

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

July 18, 2021
www.AstoriaChurch.org

REFLECTION

“The cumulative testimony of the four Gospels is that when Jesus Christ sees the fallenness of the world all about him, his deepest impulse, his most natural instinct, is to move toward that sin and suffering, not away from it.”
– Dane Ortlund

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 23

Leader: The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

People: **He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.**

Leader: He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

People: **Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.**

Leader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

All: **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“Come, ye sinners”

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow'r.

*I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O, there are ten thousand charms.*

Let not conscience make you linger,
Nor of fitness fondly dream.
All the fitness he requireth
Is to feel your need of him.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
Lost and ruined by the fall.
If you tarry 'til you're better,
You will never come at all.

Walker; Hart

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.

SILENT CONFESSION

SONG OF CONFESSION

“God, be merciful to me” (see insert)

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.

SONG OF RESPONSE

“My shepherd will supply my need”

My shepherd will supply my need;
Jehovah is his name:
In pastures green he makes me feed,
Beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back,
When I forsake his ways;
And leads me for his mercy's sake,
In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death
Thy presence is my stay;
One word of thy supporting breath
Drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,
Doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows,
Thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days;
O may thy house be my abode,
And all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
While others go and come;
No more a stranger, nor a guest,
But like a child at home. **American Folk Melody**

“The good shepherd”

I am the good shepherd;
I lay down my life for you;
Enter in, enter in, enter in.
I am the good shepherd;
As the Father knows me, I know you.

I know you, I know you, I know you.
And no one can take you away.

You are the good shepherd;
You lay down your life for me;
Enter in, enter in, enter in.
You are the good shepherd;
As the Father knows you, you know me.
You know me, you know me, you know me.
And no one can take you away. Ortega, Alayra, Macres

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 23:1-6
“Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!” declares the LORD. Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: “Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done,” declares the LORD. “I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares the LORD. “The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.

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

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 2:11-22
Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)—remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and

regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

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

SONG OF RESPONSE “Goodness of God”
I love you, Lord. Oh your mercy never fails me.
All my days I’ve been held in your hands.
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head,
I will sing of the goodness of God.

*All my life you have been faithful.
All my life you have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able,
I will sing of the goodness of God.*

I love your voice. You have led me through the fire.
In darkest night, you are close like no other.
I’ve known you as a father, I’ve known you as a friend.
I have lived in the goodness of God.

Your goodness is running after, it’s running after me.
Your goodness is running after, it’s running after me.
With my life laid down, I’m surrendered now;
I give you everything.
Your goodness is running after, it’s running after me.
Fielding, Johnson, Cash, Ingram

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 *NIV*
³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. ³¹Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

³² So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. ³³ But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things....

⁵³ When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. ⁵⁴ As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. ⁵⁵ They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶ And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE “Our compassionate Savior” 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 (#735)

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER

“How sweet and awesome is the place” (see insert)

THE LORD’S SUPPER

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

“Yet not I, but through Christ in me”

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer.

There is no more for heaven now to give.

He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,

My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.

For my life is wholly bound to his.

Oh how strange and divine, I can sing all is mine!

Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,

For by my side, the Savior, he will stay.

I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,

For in my need his power is displayed.

To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me.

Through the deepest valley he will lead.

Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome!

Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,

The future sure, the price, it has been paid.

For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,

And he was raised to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold: my sin has been defeated.

Jesus now, and ever, is my plea.

Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!

Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,

For he has said that he will bring me home.

And day by day I know he will renew me

Until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.

All the glory evermore to him.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:

Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Robinson, Thompson and Farren

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 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.

COVID PROTOCOL: TODAY, July 18th, we will no longer require masks (masks will be optional) or social distancing in the main floor of the sanctuary. Masks and social distancing will still be required in the balcony, for those who prefer to sit there.

VACATION BIBLE CLUB: Please be praying for us! **VBC starts THIS Monday and goes throughout the week.** If you have kids up through 5th grade, please come and participate! Every evening VBC starts at 6:30PM at the Van Alst Playground on 30th Avenue just past 21st Street. Any last-minute volunteers, please come today to the Orientation Session at 1PM at the church office (lunch included).

FALL COMMUNITY GROUPS: Community Groups will be forming in September. If you are interested in co-leading or hosting a group, please contact david@astoriachurch.org. (Group leaders must be members of ACC.)

PRAYER MEETINGS: We will NOT be meeting for prayer this Thursday due to Vacation Bible Club happening. We will resume our prayers together on Thursday, July 29th at 2PM. The Zoom link is emailed Thursday mornings.

CHURCH FINANCES: Thank you for your generous giving on Sundays in the offering basket, online and through sending in checks to our PO Box. Please continue to give as the Lord leads you.

ACC IS HIRING: We are currently receiving resumes for 2 new part-time positions at ACC. One is for a Children's Ministry Coordinator and the second is for a Youth Ministry Coordinator. See the Tuesday newsletter or our website for links to the job descriptions and how to apply.

FOOD PANTRY: Please continue to bring dry goods to the green bin in the lobby of the synagogue! Also, the Hour Children food pantry has an **Amazon Wish List** in case you would like to donate food that way. The link is in the weekly newsletter or you can email Andrea for the link.

MEMBER AND REGULAR ATTENDER NEWS:
Email 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)



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 only offering nursery services on Sundays. We provide a children's/youth bulletin for Pre-K and up. Our Youth Group meets by Zoom on Fridays. See below for more info.

Babies - Toddlers: Nursery is provided for newborns – 4 year olds. Parents must register in advance. Link is in the newsletter (admin@astoriachurch.org)

Pre-K - Grade 2: There will be no children's church until further notice.

Grades 3 - 5: Bryan Taylor (bryantaylor@astoriachurch.org)
There will be no Sunday school until further notice.

Youth Group - Grades 6 - 12: David Ellis (remote on Fridays, Sept – June) (david@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 **We are currently praying for new leadership.**

Info for men, contact: mensministry@astoriachurch.org