

Astoria

Community Church

July 12, 2026
www.AstoriaChurch.org

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 65

Leader: Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled.

People: You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.

Leader: When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

People: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

Leader: You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,

People: who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.

All: The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

SONG OF PRAISE

“Come thou fount” (see insert)

“Better is one day”

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord Almighty.
My soul longs and even faints for you.
For here my heart is satisfied
Within your presence;
I sing beneath the shadow of your wings.

*Better is one day in your courts,
Better is one day in your house,
Better is one day in your courts,
Than thousands elsewhere.*

One thing I ask and I would seek
To see your beauty;
To find you in the place
Your glory dwells.

My heart and flesh cry out
For you, the living God.
Your Spirit's water for my soul.

I've tasted and I've seen,
Come once again to me.

I will draw near to you,
I will draw near to you.

Matt Redman

CALL TO CONFESSION Romans 8:5-9

Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: O Spirit, I have grieved you. I have not had the courage to live by faith, to trust that Christ has become my righteousness. I have tried to be my own righteousness. I am anxiety-ridden about my weaknesses. I am bent on avoiding sin—not out of love for Christ, but because I do not like to be wrong. And I have demanded too much of this life by settling for too little of your power. I have not set my sights on the life to come. I do not live enough for the day when what is mortal shall be swallowed up by life. O Spirit of Christ, have mercy on me. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Romans 8:10-11, 15-16

But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you....For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Spirit of God, descend upon my heart” (see insert)

PASSING THE PEACE

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 55:10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return to it without watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,

so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the
eater,

so is my word that goes out from my mouth:

It will not return to me empty,

but will accomplish what I desire

and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace;

the mountains and hills

will burst into song before you,

and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper,

and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.

This will be for the LORD's renown,

for an everlasting sign,

that will endure forever.”

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear.... Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.

This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE "Speak, O Lord"

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you,

To receive the food of your holy Word.

Take your truth, plant it deep in us;

Shape and fashion us in your likeness;

That the light of Christ might be seen today

In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us

All your purposes for your glory.

Teach us Lord, full obedience,

Holy reverence, true humility.

Test our thoughts and our attitudes

In the radiance of your purity.

Cause our faith to rise,

Cause our eyes to see

Your majestic love and authority.

Words of power that can never fail

Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;

Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.

Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,

That will echo down through eternity.

And by grace we'll stand on your promises;

And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.

Speak, O Lord, 'til your church is built

As the earth is filled with your glory. **Townend: Getty**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 6:18-24 *ESV*

¹⁸praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak. ²¹So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, Tychicus the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord will tell you everything. ²²I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage your hearts.

²³Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Prayer and final greetings"

Pastor Jim Fredere

OFFERTORY "Your labor is not in vain"

Your labor is not in vain

Though the ground underneath you

Is cursed and stained.

Your planting and reaping are never the same,

Your labor is not in vain

Your labor is not unknown,

Though the rocks they cry out

And the sea it may groan.

The place of your toil may not seem like a home,

But your labor is not unknown.

For I am with you, I am with you,

I am with you, I am with you.

For I have called you,

Called you by name,

Your labor is not in vain.

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit.

The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth.

For all that is old will at last be made new,

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit.

The houses you labored to build

Will finally with laughter and joy be filled.

The serpent that hurts and destroys will be killed

And all that is broken be healed.

Kimbrough, Wardell, Zach and Keyes

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.

"Jerusalem"

See him in Jerusalem walking where the crowds are.

Once these streets had sung to him,

Now they cry for murder.

Such a frail and lonely man,

Holding up the heavy cross.

See him walking in Jerusalem,

On the road to save us.

See him there upon the hill,

Hear the scorn and laughter.

Silent as a lamb he waits

Praying to the Father.

See the King who made the sun

And the moon and shining stars,

Let the soldiers hold and nail him down

So that he could save them.

See him there upon the cross,

Now no longer breathing.

Dust that formed the watching crowds,

Takes the blood of Jesus.

Feel the earth is shaking now,

See the veil is split in two.

And he stood before the wrath of God,

Shielding sinners with his blood.

See the empty tomb today,

Death could not contain him.

Once the servant of the world,

Now in vict'ry reigning.

Lift your voices to the One

Who is seated on the throne.

See him in the New Jerusalem,

Praise the One who saved us.

Robinson, Thompson, Tranter

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

"Come, my soul, thy suit prepare" (see insert)

BENEDICTION

II Thessalonians 2:16-17

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

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.

SUMMER SIP N' PAINT: Come join the women of ACC today from **2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** for our Summer Sip & Paint Event at Ashley Grey's house. Our Sip & Paint event welcomes all women of ACC to enjoy an afternoon of free style painting with mocktails, light snacks, and good company! Link to sign up is in the Tuesday newsletter. Hope to see you there!

VACATION BIBLE CLUB: The sign up form for our 2026 Vacation Bible Club, Space Mission is live! Please see the Tuesday newsletter to sign up to volunteer. The week is **Monday – Friday, August 24 – 28 from 6-8 p.m.** VBC is our biggest outreach event of the year. This year, we're planning to distribute backpacks with school supplies to attendees on the final evening of VBC. Each backpack costs \$8 if you would like to donate to cover that expense. If you have any questions, reach out to judith.newlin@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 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/astoriacomcommunitychurch](https://www.instagram.com/astoriacomcommunitychurch)
[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 (4K – 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