

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

January 18, 2026
www.AstoriaChurch.org

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 40

Leader: I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

People: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.

Leader: Happy are those who make the LORD their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

People: You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

Leader: I have not hidden your saving help within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

All: Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

SONG OF PRAISE

“Great is thy faithfulness” (see insert)

CALL TO CONFESSION Jeremiah 17:5-10

This is what the LORD says:

“Cursed is the one who trusts in man,
who draws strength from mere flesh
and whose heart turns away from the LORD.
That person will be like a bush in the wastelands;
they will not see prosperity when it comes.
They will dwell in the parched places of the desert,
in a salt land where no one lives.
But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.
They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.
It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.”
The heart is deceitful above all things
and beyond cure.
Who can understand it?

“I the LORD search the heart
and examine the mind,
to reward each person according to their conduct,
according to what their deeds deserve.”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of all mercy, in our baptisms you have marked us as your own; you have given us a new identity and made us part of the body of Christ. In doing so, you have called us to rise to new life and to live together in community. However, we have not been faithful to your call. We have forged our own identity and held to destructive habits. We confess we have failed to welcome others, broken bonds we have had with brothers and sisters, and served ourselves more than you. Forgive us, we pray, for the sake of Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON I Peter 1:18-21

You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, you islands;
hear this, you distant nations:
Before I was born the LORD called me;
from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.
He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me into a polished arrow
and concealed me in his quiver.
He said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."
But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing at all.
Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand,
and my reward is with my God."
And now the LORD says—
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him
and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD
and my God has been my strength—
he says:
"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."
This is what the LORD says—
the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—
to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation,
to the servant of rulers:
"Kings will see you and stand up,
princes will see and bow down,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING John 1:29-42

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel." Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen

and I testify that this is God's Chosen One." The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE "Behold the Lamb"

Behold the Lamb, behold the Lamb,
Slain from the foundation of the world.
For sinners crucified, O holy sacrifice,
Behold the Lamb of God, behold the Lamb.

Crown him, crown him,
Worthy is the Lamb.
Praise him, praise him,
Heav'n and earth resound.

Dottie Rambo

"How great is our God"

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at his voice.

*How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, and all will see how great,
How great, is our God.*

And age to age he stands and time in his hands.
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end,
The Godhead, three in one; Father, Spirit, Son;
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

Name above all names, worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing, how great is our God.

Tomlin, Cash, Reeves

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

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

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 1:1-2 *ESV*

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in
Christ Jesus:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE “Knowing Ourselves and Knowing God”
Pastor Jim Fredere

OFFERTORY

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.

“Behold the Lamb”

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us, and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life
And we drink of his sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace,
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ
Torn for you, eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life
Paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life
And we drink of his sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of love,
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin
Shed for you, drink and remember
He drained death’s cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life
And we drink of his sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of grace,
Around the table of the King.

And so, with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond, and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As his body here on earth.
As we share in his suffering,
We proclaim Christ will come again
And we’ll join in the feast of heaven
Around the table of the King.
Getty, Getty and Townend

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

“Christ, of all my hopes the ground” (see insert)

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his
face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord
lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VISITORS: We are so glad that you joined us for worship. If you are a visitor, please email admin@astoriachurch.org to be added to our email list. We send out a weekly electronic newsletter and other announcement emails.

NEED PRAYER?: Leaders will be available up front after the service.

COMMUNITY GROUPS: CGs will be starting up this week. We will be studying the book of Ephesians and the theme will be Rooted in Christ. **Link to sign up is in the Tuesday newsletter.**

VOLUNTEER WITH OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Our Seedlings Class for PreK - 3rd grade children that meets during the worship service needs a couple more helpers. If you're interested, please talk to Carin or email her at ackkids@astoriachurch.org.

SET UP AND BREAKDOWN VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED: This commitment is once a month – members and regular attenders welcome. Contact Andrea at admin@astoriachurch.org or speak to her in person on Sunday.

HELP SUPPORT NEIGHBORS WITHOUT

KITCHENS: The Hour Children Food Pantry is more than just a source of groceries—it's a lifeline for many families in our community. We are accepting donations of microwaveable items every Sunday for the pantry. Items may be dropped off in the box in the lobby. **We need pouches – bean/lentil, salmon, chicken, tuna and noodle soups. NO CANS, NO PEANUT BUTTER & NO COLD CEREAL please.** Questions? Please speak to Miriam or email her at mtielmann@ymail.com. Thank you for your continued generosity and compassion!

MEMBER AND REGULAR ATTENDER NEWS AND NETWORKING: This is a place for ACC Members and Regular Attenders to update one another on our lives and to network and share resources. Please email Andrea at admin@astoriachurch.org with any news or networking you have to share in the Tuesday newsletter.

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 Offices, btw 23rd and Crescent
Streets, West Entrance
PHONE: 718-721-3440
WEBSITE: www.astoriachurch.org
SENIOR PASTOR: Jim Fredere (jim@astoriachurch.org)
WORSHIP DIRECTOR: Linnea Kickasola
(music@astoriachurch.org)
MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Andrea Mungo
(admin@astoriachurch.org)
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Carin Fredere
(ACCKids@astoriachurch.org)
YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Jim Fredere
(youth@astoriachurch.org)
SAFEGUARDING EMAIL: accsafeguarding@astoriachurch.org

[Instagram.com/astoriachurch](https://www.instagram.com/astoriachurch)
[Facebook.com/AstoriaCommunityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/AstoriaCommunityChurch)

Communication Card QR Code



Venmo QR Code



Helpful Information:

God's Seeds: During worship. Nursery is provided for **newborns – 3 year olds**. Andrea Mungo, admin@astoriachurch.org.

God's Seedlings (Pre-K – 3rd Grade): Sunday School class happens 30 minutes into the worship service. Carin Fredere, ackkids@astoriachurch.org. (Sept – June)

Youth Group - Grades 6 - 12: Jim Fredere, 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 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 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

Outreach and Helps Ministries

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

Men's and Women's Ministry

Info for women, contact: women@astoriachurch.org
Info for men, contact: jim@astoriachurch.org