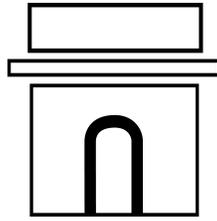


NEIGHBORHOOD  CHURCH  
of Greenwich Village



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

We cannot wait till the world is sane  
to raise our songs with joyful voice  
-Madeleine L'Engle, "First Coming"

"Time in the modern world seems to be in short supply...Modernity arises from the idea that the future is empty, up for grabs, and that collectively human beings make their own future and even the future of the planet."  
-Michael S. Northcutt, "Being Silent"

"The Lord enjoined obedience to almost no other commandment as severely as this [to keep the Sabbath day holy]. When he wills through the prophets to indicate that all religion has been overturned, he complains that his Sabbaths have been polluted, violated, not kept, not hallowed—as if, with this homage omitted, nothing more remained in which he could be honored...It is held in singular esteem among all the precepts of the law."  
-John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, 2.8.28

"Ah, this life, this world...There are a thousand thousand reasons to live this life, every one of them sufficient...It is easy to believe in such moments that water was made primarily for blessing, and only secondarily for growing vegetables or doing the wash. I wish I had paid more attention to it...This is an interesting planet. It deserves all the attention you can give it."  
-Marilyn Robinson, *Gilead*

**8/6/23**

---

*Our Approach to God*

**Call to Worship**

**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**

*Yes and Amen*

Father of kindness  
You have poured out grace  
You brought me out of darkness  
You have filled me with peace  
Giver of mercy  
You're my help in time of need  
Lord I can't help but sing

*[Chorus]*

*Faithful you are,  
Faithful forever you will be  
Faithful you are,  
All your promises are yes and amen  
All your promises are yes and amen*

Beautiful Savior  
You have brought me near  
You pulled me from the ashes  
You have broken every curse  
Blessed redeemer  
You have set this captive free  
Lord, I can't help but sing *[Chorus]*

I will rest in your promises  
My confidence is your faithfulness  
I will rest in your promises  
My confidence is your faithfulness

**Song**

*Worthy of It All/'Tis So Sweet*

All the saints and angels  
They bow before Your throne  
All the elders cast their crowns  
Before the Lamb of God and sing

You are worthy of it all  
You are worthy of it all  
For from You are all things  
And to You are all things  
You deserve the glory

Day and night, night and day let incense arise (*repeat*)

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him  
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus  
Oh, for grace to trust Him more

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust You  
How I've proved You o'er and o'er  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus  
Oh, for grace to trust You more

**Song**

*Made Me Glad*

I will bless the Lord forever  
And I will trust Him at all times  
He has delivered me from all fear  
And He has set my feet upon a rock

And I will not be moved  
And I'll say of the Lord

*[Chorus]*

*You are my shield, my strength  
My portion, Deliverer  
My shelter, strong tower  
My very present help in time of need*

Whom have I in heaven but You  
There's none I desire beside You  
For You have made me glad  
And I'll say of the Lord *[Chorus]*

### **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**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come  
your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

### **Announcements**

---

*The Word of God & Sacrament*

### **Scripture Readings**

Psalm 92 (*Ujunwa Anakwenze*)

### **Message**

The Lord Reigns: The Prerequisite for Workaholics to Learn to Rest

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

"We would most profoundly misunderstand the Eucharist, however, if we thought of it only as a sacrament of God's embrace of which we are simply the fortunate beneficiaries. Inscribed on the very heart of God's grace is the rule that we can be its recipients only if we do not resist being made into its agents; what happens to us must be done by us. Having been embraced by God, we must make space for others in ourselves and invite them in—even our enemies."

*-Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace**

Words of Institution

Distribution

Reflection

**Song**

*How Great Thou Art*  
O Lord my God  
When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds  
Thy Hands have made  
I see the stars  
I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy power throughout  
The universe displayed

*[Chorus]*

*Then sings my soul  
My Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art  
Then sings my soul  
My Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art*

And when I think  
That God His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die  
I scarce can take it in  
That on the Cross  
My burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin *[Chorus]*

When Christ shall come  
With shout of acclamation  
And take me home  
What joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow with humble adoration  
And there proclaim  
My God how great Thou art *[Chorus]*

**Intercessory Prayers of the People**

**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.*

**Benediction**

*“Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you. For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.” (Psalm 116:7-8)*

**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 (August)**

**1.) Niger**

- In a coup, a group of soldiers has overthrown the country's democratically-elected leader, President Bazoum. Christians are on high alert, and it remains unclear who is in charge. The nation is home to 24 million people,

with the majority being Muslim. Followers of Jesus are in the minority, and organizations like Boko Haram want to use violence to intimidate and quench the faith of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Recently a Christian church was attacked, destroying property and setting fire to the building, and killing male believers. Churches are bracing for an uncertain and difficult future. Please pray and ask God to rise up in defense of His people.

## 2.) India

- Persecution of Christians has increasingly spread across India, particularly in the state of Manipur. A large mob apprehended two vulnerable Christian women, after which they were beaten and then arrested. Additionally, some of their male relatives were killed as they tried to help. Afterwards an outcry arose, with four men being detained and others interrogated. Prime Minister Modi has stayed largely silent about the violence in Manipur, though recently he stated that this incident is shameful for any civil society, and pledged that the law will take its full course for justice. Pray for justice, for change, and for Modi and leaders to have courage and compassion.

## 3.) Uganda

- A new believer martyred at the age of 22, Abudu Amisi was attacked and killed for converting from Islam to Christianity. He confessed Jesus to be Lord after a six month journey of learning about the gospel. On July 8th Abudu went to the market along with two young men from his church. People began shouting and calling out Abudu's name, accusing him of betraying Islam and declaring that he deserved death. The crowd began attacking him, and his friends were unable to rescue him. Please pray for his church and our brothers and sisters in this community who knew him and are fearful of what might come next.

## 4.) Nigeria

- Over 450 Christians have been murdered in villages since May 2023. In that time militants killed Pastor Daniel and Pastor Ayuba. On average about 5000 Christians are killed annually for their faith in Nigeria. Please pray that God would protect and come to the aid of His people, and that legislation would be put into place preventing such atrocities from recurring in the future, and that other nations (particularly the United States) would designate Nigeria as a country of concern for tolerating the systematic violation of religious freedom.

## 5.) Egypt

- Pastor Sameh was arrested and detained at the police station for more than 50 days under the pretense of national security. He mysteriously went missing as he was heading home from work. After being captured he was tortured and humiliated. He has been imprisoned now since December 2021 with a court ruling it could be many years of imprisonment, or that he could even be sentenced to death, even though he has committed no crime. Pray for Pastor Sameh and his family and the Christian community he has faithfully led.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Fill out the *NCGV Volunteer Survey* (check your email!)
- Next NCGV Congregational Meeting: Sunday, September 3rd @ 4pm after the service
- NCGV Small Groups returning in September

## 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](https://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@ngcvnyc.com](mailto:ngcv@ngcvnyc.com)

Pastor: Nick Nowalk; Deacon: Dan Cowles

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



