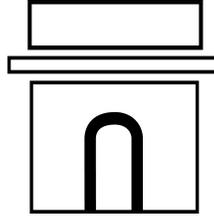


NEIGHBORHOOD  CHURCH
of Greenwich Village



Meeting at 46 Barrow Street @ 10:30am

“Look at him! He rides no stallion, which is a war animal, and he comes not with fearful pomp and power, but sits on a donkey, which is no war animal but which is ready for burdens of work that will help human beings. Thereby he shows that he does not come to terrify people, to drive or oppress them, but to help them, to carry their burdens and take them on himself.”

-Martin Luther

“Jesus as he wants to be seen: as Emmanuel, the true God-with-us in a truly *human* way, at our level: God on a donkey.”
-Frederick Dale Bruner, *Matthew: A Commentary*

“The cross does not show us some temporary weakness of God that is canceled out by the resurrection. It says something permanent about God: not that God eternally suffers but that the eternal power of God is love; and this as expressed in history must be suffering.”

-Herbert McCabe, *God, Christ and Us*

4/2/23

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: The Lord be with you

Congregation: And also with you

ORDER OF SERVICE

Our Approach to God

Call to Worship

Zechariah 9:9-17 & Mark 11:1-10

Opening Prayer

Hymn

Hosanna

I see the King of glory
Coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes
The whole earth shakes

I see His love and mercy
Washing over all our sin
The people sing
The people sing

[Chorus]

*Hosanna Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest*

I see a generation
Rising up to take their place
With selfless faith
With selfless faith

I see a near revival
Stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees
We're on our knees *[Chorus]*

Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love
Like You have loved me
Break my heart for what breaks Yours
Everything I am
For Your kingdom's cause
As I walk from earth into eternity *[Chorus]*

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

Good and Gracious King
I approach the throne of glory
Nothing in my hands I bring
But the promise of acceptance
From a good and gracious King

I will give to You my burden
As You give to me Your strength
Come and fill me with Your Spirit
As I sing to You this praise

[Chorus]

*You deserve the greater glory
Overcome, I lift my voice
To the King in need of nothing
Empty handed I rejoice
You deserve the greater glory
Overcome with joy I sing
By Your love I am accepted
You're a good and gracious King*

O what grace that You would see me
As Your child and as Your friend
Safe, secure in You forever
I pour out my praise again *[Chorus]*

Holy, holy, Lord Almighty
Good and gracious
Good and gracious
Holy, holy, Lord Almighty
Good and gracious King

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Grace

Corporate Confession

Lord Jesus, forgive our sins. Forgive the sins that we remember, and the sins we have forgotten. Forgive our failures in the face of temptation, and our stubbornness in the face of correction. Forgive the times when we have been proud of our own achievements and when we have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments we have made of others, and the leniency we have shown ourselves. Forgive the lies we have told others, and the untruths we have told ourselves. Forgive the pain we have caused others and the indulgence we have shown ourselves. Lord Jesus, have mercy on us sinners and make us whole again. For your glory, Lord, for the abundance of our own lives, and for the sake of others. 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

Jesus Thank You
The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend
The agonies of Calvary
You the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son

Who drank the bitter cup reserved for me

[Chorus]

Your blood has washed away my sin

Jesus, thank You

The Father's wrath completely satisfied

Jesus, thank You

Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table

Jesus, thank You

By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near

Your enemy You've made Your friend

Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace

Your mercy and Your kindness know no end

Lover of my soul

I want to live for You

Lover of my soul

I want to live for You *[Chorus]*

The Word of God & Sacrament

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 52:13-52:12

Message

The Suffering Servant (*Josh Kwon*)

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

Son of Suffering

Oh the perfect Son of God

In all His innocence

Here walking in the dirt with you and me

He knows what living is

He's acquainted with our grief

A man of sorrows, Son of suffering

[Chorus]

Oh blood and tears

How can it be

That there's a God who weeps

There's a God who bleeds

*Oh praise the One
Who would reach for me
Hallelujah to the Son of suffering*

Some imagine You
Are distant and removed
But You chased us down in merciful pursuit
To the sinner You were grace
And the broken You embraced
And in the end the proof is in Your wound
Yes in the end the proof is in Your wounds [*Chorus*]

Your cross, my freedom
Your stripes, my healing
All praise King Jesus
Glory to God in Heaven
Your blood still speaking
Your love still reaching
All praise King Jesus
Glory to God forever [*Chorus*]

Benediction

“This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly...For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. 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. For you were straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.” (1 Peter 2:19-25)

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 awaits upcoming surgery
- 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 if you are interested in checking out a small group.
- Joint Good Friday service on Friday, April 7th @ 7:30pm at Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow Street)
- Easter Sunday is Sunday, April 9th at 10:30am—a special baptism service!
- Next round of “new member” classes at NCGV: April 16th, 23rd & 30th after the service
- 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 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://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: ncgv@ncgvnyc.com

Website: ncgvnyc.com

Pastor: Nick Nowalk; Deacon: Dan Cowles

