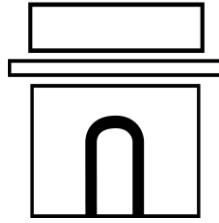


NEIGHBORHOOD  CHURCH  
of Greenwich Village



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

“The contrast between earthly rule and God’s rule is nowhere so clear as in Jesus’ account of the kind of social relationships that are constituted by God’s rule over the community of the disciples. In a series of highly distinctive rejections of current social structures and relationships, Jesus portrays a society in which none of the claims to rank and status which were taken for granted in his world has any place at all...So Jesus abolishes social status, not by giving all the disciples the status of master (then there would always be others, outside the community, to set themselves above), but reducing all to the lowest social status: that of slave. In a society of slaves, no one may think him- or herself more important than others...The point is not really to establish a new principle of social status in the kingdom but, by reversing social norms, to subvert all rank and status.

The kingdom is a ‘kingdom of nobodies’--the children and the destitute. If the kingdom belongs to them, others can enter it only by accepting the same lack of status. Jesus reconstitutes society under God’s rule by making the social nobodies and outcasts the paradigm to which others must conform...It means treating the destitute as one’s social equals. On these terms, but only on these terms, Jesus did not confine the kingdom to the destitute, any more than he confined it to the children. He did very seriously privilege the destitute and the children, in order to deprive all others of privilege...Jesus’ vision of God’s rule was of a society formed by the experience of God’s healing and forgiving grace, sustained by God’s fatherly provision, inclusive of all those who tend to be left out or pushed to the margins of society, characterized not by domination but by mutual service, and in which all status and privilege are replaced by brotherly, sisterly and motherly relationships of loving mutuality...Jesus’ principle and practice of privileging the ‘nobodies’ in order to eliminate status is strikingly paralleled in what Paul says to the Corinthians [1:26-29]...It was not, of course, that Paul rejected the high status converts who in fact played important roles in the Corinthian church. But the Gospel deprived them of all privilege. God’s strategy in salvation was to privilege the nobodies in order to deprive the somebodies of privilege.”  
-Richard Bauckham, “Kingdom and Church According to Jesus and Paul”

8/13/23

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*Our Approach to God*

**Call to Worship** (Joseph Kim)

**Opening Prayer** (Mary Sue Daoud)

**Song**

*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]

[Bridge]

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

**Song**

*All the Poor and Powerless*  
All the poor and powerless  
And all the lost and lonely  
All the thieves will come confess  
And know that You are holy  
Will know that You are holy

[Chorus]

And all will sing out hallelujah  
And we will cry out hallelujah

All the hearts who are content  
And all who feel unworthy  
And all who hurt with nothing left  
Will know that You are holy [Chorus]

[Bridge x2]

Shout it  
Go on scream it from the mountains  
Go on and tell it to the masses  
That He is God  
[Chorus]

**Song**

*God I Look To You/Be Thou My Vision*

[Bridge]

Hallelujah our God reigns,  
Hallelujah our God reigns,  
Hallelujah our God reigns,  
Forever all my days, Hallelujah

[Verse]

God I look to You, I won't be overwhelmed  
Give me vision, to see things like You do  
God I look to You, you're where my help comes from  
Give me wisdom, you know just what to do

[Chorus x 2]

I will love You, Lord my strength  
I will love You, Lord my shield  
I will love You, Lord my rock  
Forever all my days, I will love You God

[Verse]

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, and I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

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

### **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**

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*The Word of God & Sacrament*

#### **Scripture Readings**

1 Corinthians 12:12-26

#### **Message**

Members of Each Other (Andrew Oliver, *Do For One*)

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*Our Response to God's Grace*

#### **Reflection**

#### **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**

### **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**

*“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:12-13)*

### **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:

