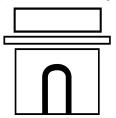
# NEIGHBORHOODTCHURCH

of Greenwich Village



Meeting at 46 Barrow Street @ 10:30am

"The essence of the Christian religion consists in the reality that the creation of the Father, ruined by sin, is restored in the death of the Son of God and re-created by the grace of the Holy Spirit into a kingdom of God." -Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics* 

"No sooner do I conceive of the One than I am illumined by the splendor of the Three; no sooner do I distinguish them than I am carried back to the One...When I say 'God,' I mean Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Gregory of Nazianus, *Orations* 41, 28

"In self-giving, if anywhere, we touch a rhythm not only of all creation but of all being. For the Eternal Word also gives Himself in sacrifice; and that not only on Calvary. For when He was crucified He 'did that in the wild weather of His outlying provinces which He had done at home in glory and gladness.' From before the foundation of the world He surrenders begotten Deity back to begetting Deity in obedience. And as the Son glorifies the Father, so also the Father glorifies the Son...There is joy in the dance, but it does not exist for the sake of joy. It does not even exist for the sake of good, or of love. It is Love Himself, and Good Himself, and therefore happy. It does not exist for us, but we for it." -C. S. Lewis, *The Problem of Pain* 

# 3/5/23

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**

## **Call to Worship**

Colossians 1:15-20

# **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 this 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 vict'ry won The Lord is my salvation

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

In times of waiting, times of need When I know loss, when I am weak I know His grace will renew these days 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 | Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: he was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### Hymn

*King of Kings* In the darkness we were waiting Without hope, without light 'Til from Heaven You came running There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfill the law and prophets To a virgin came the word From a throne of endless glory To a cradle in the dirt

[Chorus] Praise the Father, praise the Son Praise the Spirit, three in one God of glory, Majesty Praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming And to reconcile the lost To redeem the whole creation You did not despise the cross

For even in your suffering You saw to the other side Knowing this was our salvation Jesus for our sake you died [Chorus]

And the morning that You rose All of Heaven held its breath 'Til that stone was moved for good For the Lamb had conquered death

And the dead rose from their tombs And the angels stood in awe For the souls of all who'd come To the Father are restored

And the church of Christ was born Then the Spirit lit the flame Now this gospel truth of old Shall not kneel, shall not faint

By His blood and in His name In His freedom I am free For the love of Jesus Christ Who has resurrected me [Chorus]

## **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**

"To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." (Acts 10:43)

# Response

*In Christ Alone* In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song; This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease! My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe. This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save: Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain: Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave He rose again! And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me, For I am His and He is mine Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me; From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand: Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

# **Scripture Readings**

John 1:1-18 (*Andy Chae*) John 17:1-5, 20-26 (*Hannah Long*) Hebrews 1:1-14 (*Nate Harp*)

#### Message

Trinity: The God of the Gospel

## 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

Worthy of It All / Holy, Holy, Holy 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

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty Early in the morning Our song shall rise to Thee Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty God in three persons Blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty All Thy works shall praise Thy name In earth and sky and sea Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty God in three persons Blessed Trinity

# Benediction

"Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit! As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end." (Gloria Patri)

# 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 MARCH: God has a habit of showing up right before things get really difficult and overwhelming, even when things seem to be at their absolute worst. We must always lean persistently and energetically into praying for our brothers and sisters who are suffering around the world in the global church. Galatians 6:9-10 reminds us not to become weary or to give up when a situation seems impossible. We may never know the many countless lives we will be connected to as God uses and responds to fervent prayer with His surprising grace.

# 1.) Ukraine

• A Baptist pastor Leonard and his wife Tatyana were arrested in a Russian-occupied part of Ukraine and have not been heard from since September. Other leaders have been forcibly seized and tortured, and churches closed.

# 2.) Yemen

• Christians are experiencing a sharp rise in arrests and torture intended to force believers to give names and information about other Christians for interogation and persecution. Pray for emotional peace for these traumatized believers and for an end to all such harassment.

# 3.) Uganda

• Two evangelists were beaten and attacked with knives after leading several Muslims to Christ. They ask others to join them in prayer for strength to continue their ministry.

# 4.) Nigeria

• Militant groups killed more than 70 Christians in a village in central Nigeria. Over 100 more people were injured and thousands fled for their lives afterwards. Cry out to God for these hurting people. These things are happening in Nigeria to our brothers and sisters more and more.

# 5.) Mozambique

• Islamic extremists set fire to a church building and several houses, killing at least one person. A radical group also announced the killing of 20 Christians and the displacement of hundreds more. Ask the Lord to bring an end to the violence and to hide His people from further harm.

# 6.) China

- Two missionaries from a church in Beijing were arrested for evangelizing outside their immediate area, a reminder of the country's zero tolerance policy for house churches that do so. The Chinese government is serious about stamping out all forms of religious faith that are perceived to threaten the communist party and strong state rule. There is widespread state control over the distribution of Christian content and resources to discourage believers in their worship and sharing of their faith.
- Two pastors and another Christian were falsely detained on charges of fraud in October. No updates on their location or condition have been given to their families or communities.

# 7.) Sub-Saharan Africa

• Violence grows in many parts of Africa. Persecution can be pervasive and without reprieve, and often brutally violent. Pray for God's protection and for the faith and courage of our brothers and sisters.

John 16:33; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Psalm 46:1; Ephesians 6:18

# https://tinyurl.com/ncgvzoom

# Upcoming

- NCGV Small Groups meet weekly! Lower Manhattan (Tuesdays), Queens/LIC (Wednesdays), & UWS/West Harlem (Wednesdays). Email <u>nick.nowalk@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in checking out a small group.
- First Sunday fellowship meal: Sunday, March 5th after the service
- Conversation on Baptism: Sunday, February 12th @ 1pm (prerequisite for baptism at NCGV)
- Joint service with Gallery Church (in Chelsea) on Sunday, March 19th @ 10:30am
- Next round of "new member" classes at NCGV: April 16th, 23rd & 30th after the service

## Giving

There are four ways to give to Neighborhood Church:

- $\cdot$  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/ncgv
- $\cdot$  Zelle or Venmo transfers to 201-988-1044

# Contact

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Neighborhood Church is a member of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference