

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

July 25, 2021
www.AstoriaChurch.org

REFLECTION

“Your unworthiness does not disqualify you from being used by God. The exact opposite is true. A sense of unworthiness is a sign of spiritual health.... God uses weak people who know they are nothing but trophies of his amazing grace.” -- H.B. Charles, Jr.

PRELUDE

“All your works are good”

The moon it marks the seasons;
The sun knows when to go down.
The ocean holds its creatures;
The river knows its bounds.
The birds, the trees, the cattle
And all things great and small,
We find our place in creation;
Your hand sustains us all.

*All your works are good,
All your works are good.
From everlasting to everlasting,
All your works are good.*

He makes the clouds his chariot;
He wraps himself in light.
He stretches out the heavens
Like a tent across the sky.
He knows our every burden
When darkness veils our eyes.
He comes with spring returning
Bringing death to life.

As we labor until evening,
There's a message on the wind:
Be still and know your maker,
Be satisfied in him. McCracken, Gullahorn, Lee

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 145

Leader: All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you. They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

People: **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

Leader: The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. The LORD

upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

People: **The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.**

All: **The LORD is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“All creatures of our God and King” (see insert)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION Numbers 21:4-5

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God, we are often impatient like the people of Israel. We want things our way and we want them in a hurry. Forgive us when we think this way or say it out loud. Lord, we are sinful. Please take away our sin. Help us to seek your way. In Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

SONG OF RESPONSE

“The same power”

There is pow'r in his name
For the stone was rolled away.
Mountains bow down before
Jesus Christ, our risen Lord,
Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

*Mighty Savior lifted high,
King forever, Jesus Christ.
Crowned in glory, raised to life;*

*The same power lives in us.
(The same power lives in us)*

We will rise, stand and sing
Of our great and matchless King.
Seated high on the throne,
You shall reign forevermore,
You shall reign forevermore.

The grave could not contain
The power of his name.
Death you overcame
Once and for all.

Cantelon, Herbert

OLD TESTAMENT READING II King 4:42-44

A man came from Baal Shalishah, bringing the man of God twenty loaves of barley bread baked from the first ripe grain, along with some heads of new grain. "Give it to the people to eat," Elisha said. "How can I set this before a hundred men?" his servant asked. But Elisha answered, "Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the LORD says: 'They will eat and have some left over.'" Then he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the LORD.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Hold to God's unchanging hand"

Time is filled with swift transition

Naught of earth unmoved can stand
Build your hopes on things eternal
Hold to God's unchanging hand.

*Hold to his hand, God's unchanging hand
Hold to his hand, God's unchanging hand
Build your hopes on things eternal
Hold to God's unchanging hand.*

Trust in him who will not leave you
Whatsoever years may bring
If by earthly friends forsaken
Still more closely to him cling.

Covet not this world's vain riches
That so rapidly decay
Seek to gain the heavenly treasures
They will never pass away.

When your journey is completed
When the valley you pass through
Fair, and bright the home in glory
Your enraptured soul will view.

Franklin Eiland; Jennie Wilson

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING John 6:1-15 *NIV*

¹ Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. ³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴ The Jewish Passover Festival was near. ⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). ¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴ After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." ¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE "His power through us" 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.

PRAYER

"Now to him who is able to keep you"

Now to him who is able to keep you,
Who is able to keep you from stumbling
And to make you stand in the presence
Of his glory, blameless, with great joy,

To the only God, our Savior,
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
Be all glory, majesty, dominion and power,
Before all time and now and forever.

Amen. **Dave Cook**

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

"Come over here"

Come over here (come over here)
Where the table is spread (table is spread)
And the feast (feast of the Lord)
Is goin' on (goin' on)
We're gonna drink (drink from the fountain)
That never runs dry (never runs dry)
We're gonna sing (sing hallelujah)
Amen (Amen)

His body was broken (body was broken)
For all our sin (all our sin)
We break this bread (break this bread)
And repent again (repent again)
His blood and body (blood and body)
Broken for me (broken for me)
We're gonna sing (sing hallelujah)
Amen (Amen)
Long time ago (long time ago)
Back on Calvary's cross (calvary's cross)
Jesus' blood (Jesus' blood)
Flowed for the lost (for the lost)
They pierced His body (pierced his body)
His hands and side (hands and side)
Now we can sing (sing hallelujah)
Amen (Amen)

We're gonna sing (sing hallelujah)
Will you meet me there (sing hallelujah)
Over in glory (sing hallelujah)
Where there's room for all (sing hallelujah)
Here's a feast prepared (sing hallelujah)
By the Lord himself (sing hallelujah)
We're gonna sing (sing hallelujah)
Amen (Amen) **Traditional**

BENEDICTION II Thessalonians 2:16-17

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

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: We are no longer requiring masks (masks will be optional) or social distancing on 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: All went very well this past week with VBC! We had a group of 20+ kids every night - some returning every night and new kids coming every day! Please pray for the seeds that were sown in the hearts of the kids and their parents who listened in. God will bring the harvest in due time! And a huge round of applause for the many volunteers that made it all happen! Special thanks to the out of town team of ESL missionary teachers!

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.)

PASTOR DAVID'S BLOG: Pastor David writes some very encouraging and spiritually wise posts. The more recent one is titled, "Praying with Your Eyes Open." When a new one is posted, the link will be provided in the Tuesday newsletter. Be sure to look out for them!

PRAYER MEETINGS: Join us for a short prayer meeting this Thursday, July 29th at 7PM. 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 on Fridays Sept - June. 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 (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