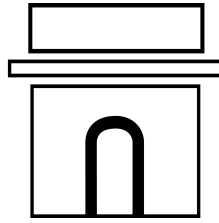


NEIGHBORHOOD  CHURCH  
of Greenwich Village



Meeting at 46 Barrow Street @ 10:30am

“Creation is grace: a statement at which we should like best to pause in reverence, fear and gratitude. God does not grudge the existence of reality distinct from Himself. He does not grudge it its own reality, nature and freedom.”

-Karl Barth, *Dogmatics in Outline*

“If the Creator is not known, then the creation is not known *as creation*; for the relation of the creation to its Creator is the ground of its intelligibility as a created universe. If one term of that relation is obscured, the universe cannot be understood. There is no principle of self-contained cosmic intelligibility, in relation to which the existence or non-existence of a Creator may be regarded as a separate question and postponed to another day.”

-Oliver O’Donovan, *Resurrection and Moral Order*

“The concept of the order of creation is a theme in Christian ethics which the present era is inclined to forget. For a Christian ethics which takes seriously the fact that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is a gospel of the world’s redemption, and not of escape from it, cannot but inquire with the utmost seriousness as to the nature and form of the order of creation which it was God’s will not only to create but also to redeem. And it cannot but treat this order as morally significant.”

-Michael C. Banner, *Christian Ethics and Contemporary Moral Problems*

**4/9/23**

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**

Leader: Christ is risen!  
Congregation: *He is risen indeed!*

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

---

*Our Approach to God*

**Call to Worship**

## Opening Prayer

### Hymn

*When You Walk Into the Room*

When You walk into the room, everything changes  
Darkness starts to tremble at the light that You bring  
When You walk into the room, every heart starts burning  
And nothing matters more than just to sit here at Your feet  
And worship You

*[Chorus]*

*We Love You, and we'll never stop  
We can't live without You, Jesus  
We Love You, We can't get enough  
All this is for You, Jesus*

When You walk into the room, sickness starts to vanish  
Every hopeless situation, ceases to exist  
When You walk into the room, the dead begin to rise  
Cause there is resurrection life in all You do

*[Bridge]*

*Come and consume God, all we are  
We give You permission, our hearts are Yours  
We want You, We want You*

### Confession of Faith | Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### Hymn

*You're Beautiful*

I see Your face in every sunrise  
the colors of the morning are inside Your eyes  
the world awakens at the light of the day  
I look up to the sky and say  
You're beautiful

I see your power in the moonlit night

Where planets are in motion and galaxies are bright  
We are amazed by the light of the stars  
It's all proclaiming who you are  
You're beautiful

I see you there hanging on a tree  
You bled and then you died and then you rose again for me  
Now you are sitting on your heavenly throne  
Soon we will be coming home  
You're beautiful

When we arrive at eternity's shore  
where death is just a memory and tears are no more  
We'll enter in as the wedding bells ring  
Your bride will come together and we'll sing  
You're beautiful

I see Your face, You're beautiful  
You're beautiful, You're beautiful

### **Confession of Sin & Assurance of Grace**

#### **Corporate Confession**

Our Father, you raised Jesus from death to life and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have been slow to believe, and have not joyfully acknowledged his rule over us as we should. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give him our whole lives. Forgive us, O God, and raise us from our sin, that we may be your faithful people, knowing the joy of Easter triumph and walking in newness of life. Grant us the power of the resurrection to live holy lives, free from sin, and to follow in the mission he gave us—through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

#### **Silent Personal Confession**

##### **Assurance of Grace**

*"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."* (1 Peter 2:24)

#### **Response**

*Before the Throne of God Above*

Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great high Priest whose name is Love  
Who ever lives and pleads for me

My name is graven on His hand  
My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heaven He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart  
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end to all my sin

Because a sinless Savior died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me  
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb  
My perfect spotless righteousness  
The great unchangeable I Am  
The King of Glory and of grace  
One in Himself, I cannot die

My soul is purchased by His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Savior and my God  
With Christ my Savior and my God

Hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the One, risen Son of God

---

*The Word of God & Sacrament*

### **Scripture Readings**

Genesis 1:1-19 (*Jerry Kong*)  
Genesis 1:20-2:3 (*Laura Belk*)  
Psalm 104 (*Josh Kim*)

### **Message**

Creation: Getting Our Bearings in God's Good World

### **The Table of the Lord**

*"Can God spread a table in the wilderness?...You prepare a table before me, in the presence of my enemies."*

Words of Institution

Distribution & Reflection

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.*

---

*Our Response to God's Grace*

### **Intercessory Prayer**

#### **Announcements**

*Shout to the Lord*

My Jesus, My Saviour  
Lord there is none like you  
All of my days I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my Shelter  
Tower of refuge and strength  
Let every breath, all that I am  
Never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing  
Power and majesty praise to the King  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands  
Forever I'll love You forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

## **Benediction**

*“And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!’ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, ‘Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.’” (Revelation 4:11)*

## **PRAYER**

- That God would open up a new, larger location for us to worship in on Sunday mornings in Greenwich Village
- For our new Pastoral Search Committee as they begin looking to identify a second pastor for NCGV
- For Mary Sue Daoud as she recovers from surgery
- Pray for Jingwen Zhang as she prepares to move to Dallas to begin her residency after medical school
- Pray for healing for Megan as she receives ongoing cancer treatments
- For Kirk and Barbara van der Swaagh as they serve 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; Manjari R., a cross-cultural worker serving the peoples of Lebanon and Syria; Noel Chou with Wycliffe Bible Translators; 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**

FOR APRIL:

### **1.) Laos**

- Pastor Manee refused to sign a document renouncing the Christian faith and promising to cease from preaching the gospel. He received a three day sentence. Shortly after he returned to preaching publicly he was murdered. Pray for comfort for his devastated family and hurting congregation.

### **2.) Afghanistan**

- A brother named Bashir took refuge in Pakistan, but his visa has expired. He faces near certain death as a Christian convert if he is returned to his country. Ask the Lord to intervene in this dire situation.
- Tsreg, his wife and their baby daughter fled their home in Afghanistan to escape the Taliban, who regularly search for Christians. They left in secret and now live as refugees in Brazil. Pray the Lord restores their broken hearts as they have been forced to leave everything and everyone they’ve known.

### **3.) China**

- A female pastor named Hoo has been sentenced to eight years in prison on false charges of fraud. Pray for her health, strength and faith as she endures this sentence—and countless others face similar situations.
- Persecution is on the rise in China. Young people, teachers and parents are told that religion will harm their education and future career prospects. Pray for the church here, especially for young believers.

### **4.) Uganda**

- Two brothers were studying the Bible when family members beat them, accusing them of bringing an unholy corrupted book into the home of a Muslim family. Pray that God would open the eyes of their family to see Jesus.
- Posing as a Christian, a Muslim extremist lured a Ugandan pastor into an ambush. His attackers sprayed him with acid and nearly blinded him. Pray for healing and encouragement as he recovers.

### **5.) Nigeria**

- It is estimated that the vast majority of Christians in northeast Nigeria have lost family members in attacks by Islamic militants. Pray for hearts to be healed, and that God would raise up a mighty house of believers.
- This month marks nine years since Boko Haram abducted 276 girls from a school. Nearly 100 are still missing. Please pray for those who are still captives.
- Two buses of believers, one going to a wedding and the other a funeral, were forcibly stopped by extremists. A total of 71 people were kidnapped for ransom. This is an increasingly common crime in Nigeria—please lift these dear brothers and sisters up in prayer, along with their anguished families.

### **6.) India**

- As persecution heats up in India, pastors are being targeted, murdered and deported. This discourages and intimidates their churches and many individual Christians who attend, not to mention the untold grief caused to their families. Pray that the church would continue to grow (spiritually and numerically) despite all the oppression our brothers and sisters are facing.

## 7.) Sudan

- A former Muslim woman named Awatif converted to Christianity at the beginning of 2023 after Jesus appeared to her in a dream. When her husband learned of her new faith he tried to force her to renounce the gospel through physical torture. She did not give up her faith, and her family—thinking she had gone insane—kidnapped her and took her to a psychiatric hospital. She was given various unidentified injections and electrical shock treatment, all against her will. She remains in a highly dangerous situation, with no legal recourse available. Let's be in unceasing prayer on behalf of all who suffer such injustice and harm.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### For activities on zoom:

<https://tinyurl.com/ngvzoom>

### Upcoming

- NCGV Small Groups meet weekly! Lower Manhattan (Tuesdays), Queens/LIC (Wednesdays), & UWS/West Harlem (Wednesdays). Email [nick.nowalk@gmail.com](mailto:nick.nowalk@gmail.com) if you are interested in checking out a small group.
- Next round of “new member” classes at NCGV: April 16th, 23rd & 30th after the service (1pm)
- Next monthly congregational meeting: Sunday, May 14th @ 1pm
- Serving at Father's Heart (food pantry & soup kitchen): Saturday, April 29th (7:45-11:30am) @ 545 E. 11th Street. Email Kristen at [ncgvvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:ncgvvolunteer@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering.

### 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://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: [ncgv@ncgvnyc.com](mailto:ncgv@ncgvnyc.com)

Website: [ncgvnyc.com](http://ncgvnyc.com)

Pastor: Nick Nowalk; Deacon: Dan Cowles



Neighborhood Church is a member of the  
Conservative Congregational Christian Conference