

# ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

April 20, 2025  
Easter Sunday  
www.AstoriaChurch.org

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader:** Christ is risen!

**People:** **He is risen indeed!**

**Leader:** Why seek Christ among the dead?

**People:** **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**Leader:** This is the hour of victory and power for our God. Alleluia!

**All:** **Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!**

## SONG OF PRAISE

“Christ the Lord is risen today” (see insert)

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

### EASTER READING Acts 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached—how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

**Reader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## SONG OF RESPONSE

“The strife is o’er, the battle done”

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

The strife is o’er, the battle done;

The victory of life is won;

The song of triumph has begun! Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,

But Christ their legions hath dispersed:

Let shouts of holy joy outburst! Alleluia!

**Choir:** *The three sad days are quickly sped;*

*Christ rises glorious from the dead:*

*All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!*

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,

From death’s dread sting thy servants free,

That we may live, and sing to thee: Alleluia!

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

PALESTRINA, arr. Powell; Latin Hymn, tr. by Pott

## CONFESSION OF SIN Colossians 3:1-4

**Leader:** Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

**All:** **Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON I Corinthians 15:51-57

Hear the word of God to all who repent and truly turn to Him: “Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: ‘Death has been swallowed up in victory.’ ‘Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?’ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

## SONG OF RESPONSE “The same power”

There is power 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

### **AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH**

Renewal of Baptismal Vows Colossians 3:1-3

L: "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God."

L: Do you renounce the devil and all his works?

**P: I renounce him.**

L: Do you trust in God as the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

**P: I do trust God!**

L: Do you trust Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord who was born into this world to bear the results of your sin in his death on the cross?

**P: I do trust Jesus Christ!**

L: Do you trust the Holy Spirit as giver of all life protecting us against all the attacks of the devil, sin, doubts and unbelief?

**P: I do trust the Holy Spirit!**

L: Do you promise to remain in this faith and in the covenant of your baptism, and as a member of the Body of Christ to be faithful in the use of the Word and the Sacrament, and in prayer?

**P: I do, by the help of God!**

### **EASTER DOXOLOGY**

**"Now all the vault of heav'n resounds" (insert)**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 65:17-25

"See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an

old man who does not live out his years; the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed. They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands. They will not labor in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the LORD, they and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the LORD.

**Reader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING** I Corinthians 15:19-26

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

**Reader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**SONG OF RESPONSE "Precious is the blood"**

Oh the blood, redeeming blood,  
Jesus' blood, shed for me.  
Oh the blood, saving blood,  
Cleansing blood from Calvary.  
Oh Lamb of God, crucified,  
For my sins he bled and died,  
And oh, how precious is the blood.

Joseph Pace II

**"Nothing but the blood"**

What can wash away my sin?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
What can make me whole again?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Oh! Precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow*

*No other fount I know  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my cleansing this I see--  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
For my pardon this my plea--  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone--  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
Naught of good that I have done--  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace—  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
This is all my righteousness—  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Stewart; Lowery

## PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERTORY *“Shout! (Make a joyful noise)*

*Shout from the highest mountain in the land,  
Tell it to each member of the band,  
I've been listening for this chorus so long.  
Jesus put this tune in my song.  
Song-maker, you wrote it down,  
Song-maker, the sweetest sound.  
Serve the Lord with gladness as you sing,  
He deserves the music that we bring!  
Make a joyful noise, every heart and voice,  
Praise him and rejoice,  
Jesus put this tune in my song!* James Ward

### SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 28:1-9 *NIV*

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. <sup>2</sup>There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup>The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.” <sup>8</sup>So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.

**Reader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE “At the Empty Tomb: With Two Women”  
Jim Fredere

## 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER

**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

*Bread is gluten-free.*

*Outer cups - juice. Inner rings - wine.*

*Pews will be released from the back by ushers to come forward.*

*“Remember me” (see insert)*

## EASTER OFFERING *“God so loved the world”*

*God so loved the world he gave his only Son,  
That whoever believes, whoever believes in him  
Should not perish, should not perish,  
But have everlasting life.* Bill Wolaver

## MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

*“The day of resurrection” (see insert)*

## 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](mailto:admin@astoriachurch.org) to be added to our email list. We send out a weekly electronic newsletter and other announcement emails.

### PASTOR JIM'S HOURS AND DAYS/TIMES TO MEET:

Jim is available for lunch on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday (12-2) and in the evenings on Sunday and Thursday (6-8pm) Feel free to reach out to him at 347-366-1183.

**EASTER OUTREACH OFFERING:** Today we are taking up a special Easter Outreach offering that will help us to reach our budget for missionaries and our Diaconal ministries. Please give above and beyond your regular giving during the service today or online this week. Details are in the newsletter for the different ways to donate. Thank you!

**CHESS CLUB:** Join the Chess Club for their next class on **Saturday, April 26th from 1-3PM at Astoria First Art House, 23-35 Broadway.** Note the time change. Speak with Eddie or email him at [bkln645@gmail.com](mailto:bkln645@gmail.com) with any questions. All are welcome!

**GENEROUS JUSTICE CLASS:** Please plan to join our spring Christian Education class for 5 sessions starting **Sunday, April 27th.** We will meet in the chapel at 12:30. What does it mean to "do justice" as Christians? Is justice only about politics or charity—or is it something deeper, something central to our faith? In *Generous Justice*, pastor and author Tim Keller shows that biblical justice is not a side issue but flows naturally from a true experience of God's grace. Come and be challenged to think through how caring for the vulnerable and living generously are essential parts of a faithful Christian life. See the newsletter to sign up.

**SPRING COMMUNITY GROUPS:** Spring Community Groups kick off on **April 27.** Let's gather together to study the first 3 chapters of the book of Revelation. Spring groups will run from the weeks of 4/27/25 - 6/15/25. The sign up link is in the Tuesday newsletter.

**SAVE THE DATE - MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND PICNIC** - Sunday, May 25, 1:00PM. Join us at the north end of Astoria Park (near Ditmars) for food, volleyball, fun, etc. Bring your lunch, something to share if you want and something to sit on. Invite your friends!!

**SAVE THE DATE - VACATION BIBLE CLUB:** Plan to join us for our biggest outreach of the year. This summer it will be the week of July 7th-11th in the evening from 6:30 - 8pm. The theme this year is Upward Bound which tracks Jesus's perilous incarnate journey from the Courts of Heaven to the cross and back again, encouraging young Backpackers to make their own life-long upward-bound trek to the Summit by the power of the Holy Spirit through faith in Christ.

## WELCOME TO ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

WORSHIP: Sundays, 10:30AM (Mixed Style)  
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2102, Astoria, NY 11102  
WORSHIP and OFFICE LOCATION: Astoria Center of Israel  
27-35 Crescent Street, Astoria, NY 11102  
ESL and YOUTH GROUP LOCATION: Astoria First Art House  
23-35 Broadway, Ground Floor, West Entrance  
PHONE: 718-721-3440  
WEBSITE: [www.astoriachurch.org](http://www.astoriachurch.org)  
SENIOR PASTOR: Jim Fredere ([jjm@astoriachurch.org](mailto:jjm@astoriachurch.org))  
WORSHIP DIRECTOR: Linnea Kickasola  
([music@astoriachurch.org](mailto:music@astoriachurch.org))  
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([admin@astoriachurch.org](mailto:admin@astoriachurch.org))  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Annette Scattoni  
([ACCKids@astoriachurch.org](mailto:ACCKids@astoriachurch.org))  
YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR: George Dimitriadis  
([youth@astoriachurch.org](mailto:youth@astoriachurch.org))  
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[Instagram.com/astoriacomcommunitychurch](https://www.instagram.com/astoriacomcommunitychurch)  
[Facebook.com/AstoriaCommunityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/AstoriaCommunityChurch)

Communication Card QR Code



Venmo QR Code



### Helpful Information:

#### Children and Youth Ministries

We provide nursery during our worship service. Two Sunday School classes happen on Sunday mornings. Our Youth Group meets on Fridays Sept - June. The last Sunday of every month is Family Sunday (no classes provided) and a children's bulletin is provided. See below for more info.

**God's Seeds: During worship.** Nursery is provided for **newborns – 3 year olds.** New Parents must register in advance. Link is in the newsletter. Andrea Mungo, [admin@astoriachurch.org](mailto:admin@astoriachurch.org).

**God's Seedlings (Age 3- Grade 5): During worship** Sunday School class. Annette Scattoni, [acckids@astoriachurch.org](mailto:acckids@astoriachurch.org).

**Youth Group - Grades 6 - 12:** George Dimitriadis, [youth@astoriachurch.org](mailto:youth@astoriachurch.org), on Fridays (Sept – June)

#### Community Groups

Small groups that meet on Zoom and in person for fellowship, Bible study, and prayer. Email [jim@astoriachurch.org](mailto:jim@astoriachurch.org) for info.

#### Financial Need

Members of the Diaconate team are available to meet with you if you have a financial need. Please email [Diaconate@astoriachurch.org](mailto:Diaconate@astoriachurch.org) or call 718-721-3440.

#### English as a Second Language Classes

Saturdays 10-11:30AM (on zoom) and Wednesdays 6:30 – 8PM (in person) Info: [QueensESL@gmail.com](mailto:QueensESL@gmail.com)

#### Outreach and Helps Ministries

If you have a practical need, email [Helps@astoriachurch.org](mailto:Helps@astoriachurch.org). For the **Meals Ministry**, email [accmeals@gmail.com](mailto:accmeals@gmail.com). For info on service opportunities email [Diaconate@astoriachurch.org](mailto:Diaconate@astoriachurch.org).

#### Men's and Women's Ministry

Info for women, contact: [women@astoriachurch.org](mailto:women@astoriachurch.org)

Info for men, contact: [raulwrojas@gmail.com](mailto:raulwrojas@gmail.com) or [gianlu19@gmail.com](mailto:gianlu19@gmail.com)