

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

October 25, 2020
www.AstoriaChurch.org

REFLECTION

" Unless there is within us, that which is above us, we will soon yield to what is around us." - Alfred Gibbs

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 90

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals." For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—they are like the new grass of the morning: in the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered.

People: **Turn, O LORD! How long? Have compassion on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Leader: Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.

All: **Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands—O prosper the work of our hands!**

SONG OF PRAISE

"Our God, our help in ages past"

Our God, our help in ages past
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne
Your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting you are God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood,
With all their lives and cares,
Are carried downward by your flood,
And lost in foll'wing years.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come:
O be our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

ST. ANNE; Watts from Psalm 90

PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION Isaiah 55:7

Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; we acknowledge and confess our many sins; which we have committed; by thought, word, and deed; against your divine majesty. We do earnestly repent; and are heartily sorry for these our wrongs; remembering them is grief to us. Have mercy upon us; have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ; forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please you in newness of life; to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Psalm 85:2-3

You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins. You set aside all your wrath and turned from your fierce anger.

MUSIC OF RESPONSE

“He will hold me fast”

When I fear my faith will fail,
Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life’s fearful path;
For my love is often cold; he must hold me fast.
*He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.*

Those he saves are his delight,
Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in his holy sight, he will hold me fast.
He’ll not let my soul be lost, his promises shall last;
Bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.

For my life he bled and died, he will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied, he will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life, he will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last!
Ada Habershon and Mathew Merker

OLD TESTAMENT READING Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

The LORD said to Moses, “Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: ‘Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy....Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly. Do not go about spreading slander among your people. Do not do anything that endangers your neighbor’s life. I am the LORD. Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in their guilt. Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.’”

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 22:34-46

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart

and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?” “The son of David,” they replied. He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,

“‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“‘Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet.’”

If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 2:6-23 (ESV)

⁶Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

¹⁶Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. ¹⁷These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Let no one disqualify you,

insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind,¹⁹ and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

²⁰ If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—²¹ “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch”²² (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings?²³ These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE “Remain in Him” Jeffrey Choi

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.

THE LORD’S SUPPER

MUSIC OF MEDITATION

“Taste and see”

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord,
The goodness of the Lord.

Solo:

*I will bless the Lord at all times;
His praise shall be ever in my mouth.
Let my soul glory in the Lord;
The lowly will hear me and be glad.*

*Glorify the Lord with me;
Let us together extol his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me,
And delivered me from all my fears.*

*The angel of the Lord encamps
Around those who fear him, and delivers them.
Taste and see how good the Lord is;
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.*

Rawn Harbor

BENEDICTION Hebrews 13:20-21

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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 **THIS 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.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY UPDATES: Starting this Sunday, we will be 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. Pick one up at the Welcome Table on your way in. We will also include the bulletin on the website for those worshipping at home. **Secondly, we would like to 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 aged children/youth generally enjoy this time! To receive the Zoom link, please email Laura at laurakaufmann@gmail.com.

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 Joshua at 310-503-3706.

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.

CHURCH FINANCES: You may 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. You can give online as well as mail your offering to our PO Box. 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