

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

April 12, 2026
Second Sunday of Easter
www.AstoriaChurch.org

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: You have turned our mourning into dancing; you have removed our sackcloth and clothed us with joy, that our hearts may sing your praises and not be silent.

People: O Lord, our Lord, we will give thanks to you forever!

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

SONG OF PRAISE

“The day of resurrection” (see insert)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

EASTER READING John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION I John 1:8-9

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Colossians 2:13-15

When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

SONG OF RESPONSE "Down at the cross"

Down at the cross where my Savior died,
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried,
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to his name.

*Glory to his name, Glory to his name!
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to his name!*

I am so wondrously saved from sin,
Jesus so sweetly abides within;
There at the cross where he took me in;
Glory to his name.

Come to this fountain so rich and sweet,
Cast your poor soul at the Savior's feet;
Plunge in today, and be made complete;
Glory to his name. Elisha Hoffman

PASSING THE PEACE

Children Pre-K - 3rd Grade are dismissed for Sunday school.

EPISTLE READING I Peter 1:3-9

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE "There is a redeemer"

There is a redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

*Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
And leaving your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.*

Jesus, my redeemer, name above all names.
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Hope for all sinners, slain.

When I stand in glory I will see his face,
There I'll serve my King forever in that holy place.
Melody Green

"O praise the name" (Anástasis)

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me.
I see his wounds, his hands, his feet.
My Savior on that cursed tree.

His body bound and drenched in tears.
They laid him down in Joseph's tomb.
The entrance sealed by heavy stone.
Messiah still and all alone.

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God;
O praise his Name forevermore.
For endless days we will sing your praise,
Oh Lord, oh Lord, our God.*

Then on the third at break of dawn,
The Son of heaven rose again.

O trampled death, where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King.

He shall return in robes of white,
The blazing sun shall pierce the night.
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face.

Sampson, Hastings, Ussher

RECEIVING A NEW MEMBER

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

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 4:20-32 *ESV*

²⁰ That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹ when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Shedding the Old, Putting on the New"

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.*

“We will feast in the house of Zion”

We will feast in the house of Zion

We will sing with our hearts restored

He has done great things, we will say together

We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire

He is the LORD our God

We are not consumed, by the flood

Upheld, protected, gathered up

In the dark of night, before the dawn

My soul, be not afraid

For the promised morning, oh how long?

Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed

You are the faithful one

And from the garden to the grave

Bind us together, bring shalom.

McCracken and Moore

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

“Jesus lives and so shall I” (see insert)

BENEDICTION Romans 15:5-6

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

SPRING COMMUNITY GROUPS: At Astoria Community Church, deep connection happens in our Community Groups. This is where real friendships are forged and faith is strengthened. Our Spring Community Groups begin this week. We continue our study in the book of Ephesians, a letter bursting with truth about our identity in Christ and the riches of his grace. The Kickasolas are doing a book study on C.S. Lewis: *The Four Loves* in the first three meetings and *The Abolition of Man* during the fourth meeting. (**Meeting dates: April 12, April 26, May 17, and May 31**) Don't miss this chance to grow closer to God and to others. Sign up in the Tuesday newsletter.

EASTER OUTREACH OFFERING: Thank you for giving towards our special Easter Outreach Offering! **We have received 90% (\$13,500.57) of our goal so far! If you haven't given yet but are planning to, please do! Help us reach our goal of \$15,000.** See our website giving page which explains the various ways you can give. Please note Easter Offering with your gift. Thank you!

INTRO TO ACC: Whether you're new to ACC or have been here for a while and want to learn more, we invite you to join our next **Introduction to ACC class starting TODAY and April 19 at 5pm.** This is a great opportunity to learn how to become a member, discover ACC's vision and mission, ask questions and get connected. See Jim or Andrea to sign up.

LET'S ROLL WITH IT!: The Women of ACC will be gathering on **Saturday, April 18 from 12-2:30 pm** to learn how to make sushi, fellowship and eat together at Irene Lu's home. Sign up link is in the newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE: On **Saturday, May 16** ACC will be showing our care for the community by volunteering with our partner organization, Hour Children, in Long Island City. More details and a sign-up sheet to follow. Questions? Please see Miriam or email her at mtielmann@gmail.com.

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 microwavable 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@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued generosity and compassion!

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/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, 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