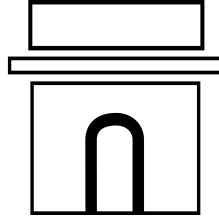


NEIGHBORHOOD  CHURCH
of Greenwich Village



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

“Give sorrow words. The grief that does not speak whispers the o'erfraught heart and bids it break.”
-William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*, act 4, scene 3

“But after I had returned to health and was able to reflect on the past in the light of my ordeal, I began to see clearly how depression had clung close to the outer edges of my life for many years...Thus depression, when it finally came to me, was in fact no stranger, not even a visitor totally unannounced; it had been tapping at my door for decades...The danger is especially apparent if the young person is affected by what has been termed ‘incomplete mourning’—has, in effect, been unable to achieve the catharsis of grief, and so carries within himself through later years an insufferable burden of which rage and guilt, and not only dammed-up sorrow, are a part, and become the potential seeds of self-destruction...In the nethermost depths of one's suicidal behavior one is still subconsciously dealing with immense loss while trying to surmount all the effects of its devastation.”
-William Styron, *Darkness Visible: A Memoir of Madness*

“I have come to believe over and over again that what is most important to me must be spoken, made verbal and shared, even at the risk of having it bruised or misunderstood. That the speaking profits me, beyond any other effect...My silences had not protected me. Your silence will not protect you...And of course I am afraid, because the transformation of silence into language and action is an act of self-revelation, and that always seems fraught with danger. But my daughter, when I told her of our topic and of my difficulty with it, said, ‘Tell them about how you're never really a whole person if you remain silent, because there's always that one little piece inside you that wants to be spoken out, and if you keep ignoring it, it gets madder and madder and hotter and hotter, and if you don't speak it out one day it will just up and punch you in the mouth from the inside’...We have been socialized to respect fear more than our need for language and definition, and while we wait in silence for that final luxury of fearlessness, the weight of that silence will choke us. There are so many silences to be broken.”
-Audre Lorde, “The Transformation of Silence into Language and Action”

7/9/23

Our Approach to God

Call to Worship | *Psalms 43*

Opening Prayer

Confession of Faith | *Heidelberg Catechism*

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven;
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Jesus Christ,
by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Song

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of ev'ning, find a voice!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on Him cast your care!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless
and worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Song

Still

Hide me now
Under Your wings
Cover me
Within Your mighty hand

*When the oceans rise and thunders roar
I will soar with You above the storm
Father, You are King over the flood
I will be still, know You are God*

Find rest, my soul
In Christ alone
Know His power
In quietness and trust

Song

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free.

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.*

Through death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
O'er us sin no more hath dominion
For more than conqu'rors we are!

His Word shall not fail you, He promised;
Believe Him and all will be well;
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Grace

Corporate Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes, our refusal to relieve the suffering of others, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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)

The Word of God & Sacrament

Scripture Readings

Psalm 42-43

Message

Desire & Depression: Learning to Hope in God in the Midst of Heartbreak

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

As the Deer

As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

*You alone are my Strength, my Shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee.*

You're my Friend and You are my Brother
Even though You are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything

I want You more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy

You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye

Song

Jesus at the Center

Jesus at the center of it all
Jesus at the center of it all
From beginning to the end
It will always be, it's always been You, Jesus
Jesus

*Nothing else matters, nothing in this world will do
Jesus, You're the center, and everything revolves around You
Jesus, You, the center of it all*

Jesus be the center of my life
Jesus be the center of my life
From beginning to the end
It will always be, it's always been You, Jesus
Jesus

*From my heart to the heavens
Jesus be the center
It's all about You
Yes, it's all about You*

Jesus be the center of Your Church
Jesus be the center of Your Church
And every knee will bow
And every tongue shall confess You
Jesus, Jesus

Prayer

Announcements

Benediction

"Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God—for I shall again praise God, who is the salvation of my face." (Psalm 42:5, 11, 43:5)

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 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 JULY: Please keep the plight of the suffering church in your prayers on a daily basis

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

- **Joint summer Bible study w/ Storefront Church on Minor Prophets: Wednesdays @ 7pm (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/nsgv
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: nsgv@nsgvnyc.com

Pastor: Nick Nowalk; Deacon: Dan Cowles

