

Astoria Community Church

October 18, 2026
www.AstoriaChurch.org

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 99

Leader: The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

People: The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!

Leader: Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

People: Extol the LORD our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

Leader: Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name. They cried to the LORD, and he answered them. He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees and the statutes that he gave them.

People: O LORD our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

All: Extol the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain, for the LORD our God is holy.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

SONG OF PRAISE

"Holy God, we praise your name" (see insert)

CALL TO CONFESSION Isaiah 45:5-7

I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me. I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the Lord, do all these things.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may

hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Malachi 3:17, 4:1-2

"They will be mine," says the Lord Almighty, "in the day when I make up my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him.... Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says the Lord Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings."

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Psalm 116 (I love you, Lord)"

I love you, Lord, for you have delivered me.

I love you, Lord, for you have delivered

My soul from death, my feet from stumbling,

I will walk in the land of the living.

I will bless you, Lord, for you heard my cry.

I reached out my hand and you saved my life.

I will bless you, Lord, for you heard my plea,

And the God of heaven turned his ear to me.

I will bless you, Lord, for unending love,

For your grace and mercy raining down from above.

And I will bless you, Lord, to the very end.

I will call on you as long as I may live. **Jessica Langdon**

PASSING THE PEACE

Ages 4K - 2nd grade released for Seedlings Children's Worship. They will be met at the back of the sanctuary.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?" But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"

“Caesar’s,” they replied. Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING I Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord’s message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE

“The beauty of the heart of Christ”

May my life carry the heart of Christ,
Lord, in all I say and all that I do.
Selfless love, lowly in sacrifice,
Laying down my pride, nothing to prove.

*Now that I have seen, now that I have tasted,
Of your mercy, of your love divine,
May my life be full, full of one thing only,
Just the beauty of the heart of Christ,
Just the beauty of the heart of Christ.*

For the least of these, even my enemies,
Who am I to dare, dare to withhold
What I’ve received, forgiveness and grace so free?
Let your fire in me never grow cold.

Oh, what a privilege, oh, what an honor it is,
No joy greater than this, to carry your heart,
Carry your heart.

Wong, Timmons, Ryan

“King of kings”

In the darkness we were waiting,
Without hope, without light,
Till from Heaven you came running.
There was mercy in your eyes.
To fulfil the law and prophets,
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.

*Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in one.
God of Glory, majesty,
Praise forever to the King of Kings.*

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost,
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross.
For even in your suffering you saw to the other side.
Knowing this was our salvation,
Jesus, for our sake you died.

And the morning that you rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good,
For the Lamb had conquered death.
And the dead rose from their tombs,
And the angels stood in awe,
For the souls of all who’d come
To the Father are restored.

And the Church of Christ was born,
Then the Spirit lit the flame.
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel, shall not faint.
By his blood and in his Name,
In his freedom I am free,
For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me.
Ligertwood, Ingram, Ligertwood

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING I Samuel 24:1-22 *NIV*

After Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, “David is in the Desert of En Gedi.” ²So Saul took three thousand able young men from all Israel and set out to look for David and his men near the Crag of the Wild Goats. ³He came to the sheep pens along the way; a cave was there, and Saul went in to relieve himself. David and his men were far back in the cave. ⁴The men said, “This is the day the Lord spoke of when he said to you, ‘I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish.’” Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul’s robe. ⁵Afterward, David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. ⁶He said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord.” ⁷With these words David

sharply rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way. ⁸Then David went out of the cave and called out to Saul, “My lord the king!” When Saul looked behind him, David bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. ⁹He said to Saul, “Why do you listen when men say, ‘David is bent on harming you’?” ¹⁰This day you have seen with your own eyes how the Lord delivered you into my hands in the cave. Some urged me to kill you, but I spared you; I said, ‘I will not lay my hand on my lord, because he is the Lord’s anointed.’ ¹¹See, my father, look at this piece of your robe in my hand! I cut off the corner of your robe but did not kill you. See that there is nothing in my hand to indicate that I am guilty of wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not wronged you, but you are hunting me down to take my life. ¹²May the Lord judge between you and me. And may the Lord avenge the wrongs you have done to me, but my hand will not touch you. ¹³As the old saying goes, ‘From evildoers come evil deeds,’ so my hand will not touch you. ¹⁴“Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Who are you pursuing? A dead dog? A flea? ¹⁵May the Lord be our judge and decide between us. May he consider my cause and uphold it; may he vindicate me by delivering me from your hand.” ¹⁶When David finished saying this, Saul asked, “Is that your voice, David my son?” And he wept aloud. ¹⁷“You are more righteous than I,” he said. “You have treated me well, but I have treated you badly. ¹⁸You have just now told me about the good you did to me; the Lord delivered me into your hands, but you did not kill me. ¹⁹When a man finds his enemy, does he let him get away unharmed? May the Lord reward you well for the way you treated me today. ²⁰I know that you will surely be king and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hands. ²¹Now swear to me by the Lord that you will not kill off my descendants or wipe out my name from my father’s family.” ²²So David gave his oath to Saul. Then Saul returned home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE “Promise and Struggle”

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.

“All who are thirsty”

All who are thirsty, all who are weak

Come to the fountain,

Dip your heart in the stream of life.

Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away

In the waves of his mercy,

As deep cries out to deep (we sing)

Come, Lord Jesus, come. (repeat)

Holy Spirit, come. (repeat)

As deep cries out to deep, as deep cries out to deep,

As deep cries out to deep (we sing) Brown and Robertson

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

“O, the deep, deep love of Jesus” (see insert)

BENEDICTION

Jude 1:1b-2

To those who have been called, who are loved by God the Father and kept by Jesus Christ: Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.

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 or see the QR code below. We send out a weekly electronic newsletter and other announcement emails.

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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Soon after the service ends, please join us in the sanctuary for our annual congregational meeting as we come together to discuss budget updates and reflect on the past year celebrating God's faithfulness to ACC. We will gather as a church family to give thanks for all God has done and look ahead with hope and anticipation to the year to come.

PAINTING PUMPKINS AND HARVEST DINNER: Come join the Women of ACC on **Saturday, October 24th, 2026** from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Ashley Grey's house (21-36 33rd Road, #14C Astoria) to enjoy a harvest dinner and paint pumpkins! The main course will be provided. Please bring a fall-themed appetizer, dessert, or drink to share! To RSVP, please sign up using the link in the ACC Newsletter. Hope to see you there!

CHOIR: The Advent and Christmas choir will begin rehearsals on **October 25** after the service. We welcome all singers! Please speak to Linnea Kickasola or email her at music@astoriachurch.org with interest and questions.

CHORAL EVENSONG, ALL SAINTS' DAY: We are invited to the Church of the Redeemer on **Sunday, November 1 at 4 pm** for their All Saints' Day service at **30-14 Crescent Street**. This gathering is organized through Neighbors Together, an interfaith coalition dedicated to strengthening relationships, breaking down barriers, and fostering mutual understanding across the vibrant faith communities of Western Queens. *This program is made possible with grant support from the NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes (OPHC).*

2026 HEART FOR MUSLIMS CONFERENCE – CITY ON A HILL: **November 7**, Calvary Baptist Church NYC 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Shahriq Kahn, an American Muslim background believer and leader of Christ Underground, is headlining the HFM Conference. Be encouraged, equipped, and inspired to take part in what God is doing among the nations next door. Earlybird *General Admission* Code for first 100 guests: EARLYBIRD-DISCOUNT2026. Link to register is in the newsletter.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT THE HOUR CHILDREN FOOD PANTRY: ACC volunteers can now serve at The Hour Children Food Pantry throughout the week (8 am to 4 pm). If you're interested, contact Miriam to schedule a time that works for you. More details were shared in a recent email dated 10/5.

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 – beans/lentils, 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@gmail.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!

WELCOME TO ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

WORSHIP: Sundays, 10:30AM

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

Communication Card QR Code



Venmo QR Code



Helpful Information:

Seeds: During worship. Nursery is provided for **newborns – 3K**. Andrea Mungo, admin@astoriachurch.org.

Seedlings Children's Worship (4K – 2nd Grade): Our younger children are dismissed during the Passing of the Peace as they grow into participating in corporate worship. The last Sunday of each month is Family Sunday when we all worship together. Carin Fredere, acckids@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