

Astoria Community Church

May 11, 2025
Fourth 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

"Ye sons and daughters of the King"

Ye sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave hath lost its sting: Alleluia!

On that first morning of the week,
Before the day began to break,
The Marys went their Lord to seek: Alleluia!

An angel bade their sorrow flee,
For thus he spake unto the three:
"Your Lord is gone to Galilee:" Alleluia!

That night the apostles met in fear,
Amidst them came their Lord most dear
And said: "Peace be unto you here:" Alleluia!

Blessed are they that have not seen
And yet whose faith hath constant been;
In life eternal they shall reign: Alleluia!

And we with holy Church unite,
As evermore is just and right,
In glory to the King of light: Alleluia!
Melchior Vulpius; Jean Tisserand, tr. JM Neale

PRAYER OF ADORATION

EASTER READING Luke 24:13-35

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named

Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION II Corinthians 5:15

And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; we acknowledge and confess our many sins; which we have committed; by thought, word, and deed; against your divine majesty. We do earnestly repent; and are heartily sorry for these our wrongs; remembering them is grief to us. Have mercy upon us; have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ; forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please you in newness of life; to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON I Corinthians 15:54-57
“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, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

SONG OF RESPONSE "Thy mercy, my God"

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy, I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But through thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by thy goodness I fall to the ground,
And weep for the praise of the mercy I found.
Hallelujah!

Great Father of mercies, thy goodness I own;
And the covenant love of thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine,
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine,
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.
Hallelujah! Sandra McCracken; John Stocker

PASSING THE PEACE

Children ages 3-Grade 5 are dismissed for Sunday school.

OLD TESTAMENT READING. Psalm 23
The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death, I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Surely goodness, surely mercy"

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

In green pastures he makes me lie down.

He restores my soul and leads me on

For his name, for his great name.

Surely goodness, surely mercy

Right beside me all my days.

And I will dwell in your house forever

And bless your holy name.

You prepare a table right before me

In the presence of my enemies.

Though the arrow flies and the terror of night

Is at my door, I'll trust you, Lord.

And even though I walk through the valley

Of the shadow of death I will fear no evil.

And even though I walk through the valley

Of the shadow of death you are on my side.

Shane Barnard

"I will rise"

There's a peace I've come to know,

Though my heart and flesh may fail.

There's an anchor for my soul--

I can say, "It is well."

Jesus has overcome, and the grave is overwhelmed;

The victory is won, he is risen from the dead.

And I will rise when he calls my name;

No more sorrow, no more pain.

I will rise on eagle's wings,

Before my God, fall on my knees, and rise. I will rise.

There's a day that's drawing near,

When this darkness breaks to light,

And the shadows disappear,
And my faith shall be my sight.

And I hear the voice of many angels sing,
“Worthy is the Lamb!”
And I hear the cry of ev’ry longing heart,
“Worthy is the Lamb!” Giglio, Tomlin, Reeves and Maher

TESTIMONY

SCRIPTURE READING Revelation 2:1-7 NIV

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:
These are the words of him who holds the seven stars
in his right hand and walks among the seven golden
lampstands. ²I know your deeds, your hard work and
your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate
wicked people, that you have tested those who claim
to be apostles but are not, and have found them
false. ³You have persevered and have endured
hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.
⁴Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the
love you had at first. ⁵Consider how far you have
fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you
do not repent, I will come to you and remove your
lampstand from its place. ⁶But you have this in your
favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which
I also hate. ⁷Whoever has ears, let them hear what the
Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is
victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of
life, which is in the paradise of God.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE "What do you Love" 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.

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

“This joyful Eastertide” (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.

EASTER OFFERING UPDATE: We thank you for your faithfulness and commitment to the work God is doing in and through our church. We have raised \$13,818.95! Your generosity makes a real difference in our outreach efforts.

TOWN HALL MEETING: Today, immediately following worship. Jim will give an update on goals for ACC this year and the process of moving toward those goals. Open to all and questions encouraged on topic. We know this is Mother's day so we will meet for only 30 minutes right after the service so you can still enjoy celebrating the mothers in your lives.

WHAT'S APP GROUP FOR ACC WOMEN'S

MINISTRY: The women's ministry just started a What's App group for the women of ACC. If you would like to join the group, please email Anne at anne.rojas@gmail.com. Send her your cell phone and she will add you.

GENEROUS JUSTICE CLASS: Class is not meeting today. Please join for any our upcoming classes – May 18th, June 1st & 8th. Reading the book is not a requirement for attending! Class begins in the Chapel at 12:30pm.

SPRING COMMUNITY GROUPS: Join a community group! Let's gather together to study the first 3 chapters of the book of Revelation. Our Spring Community Groups run through the week of June 15th. 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.

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 (NOT frozen) items every Sunday for the pantry. Items may be dropped off in the green bin in the lobby.

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: Annette Scattoni
(ACCKids@astoriachurch.org)
YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR: George Dimitriadis
(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:

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.

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

Youth Group - Grades 6 - 12: George Dimitriadis, 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: raulwrojas@gmail.com or gianlu19@gmail.com