

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

June 21, 2020
www.AstoriaChurch.org

REFLECTION

“A life outside of Christ is both hard and frightening; a life in Christ has hard edges and dark valleys, but it is purposeful even when painful.”

– Rosaria Champagne Butterfield

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 86

Leader: Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

People: **Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.**

Leader: Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

People: **Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me.**

Leader: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

People: **For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.**

Leader: Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving girl.

People: **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“If thou but suffer God to guide thee”

If thou but suffer God to guide thee,
And hope in him through all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength, whatever betide thee,
And bear thee through the evil days:
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the rock that naught can move.

What can these anxious cares avail thee,
These never-ceasing moans and sighs?
What can it help, if thou bewail thee

O'er each dark moment as it flies?
Our cross and trials do but press
The heavier for our bitterness.

Only be still, and wait his leisure
In cheerful hope, with heart content
To take whate'er thy Father's pleasure
And all deserving love hath sent;
Nor doubt our inmost wants are known
To him who chose us for his own.

All are alike before the highest;
'Tis easy to our God, we know,
To raise thee up though low thou liest,
To make the rich man poor and low;
True wonders still by him are wrought
Who setteth up and brings to naught.

Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving,
So do thine own part faithfully,
And trust his word, though undeserving,
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee;
God never yet forsook at need
The soul that trusted him indeed.

NEUMARK; Neumark

PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION Psalm 51:17

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

SILENT CONFESSION

SONG OF CONFESSION

“Rock of ages”

Rock of ages, cleft for me
Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfil thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress;
Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee.

NEW CITY FELLOWSHIP; Toplady CCLI#20219511

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.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Question One from *The Heidelberg Catechism*

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

People: That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death, not to myself, but to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins, and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; I believe he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Dear refuge of my weary soul”

Dear refuge of my weary soul,
On thee, when sorrows rise,
On thee, when waves of trouble roll,
My fainting hope relies.
To thee I tell each rising grief,
For thou alone canst heal.
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief,
For every pain I feel.

But oh! when gloomy doubts prevail,
I fear to call thee mine.
The springs of comfort seem to fail,
And all my hopes decline.
Yet gracious God, where shall I flee?
Thou art my only trust.

And still my soul would cleave to thee
Though prostrate in the dust.

Hast thou not bid me seek thy face,
And shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace
Be deaf when I complain?
No still the ear of sovereign grace
Attends the mourner’s prayer.
Oh may I ever find access,
To breathe my sorrows there.

Thy mercy seat is open still,
Here let my soul retreat.
With humble hope attend thy will,
And wait beneath thy feet,
Thy mercy seat is open still,
Here let my soul retreat.
With humble hope attend thy will,
And wait beneath thy feet.

Kevin Twit; Anne Steele CCLI#20219511

GOSPEL READING Matthew 10:24-39

“The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household! So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to turn
‘a man against his father,
a daughter against her mother,
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—
a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING Romans 6:1-11

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Rise up"

For the lonely and forgotten,
For the weary and distressed,
For the widow and orphan,
For the poor and the oppressed,
For the stranger who has nothing
Does their sorrow reach your ears?
Do you hear? Do you hear?

*Rise up, rise up!
The earth will fear the Lord
When you avenge the poor.
May your kingdom come . . .
O rise up!*

Hear how Rachel, she is weeping.
How she will not be consoled.

And the children in our keeping,
Are their bodies bought and sold?
And the watchmen, he is sleeping.
Do you now avert your eyes?
Will you rise? Will you rise?

As your will is done in heaven,
Let it now be done below
Let your daily bread be given,
Let your kingdom seed be sown.
Lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us, we cry!
Will you rise? Will you rise?

*Rise up, rise up!
The earth will fear the Lord
when you avenge the poor.
Rise up, rise up!
And bare your holy arm
to keep them safe from harm!
May your kingdom come.
O rise up!*

Isaac Wardell CCLI#20219511

BAPTISM

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

OFFERTORY

*To donate to ACC visit astoriachurch.org or
mail to PO Box 2102, LIC, NY 11102*

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 20:7-13 NIV

⁷You deceived me, LORD, and I was deceived;
you overpowered me and prevailed.
I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me.
⁸Whenever I speak, I cry out
proclaiming violence and destruction.
So the word of the LORD has brought me
insult and reproach all day long.
⁹But if I say, "I will not mention his word
or speak anymore in his name,"
his word is in my heart like a fire,
a fire shut up in my bones.
I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.
¹⁰I hear many whispering, "Terror on every side!
Denounce him! Let's denounce him!"
All my friends are waiting for me to slip, saying,
"Perhaps he will be deceived;

then we will prevail over him
and take our revenge on him.”

¹¹But the LORD is with me like a mighty warrior;
so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail.
They will fail and be thoroughly disgraced;
their dishonor will never be forgotten.

¹²LORD Almighty, you who examine the righteous
and probe the heart and mind,
let me see your vengeance on them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³Sing to the LORD! Give praise to the LORD!
He rescues the life of the needy
from the hands of the wicked.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE “His word like a fire” J. David Ellis

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

“My help, my God”

Why are you so full of heaviness?
Why are you disquieted within?
Oh, my soul. Oh, my soul.
As the deer longs for the waterbrooks,
So my soul, it longs and thirsts for you,
Oh, my God. Oh, my God.

*Put your trust in God, I will yet give thanks to him.
Put your trust in God, I will yet give thanks to him.
Put your trust in God, I will yet give thanks to him,
My help, my God.*

Deep goes unto deep like ocean waves.
All your floods and rapids on me break,
Oh, my soul. Oh, my soul.
I will say unto my God, my strength,
How is it you have forgotten me?
Oh, how long? Oh, how long?

Yahweh grants his kindness in the day.
Through the night his song it is that stays.
Oh, my soul. Oh, my soul

Sandra McCracken CCLI#20219511

BENEDICTION Colossians 1:11-12

May you be strengthened with all power according to
God’s glorious might so that you may have great
endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the
Father, who has qualified you to share in the
inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

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. We send out a weekly electronic newsletter.

PASTORAL CARE: Pastor David is available for Zoom meetings if you need to connect with him. Give him a call or text him at 917-992-7062 to set up a meeting.

ACC BLOG: Please see our blog on our website homepage, bottom left. Pastor David wrote a post titled Christian Unity Amidst Political Division and we've shared a testimony by member Cliff Means. There is also a post with more details on the book study we are doing this summer.

FELLOWSHIP TIME OVER ZOOM: Please join us for some fellowship time over Zoom right after the service from 12:30PM – 1:30PM. We've been having some great times of connecting! You should have received an email this morning with the link and phone number to join.

SUMMER BOOK STUDY: Join Pastor David and Andrea as they co-lead a summer book study. We will be reading and discussing the book *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* by Peter Scazzero. **Mondays, 7-8:30PM, on July 6 & 20, August 3, 16 & 31 on Zoom.** The EventBrite link to sign up is live and can be accessed on our website. For more info, contact Andrea at admin@astoriachurch.org.

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT! PRAYER MEETINGS: We are meeting every Tuesday and Thursday at 7PM and every Thursday at noon for a devotional by Pastor David followed by a prayer time.

MEALS MINISTRY: Sign up to receive email opportunities to help out your ACC community by providing a meal for a family with a newborn baby or for others who might be blessed by meals due to illness, surgery, injury, or loss -- whether home-cooked, purchased, or a Seamless gift card. Email Lisa Taylor at accmeals@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

FINANCIAL UPDATE: Thank you to all who are giving online and sending in checks to our PO Box while we are not meeting in person. **We are a little over 1 week away from the end of our fiscal year. Keep up the steady giving! We still have a shortfall to make up.** We're so thankful for your generosity! Our mailing address is Astoria Community Church to PO Box 2102, Astoria, NY. 11102. Thank you!

\$450,799 Actual Giving as of 6/15/20

Shortfall
\$29,778

\$480,577 Budgeted to Date

DIACONATE ASSISTANCE: If you are sick and in quarantine at home and have any practical needs such as groceries, medications to be picked up etc. please call Andrea at 917-605-4040 or email her at diaconate@astoriachurch.org. We have a Healthy Helps Team ready to meet your practical needs.

DIACONATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: If you have a financial need due to loss of income because of the COVID-19 NYS pause or any other reason, please call Andrea at 917-605-4040 or email her at diaconate@astoriachurch.org.

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

WELCOME TO

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

WORSHIP: Sundays, 9:30AM (mixed style) & 11:15AM (contemporary)

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

Programs are available on Sundays for babies through 5th grade. Our Youth Group meets on Fridays. See below for more info.

Babies - Toddlers: Laurel Daniels (both services)
(acckids@astoriachurch.org)

Pre-K - Grade 2: Laurel Daniels (11:15 service only, no class on the 1st Sunday of the Month) (acckids@astoriachurch.org)

Grades 3 - 5: Bryan Taylor (in between services)
(bryantaylor@astoriachurch.org)

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

Community Groups

Small groups that meet in homes 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