

ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

June 9, 2024
www.AstoriaChurch.org

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 138

Leader: I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

People: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

Leader: On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

People: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

Leader: They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD. For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

People: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

All: The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

SONG OF PRAISE

“O God beyond all praising” (see insert)

CALL TO CONFESSION Psalm 130:1-4

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord:
Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

Lord, who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness,

So that we can, with reverence, serve you.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Psalm 130:5-8

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him

is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

SONG OF RESPONSE “I shall not want”

From the love of my own comfort,
From the fear of having nothing,
From a life of worldly passions,
Deliver me, O God.

From the need to be understood,
And from a need to be accepted,
From the fear of being lonely,
Deliver me, O God.
Deliver me, O God.

*And I shall not want,
No, I shall not want.
When I taste your goodness,
I shall not want.
When I taste your goodness,
I shall not want.*

From the fear of serving others,
Oh, and from the fear of death or trial,
And from the fear of humility,
Deliver me, O God.
Yes, deliver me, O God.

Assad and Brown

OLD TESTAMENT READING I Samuel 8:4-20

So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. They said to him, “You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.” But when they said, “Give us a king to lead us,” this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. And the LORD told him: “Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights.” Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. He said, “This is what the king who will reign over you will claim as his rights: He will take your sons and make them serve with his

chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots. Some he will assign to be commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and others to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and still others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendants. He will take a tenth of your grain and of your vintage and give it to his officials and attendants. Your male and female servants and the best of your cattle and donkeys he will take for his own use. He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, but the LORD will not answer you in that day.” But the people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We want a king over us. Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles.”

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING II Corinthians 4:13-5:1

It is written: “I believed; therefore I have spoken.” Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE “Steadfast”

I will build my house whether storm or drought
On the rock that does not move.
I will set my hope in your love, O Lord,
And your faithfulness will prove
You are steadfast, steadfast.

By the word you spoke all the starry host
Are called out by name each night.
In your watchful care I will rest secure
As you lead us with your light.
You are steadfast, steadfast.

I will not trust in the strength of kings,
On your promise I will stand.
I will shout for joy, I will raise my voice,
Hallelujah to the Lamb!
You are steadfast, steadfast.

In the moment of emptiness, all was fulfilled.
In the hour of darkness, your light was revealed.
In the presence of death, your life was affirmed.
In the absence of holiness, you are still God.
You are steadfast, steadfast. McCracken, Jordan, Silverberg

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

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

Children age 3 - grade 5 are dismissed for Sunday school.

OFFERTORY

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 13:1-9 *NIV*

Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ² Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? ³ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.” ⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. ⁷ So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’ ⁸ “‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE “The parable of the fig tree” Jim Fredere

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.

“Take my life and let it be” (see insert)

MUSIC OF COMMITMENT

"Jesus, what a friend for sinners” (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 to ACC, please email admin@astoriachurch.org to be added to our email list. Or fill out a communication card at the Hospitality Table (hard copy or QR code). We send out a weekly electronic newsletter and other announcement emails.

PRAYER BEFORE THE SERVICE: Come join us for an encouraging time of fellowship, sharing and prayer twice a month. The next time we will gather for prayer is on **Sunday, June 16th** in the Chapel.

PRAYER AFTER THE SERVICE: If you need prayer for anything, the Elders and Diaconate members will be up front in the sanctuary after the announcements **every Sunday**. Please come forward for prayer!

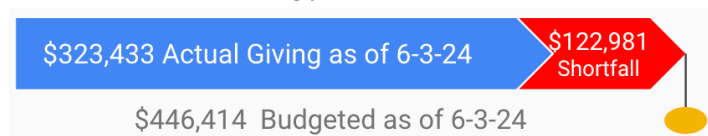
FOOD & CLOTHING DRIVE: Hour Children food pantry isn't only giving out food these days. The increase of refugees to the area continues to shape the needs that the pantry is trying to meet in the community. We at ACC want to continue to support our neighbors and what better way than to feed and clothe them. We are looking for **SPRING and SUMMER clothes only!** Men's clothing and kids' shoes are a particular need right now but **we need all ages**. Food that can be heated up in the microwave. (Cans of food are no longer allowed in the shelters) Please bring your donations to church on **June 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th**. Questions? Contact Miriam at miriam@astoriachurch.org.

BLOOD DRIVE: The next blood drive at the Synagogue will be **Sunday, June 30, 2024**. Plan to stop by downstairs after the service!

HILLSIDE KIDS CLUB: Come join us for a day or two at our 10th Annual **Hillside Center Summer Kids Club** for families in our community on July 8th - 12th. We'll meet from 7pm in Captain Tilly Park and have crafts, games, stories, and popsicles. If you could arrange your afternoon to join us, we'd love for you to meet our community and support this program! Sign up link to volunteer is in the newsletter. If you have any questions, talk with Carin or email her at carin@hillsidecenternyc.org.

VACATION BIBLE CLUB: We will be offering our Vacation Bible Club - Olympion the week of **July 15, every evening Monday-Friday**. This year's theme ties in with the 2024 Paris Olympics! Please bring your children! Sign up link to volunteer is in the newsletter. You can also sign up for a craft prepping party on **Sunday, July 7th, from 12PM - 2PM in the Chapel. Pizza and drinks provided!** We will also have 2 outreach events to spread the word.

FINANCIAL UPDATE: See below for an update on our finances and budget. Please consider your giving plans as we near the end of our FY on June 30th.



NURSERY NEWS: We are so pleased to share that we have **10 nursery volunteers!** Thank you ACC for responding with willingness to serve our little ones. This will save us over \$8,000.

WELCOME TO ASTORIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Our mission is to glorify God by learning of God, living in Christ, and loving God and our neighbors.

WORSHIP: Sundays, 10:30AM (Mixed Style)
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2102, Astoria, NY 11102
OFFICE: 22-07 Astoria Blvd., Cellar Entrance, Astoria, NY 11102
PHONE: 718-721-3440

WEBSITE: www.astoriachurch.org
WORSHIP LOCATION: Astoria Center of Israel Building
27-35 Crescent Street, Astoria, NY 11102
INTERIM PASTOR: Jim Fredere (jim@astoriachurch.org)
MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Andrea Mungo (admin@astoriachurch.org)
WORSHIP DIRECTOR: Linnea Kickasola (music@astoriachurch.org)
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Annette Scattoni
(ACCKids@astoriachurch.org)
YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR: JC Cha
(youth@astoriachurch.org)
[Instagram.com/astoriacomunitychurch](https://www.instagram.com/astoriacomunitychurch)
[Facebook.com/AstoriaCommunityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/AstoriaCommunityChurch)

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 (Ages 3-10): During worship Sunday School class. Annette Scattoni, acckids@astoriachurch.org.

Youth Group - Grades 6 - 12: JC Cha, 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