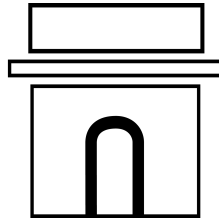


NEIGHBORHOOD  CHURCH
of Greenwich Village



Meeting at 46 Barrow Street @ 10:30am

"My child, when you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for testing."
-Sirach 2:1

"But God tries in one way, Satan in another. Satan tempts that he may destroy, condemn, confound, cast down, but God, that by proving his own children he may make trial of their sincerity, and establish their strength by exercising it; that he may mortify, purify, and cauterize their flesh, which unless it were forced under this restraint would play the wanton and vaunt itself beyond measure."

-John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, 3.20.46

"The supreme temptation of man....is precisely to tempt God, to seek the fulfillment of God's purposes without having to endure God's time."

-Oliver O'Donovan, *Finding and Seeking: Ethics as Theology*

11/20/22

On behalf of the congregation of Neighborhood Church of Greenwich Village, we welcome you to our worship service. Our prayer is that your contact with us today encourages you to seek the living and true God.

In the words of the prophet Isaiah:
"Seek the LORD while he may be found,
Call upon Him while he is near." (Isaiah 55:6)

In His grace,

Nick Nowalk, Pastor

A word about our worship:

We have sought to pattern our service after biblical accounts of people confronted by God. Such encounters often involve God making himself known in his righteousness and holiness, which, in turn, causes people to be very aware of their innate sinfulness. In humility, they confess their sinfulness and God graciously lifts them up and instructs them as to what he expects of them. They then respond by committing to serve him. Such incidents as found in Isaiah 6, Exodus 3, Luke 5, and Acts 9, are good examples. May the Lord be pleased to grant such an encounter to us this day.

GREETING (Arturo Villanueva)

Leader: The Lord be with you
Congregation: And also with you

ORDER OF SERVICE

Our Approach to God

Call to Worship

Psalm 37

Opening Prayer

Hymn

The Lord Is My Salvation

The grace of God has reached for me
And pulled me from the raging sea
And I am safe on the solid ground
The Lord is my salvation

I will not fear when darkness falls
His strength will help me scale these walls
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun
The Lord is my salvation

[Chorus]

*Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save faithful in love
My debt is paid, and the victory won
The Lord is my salvation*

My hope is hidden in the Lord
He fulfills each promise of His word
When winter fades, I know spring will come
The Lord is my salvation *[Chorus]*

Glory be to God, the Father
Glory be to God, the Son
Glory be to God, the Spirit
The Lord is our Salvation *[Chorus]*

Confession of Faith | *Philippians 2:5-11*

We believe that Jesus Christ, even though he was in the form of God, did not consider equality with God a thing to be used for his own advantage. Rather, he emptied himself by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of humanity. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

And we believe that God desires each of us to have this same attitude in our own lives, which was also in Jesus.

Hymn

O Praise Him (All This For a King)

Turn your ear
To heaven and hear
The noise inside
The sound of angels' awe
The sound of angels' songs
And all this for a King
We could join and sing
All to Christ the King

How constant, how divine
This song of ours will rise
O, how constant, how divine

This love of ours will rise
Will rise

O praise Him
O praise him
He is holy
He is holy

Turn your gaze
To heaven and raise
A joyous noise
The sound of salvation come
The sound of rescued ones
And all this for a King
Angels join to sing
All for Christ our King
Oh la, la, la, la, la, la

How infinite and sweet
This love so rescuing
O, how infinitely sweet
This great love that has redeemed
As one we sing

Alleluia
Alleluia
He is holy
He is holy

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Grace *(David Ellis)*

Corporate Confession

Holy God, your name is excellent, your glory high, your compassion unfailing, your condescension wonderful, your mercy tender. We bless you for the promises of the gospel, for in them is pardon for rebels, liberty for captives, health for the sick, salvation for the lost.

May your approval be our only aim, your Word our only rule. In many things we have offended, in all come short of your glory; pardon our iniquity, for it is great. This we ask in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Mediator.

Silent Personal Confession

Assurance of Grace

"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."
(Proverbs 28:13)

Response

He Will Hold Me Fast
When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

[Chorus]

He will hold me fast

*He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast *[Chorus]*

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last *[Chorus]*

The Word of God & Sacrament

Scripture Readings

Genesis 22:1-18 NIV (*Hannah van der Swaagh*)

Message

The Test (*David Ellis, Pastor of Astoria Community Church*)

Our Response to God's Grace

Intercessory Prayer (*Ujunwa Anakwenze, Sam van der Swaagh, Josh Kim*)

Announcements (*Te Liu*)

Refiner's Fire
Purify my heart
Let me be as gold
And precious silver
Purify my heart
Let me be as gold
Pure gold

[Chorus]
Refiner's fire
My heart's one desire
Is to be holy
Set apart for you Lord
I choose to be holy
Set apart for you my master
Ready to do your will

Purify my heart
Cleanse me from within
And make me holy

Purify my heart
Cleanse me from my sin
Deep within [Chorus]

Benediction

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:31-38)

PRAYER

- For newly elected & re-elected political officials around our country, that they would lead and govern with wisdom, integrity and justice
- That God would open up a new, larger location for us to worship in on Sunday mornings in Greenwich Village
- For peace and the cessation of violence and war in the nation of Ukraine in light of Russia's unprovoked invasion
- For the genocide against the Uyghur people in China to come to an end
- For Nate Harp & Jen Yu as they enter into marriage this coming Saturday, November 12th
- Pray for healing for Megan as she receives ongoing cancer treatments
- For Hiyori Nishimura as she continues her graduate studies and ministry to Japanese students in NYC, that God would provide everything she needs for her calling and faithfulness
- For Noel Chou, as she begins raising support to go on staff with Wycliffe Bible Translators
- For Manjari R., a young missionary in an Arabic-speaking nation in the MENA region (Middle East/North Africa) who is beginning her long-term ministry there. Pray for Manjari for: (1) finding a long-term missions team in her region as her first initial term of service comes to a conclusion, (2) ongoing financial support to remain on the field in the years to come, (3) favor and blessing over relationships with cousins (non-Christians) to be invited deeper into community with local friends, (4) grace & wisdom in language-training and cultural adaptation
- For Kirk and Barbara van der Swaagh as they transition into a new season as missionaries in Scotland
- For the work of the Lord to prosper through ministries supported by our church: Andrew and Esther Schaeffer in Burkina Faso; Avi and Ruth Snyder in Hungary; the ministry of Hope Academy; Do for One; Bowery Mission; Avail Pregnancy Help Center; Expect Hope; The Father's Heart, and Open Doors.

THE SUFFERING CHURCH

“Pray without ceasing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:17

FOR NOVEMBER:

Nigeria

- A church service was interrupted and several worshippers were killed in Nigeria. Urgent and immediate prayer is needed for this violence to stop. More than 80 churchgoers were abducted, with at least three killed and many others injured when Fulani militants invaded two churches. This is an all-too-regular occurrence for God's people in parts of Nigeria. Please pray for the Lord to end these atrocities and to bring peace.
- Two women who had been abducted in 2014 were recently found and rescued. Pray for their healing and restoration and safety moving forward, and for many others who have been kidnapped and not found.

Vietnam

- Two missionary brothers were arrested and beaten and their government benefits were revoked to keep them from ministering among the people of Vietnam. May the Lord continue to provide for them so that they and others can continue the work of the Lord among the Vietnamese people.
- A family of 13 was expelled from their community in a Vietnamese village for being Christians, even though the constitution gives them that right. They were told this freedom does not apply within their area. Ask the Lord to safeguard all believers in Vietnam and given them bold words to respond to this injustice righteously.

North Korea

- If a North Korean is found with a Bible it will be immediately confiscated and destroyed. Those found in possession of a Bible are exiled to remote villages with no chance of ever returning, given reduced food rations and forced into hard labor. Pray for the love of God to warm their hearts, fill their being and spill over to those around them. Pray for God to bring about systemic change and justice in this country.

Central Asia

- The husband of a Christian woman was enraged when she converted to her new faith in Jesus. He beat her and expelled her from their home, planning to divorce her and take their child. Thank God she was able to flee to a safe place of refuge. Pray for her and her child, for continued security and health.

Eph. 6:18; 1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Tim. 3:12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For activities on zoom:

<https://tinyurl.com/ngvzoom>

Upcoming

- NCGV Small Groups have begun! Lower Manhattan (Tuesdays), Queens/LIC (Wednesdays), & UWS/West Harlem (Thursdays). Email nick.nowalk@gmail.com if you are interested in checking out a small group.
- Expect Hope visits us on Sunday, November 20th after the service: 1pm @ 269 Bleecker St.
- ADVENT begins on Sunday, November 27th (the four Sundays before Christmas)
- First Friday Jazz Series: Ike Sturm & Alan Ferber on Friday, December 2nd @ 8pm & 9:30pm
- No NCGV monthly congregational meeting in November; next meeting on Sunday, December 4th
- NCGV Christmas Party! Friday, December 16th @ 7pm (269 Bleecker Street)

Giving

There are four ways to give to Neighborhood Church:

- Cash or checks dropped into the offering box at the worship service
- Checks mailed to: Neighborhood Church, 269 Bleecker Street, New York NY 10014
- PayPal donations via this link: [paypal.me/ngv](https://www.paypal.me/ngv)
- Zelle or Venmo transfers to 201-988-1044

Contact

Phone: 212.691.1770

Mail: 269 Bleecker St., New York NY 10014

Email: ngv@ngvnyc.com

Website: ngvnyc.com

Pastor: Nick Nowalk; Deacon: Dan Cowles



Neighborhood Church is a member of the
Conservative Congregational Christian Conference