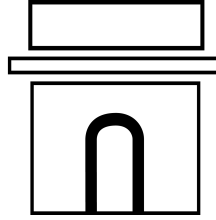


NEIGHBORHOOD  CHURCH
of Greenwich Village



Meeting at 2pm @ St. Paul's German Lutheran Church (315 W. 22nd Street)

“Listen carefully, my child, to the Master’s instructions, and attend to them with the ear of your heart.”
-opening line of The Rule of St. Benedict, written in the 6th century

“The history of covenant begins with an invitation to hear, but the course of that history is a refusal to hear...We are given a clue [in Psalm 81] to the main problem: Israel listens to other voices.”
-Walter Brueggemann, *The Message of the Psalms: A Theological Commentary*

"Remember, that to be given over to ourselves, is the heaviest plague on this side of hell...To be given over to your own conceits or wisdom, is to be forsaken of the sun, and left in darkness, and spend the rest of your days in a dungeon, the beginning of the endless utter darkness. To be given over to your own wills, is to be at the choice and disposal of a fool and an enemy; and to be in such hands as will certainly undo you, and to be cast out of the hands of God. To be given over to seek yourselves, is to lose yourselves and God, and your salvation...To be given over to be ruled by yourselves, is to be relinquished as rebels, and exposed to the tyranny of sin and Satan. So that in all things it is most certain, that you are never well but in the hands of God, and never so ill as when you are most in your own hands."
-Richard Baxter, *A Treatise of Self-Denial*

7/23/23

Our Approach to God

Call to Worship | *Psalm 85:8-13*

Opening Prayer

Confession of Faith | *Colossians 1:15-20*

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

For in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and unto him.

And he is before all things.

And in him all things hold together.

And he is the head of the body, the church.

Jesus Christ is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that in everything he might be preeminent.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile unto himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Song

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true child;
Thou in me dwelling, to Thee reconciled.

Be Thou my battle shield, sword for the fight;
Be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight;
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high Tower:
Raise Thou me heavenward, O power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Song

Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

[Chorus]

*To see You high and lifted up
Shinin' in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy*

[Bridge]

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see You

Song

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 fulfill 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 pow'r 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
And the earth is filled with Your glory

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Grace

*"Those who do not think about their own sins make up for it by thinking incessantly about the sins of others."
-C.S. Lewis, God in the Dock*

Corporate Confession

O most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who pardons all who truly repent and turn to You: we humbly confess our sins and ask for Your mercy. We have not loved You with all our heart, soul, and strength; neither have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, according to Your lovingkindness; according to Your great and tender compassion, blot out our iniquity. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, and uphold us by Your Spirit, so that we may live a holy, just and humble life, for the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Silent Personal Confession

Assurance of Grace

"If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared." (Psalm 130:3-4)

Announcements

The Word of God & Sacrament

Scripture Readings

Psalm 81

Message

Listening: God's Love Language and the Key to Our Flourishing

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

Our Response to God's Grace

Song

My Worth Is Not In What I Own

My worth is not in what I own

Not in the strength of flesh and bone

But in the costly wounds of love

At the cross

My worth is not in skill or name

In win or lose, in pride or shame

But in the blood of Christ that flowed

At the cross

[Chorus]

I rejoice in my Redeemer

Greatest Treasure

Wellspring of my soul

I will trust in Him, no other

My soul is satisfied in Him alone

As summer flowers we fade and die
Fame, youth and beauty hurry by
But life eternal calls to us
At the cross
I will not boast in wealth or might
Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ
At the cross [*Chorus*]

Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed, my ransom paid
At the cross [*Chorus*]

Intercessory Prayers of the People

Benediction

“Know this, my beloved brothers and sisters: let every person be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of human beings does not bring about the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls..” (James 1:19-21)

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.*

PRAYER

- For deacons & elders in training at NCGV, that God would raise up faithful leaders in our community always
- 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

1.) Nigeria

- Reverend Hyuk and his two sons were murdered after the Nigerian election. Four more Christians were killed in secret and buried in mass graves. Please pray.

2.) Laos

- In Northwest Laos 15 families were driven out of their homes because of their conversion to Christianity. Pray that the Lord will provide for and protect them.

3.) East Africa

- Soon after a brother converted to Christianity from Islam he began to share his faith with friends, leading three of them to Christ. He experienced heartbreaking loss when his wife was kidnapped by her family and forcibly married to a Muslim man under the threat of death. Please intercede for her release and restoration.

4.) Democratic Republic of Congo

- In a predominantly Christian community an Islamic terrorist group murdered 36 people in an overnight attack. The believers were killed with machetes or trapped inside of their burning homes. Ask the Lord to protect His people from these attacks and to comfort the grieving and brokenhearted.

5.) Northern Kenya

- A drought that spanned several seasons is causing widespread starvation and death. Many people no longer have enough food and water to feed students in schools. Many are dropping out. Ask the Lord to bring rain and sustain the people of Kenya.

6.) Burkina Faso

- This remains one of the most dangerous countries for Christians, and things were recently made worse after a military coup. Islamic groups have burned churches and abducted women and children. Pray for God's protection over His children.

7.) India

- Violent riots recently took place in Manipur, leaving thousands of Christians displaced. Christians make up only 2.5 percent of the population. Please pray for them, and especially those who have been more especially targeted: pastors and women. Let's lift up our voices on behalf of our brothers and sisters.

8.) Pakistan

- Christians are often given the lowest jobs of brick laying for little money for their hard work and long hours. Please pray that the injustices done to our fellow members of the body of Christ would be brought to an end.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **NCGV Congregational Meeting: Sunday, July 23rd at 4pm at St. Paul's**
- Summer PRAYER & WORSHIP nights at NCGV: Monday, July 31st @ 7pm
- Interested in serving on the Hospitality Team at NCGV? Contact Josh Kim at jsk4002@med.cornell.edu

Giving

There are five ways to give to Neighborhood Church.

1. Cash or checks dropped into the offering box at the worship service
2. Checks mailed to: Neighborhood Church, 269 Bleecker Street, New York NY 10014
3. PayPal donations via this link: paypal.me/ngcv
4. Zelle transfers to: 201-988-1044
5. Venmo transfer to @Daniel-Cowles-7

Contact

Phone: 212.691.1770

Mail: 269 Bleecker St., New York NY 10014

Email: ngcv@ngvnyc.com

Pastor: Nick Nowalk; Deacon: Dan Cowles

New to Neighborhood Church? Sign up for NCGV's email list here:

