. Thank you!

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. 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: women@astoriachurch.org

Info for men, contact: mensministry@astoriachurch.org