



NPC strives to be an intercultural church of believers in Jesus Christ who delight to share the good news in Germantown and beyond.



DISCIPLESHIP | **EXPLORED**

Following the One Who Loves Us

Small Group Sermon Series

Sunday, October 5, 2025 – 10:45am Worship
Worldwide Communion Sunday

Welcome to Neelsville!

Welcome to Neelsville Presbyterian Church! We are so thrilled that you have visited with us today. We are a church that is growing more and more captivated by Jesus Christ, delighting to glorify and serve Him in every area of our lives. Wherever you are in your walk with God, we have resources for you and your family. Please contact me if you have any questions or desire additional information. Thanks for visiting and I hope you experience the welcome of Christ during your time with us!

Warmly in Christ,

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

pastorjeff@neelsville.org

First Time Here?

We're so glad you've joined us! Please fill out a green guest card in the pew and hand it to a Welcome Team member for a small gift. They can help connect you with our various ministries and answer any questions you may have.

When you join us again, please take a moment each Sunday to sign in with our Welcome Team. This helps us to stay connected and to reach out to ensure you are well if we haven't seen you in a while.

Tips for Families

We are a church who believes in the value of families worshipping together, and we welcome the wiggles & giggles of little ones in the pews.

Look for the  station outside the Sanctuary to learn more about...

- **Nursery Care** – Available for children 2 years and under during the service.
- **Worship & Praise Zone** – Children ages 3 – 3rd grade are invited to a Bible Story & crafts during the sermon. Please check-in before worship at the kids' station.
- **Worship Activity Bags** – Feel free to grab one for your child to use during the service.

Join us for Classes for All Ages at 9:30am Sunday. We have offerings for everyone from preschoolers to adults. Learn more on page 11.

Order of Service

True worship from us comes by the Spirit of God. So we ask who is the focus of our worship? Philippians 3:3 gives us the answer: to “glory in Christ Jesus.” Christians are to glory or boast in Christ Jesus. Jesus himself tied the Spirit’s work directly to his own glory in John 16:14: “He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.” Believers in Christ ,glory/boast in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are to make much of Christ! Humbly the Spirit takes delight to take our worship and deflect it towards Christ! – Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

Prelude	<i>Lord, from Sorrows Deep I Call</i> (Boswell/Papa) Janna Leigh Ryon, piano	#540
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We invite you to let the music quiet your mind and heart to prepare for worship.

Welcome & Announcements	Brian Farrell
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* = please rise if you are able

*Call to Worship	Based on Philippians
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God’s words in scripture remind us that He is the one who calls us to gather.

Leader: Come, people of God of many nations, let us gather in unity in the presence of Christ, whose grace has called us and whose love sustains us.

All: We come, made righteous through Christ alone, not by our own merit but by faith.

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together, who is our righteousness, confidence, our unity, our joy, our peace, and our hope—now and forevermore.

All: Amen!

*Hymn	<i>All My Boast Is In Jesus</i> (Boswell, Getty, Papa, Fowler)	#227
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What wonder of wonders, what love is this, that Christ would die for me!
His goodness, his merit, his righteousness, this sinner’s only plea.
O foolish pride, be crucified; the work is finished!

Chorus 1: All my boast is in Jesus; all my hope is his love,
and I will glory forever in what the cross has done.

Now fully forgiven my life is filled with graces undeserved.
For mercy that flowed down that sacred hill, let praises now return.
Rise up, my soul, and bless the Lord! Who else is worthy? (*Chorus 1*)

Bridge: Oh, praise the One, forever blessed! Him alone my heart adores.
And I will boast in nothing less than the love of Christ my Lord. (2x)

I boast not in riches, in strength or might, but in the grace of God.
I glory in weakness; to live is Christ, in plenty or in want.
That I may know, that all may see his pow'r within me! (*Chorus 1*)

Chorus 2: Now I stand in this freedom, ransomed, clean in his sight,
and I cannot be ashamed for my boast is Jesus Christ,
my boast is Jesus Christ. Forever, my boast is Jesus Christ.

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Prayer of Adoration

Pastor Jeff

Our Pastor leads a prayer in which we lift our hearts to praise God for who He is and to express our deep love for Him.

*Hymn

I Will Glory in My Redeemer (Cook)

#172

I will glory in my Redeemer, whose priceless blood has ransomed me;
Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails and hung him on that judgment tree.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who crushed the pow'r of sin and death;
My only Savior before the holy Judge; the Lamb who is my righteousness,
The Lamb who is my righteousness.

I will glory in my Redeemer; my life he bought, my love he owns.
I have no longings for another; I'm satisfied in Him alone.
I will glory in my Redeemer, his faithfulness my standing place.
Though foes are mighty and rush upon me, my feet are firm, held by his grace,
My feet are firm, held by his grace.

I will glory in my Redeemer, who carries me on eagles' wings.
He crowns my life with loving-kindness; his triumph song I'll ever sing.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who waits for me at gates of gold.
And when he calls me, it will be paradise; his face forever to behold,
His face forever to behold.

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Confession of Sin (unison)

Seeing how great and good God is, we are reminded that we have, more often than we wish, failed to live as God has designed.

Gracious God, we confess that we often trust in our own merit and strive to justify ourselves, forgetting that righteousness comes only through Christ. Forgive us for relying on ourselves rather than placing our faith in You alone. As we come today to your holy table, O God, we realize that we often don't see your redeeming work in the world. Our

vision of your grace is too narrow. Our awareness of your mercy is too limited. Our understanding of your kingdom always falls short. We fail to measure up to the people you have called us to be. Hear our prayers and forgive our sins. Raise our eyes, lift our hearts, and encourage our spirits, so that we may live joyfully and faithfully in the manner of Jesus. Amen.

Silent Confession

Written words can never reflect exactly what is in each individual's heart, so this is a time for us to consider our own waywardness and speak it silently to God.

*Assurance of Pardon

When we confess our sins, seeking God's help to turn away from them, we are assured that He will extend grace, mercy and forgiveness. He is willing to do this because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins on the cross.

Leader: By faith alone you are declared righteous. In Christ, your sins are washed away, and you stand secure in His grace.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

Since the earliest years when disciples gathered, Christians have formulated statements to summarize what we believe. These creeds help remind us of the richness of our faith and can help answer the questions of those who may be wondering about Christianity.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come 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.

**The term "catholic" means "universal," throughout all ages and generations.*

Stewardship Testimony

Eileen Bauer

This is a time to reflect on our stewardship of all God has given us (our time, talents, gifts, and financial resources) and how we can give them back to His church and the world.

Time of Offering

We have an opportunity to give financially to support the work of the local and global church, offering what we are able with cheerful hearts, grateful for God's blessings. Giving also includes generously sharing our time and talents to care for one another and the community around us.



Please take the plate and pass it down the pew to the usher. To give online, scan the QR code.

Offertory

Still, My Soul, Be Still (arr. Koerts)

Janna Leigh Ryon, piano

"Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." – Martin Luther

*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

#334

A song of praise used by Christians since the early 18th century.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus said: "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do... for your Father know what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:"

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Children's Blessing

On alternate Sundays, the young children receive a blessing or they gather to hear a mini-message, often sharing a point from the upcoming sermon in a relational way with the children.

Children ages 3-3rd grade will be dismissed to the Worship & Praise Zone following the blessing.

*Hymn

Jesus, Strong and Kind
(Buchanan/Robinson/Farren/Thompson)

#362

Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to him.
No one else can satisfy, I should come to him.

Chorus: For the Lord is good and faithful. He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus. Jesus, strong and kind.

Please turn in the pew Bible to page 981 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 10 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon

Righteous In Christ

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

A pastor or an elder of the church gives this extended message explaining the scripture passage, what it meant to the original readers, and how it applies to us today. Our pastor often preaches through a book of the Bible, using a selection of verses each week.

Space for Sermon Notes is provided on page 9.

Invitation to the Lord’s Supper

The Lord’s Supper was instituted by Jesus on the night before He was crucified. He blessed bread and wine to remind us of his sacrifice - the bread is the sign of his broken body and the juice we use is the sign of his shed blood.

Leader: People will come from east and west and north and south to sit at the table in the Kingdom of God.

All: They will come with hope and they will come with doubts. They will come with faith and they will come with fears. They will come with love and they will come with regrets.

Leader: They will come from all over. They will come across all sorts of barriers and boundaries. They will come. They will all come for God longs for it to be so.

All: Joining God’s people across the globe and joining the saints of every time and place, we come to this table today. Every Christian is welcome. God longs for it to be so. God longs to feed with us – all of us – with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God’s promises are confirmed as we partake in faith – spiritual nourishment enabling our growth in grace, affirmation of our union with God, and gratitude for our fellowship with other believers.

The congregation will be invited by rows to receive bread and juice. When returning to your seat, please wait for us to take the elements together.

Leader: The Lord be with you.	All: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts!	All: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Blessed are you, O God our Creator, whose image dwells in every face of the human family. In the faces of the matriarchs and patriarchs of Israel, we see your desire to raise up a chosen people. In the faces of judges and rulers, we behold the sanctity of your law. In the faces of your priests and prophets, we witness your passion for justice and righteousness.

All: So now, joined with the global chorus of our siblings in Christ around the world, we glorify you and pray for the day when the

earth will be filled with the knowledge of you as waters upon the face of the sea.

Leader: When the world could wait no longer, you sent your Son in the world to show us your many faces:

All: Unexpected child, unwelcomed refugee, unhoused wayfarer, teacher and rebel, healer and provocateur, lover of the unlovable, toucher of the untouchable, forgiver of the unforgivable, loved by the least, feared by authority, friend of the weak, foe of the strong.

Leader: In all of these faces, we beheld love's true form until the world could stand him no longer, so we made him a cross.

All: When heaven could wait no longer, O God, you broke the powers of death and raised Christ to new life.

Leader: Come, Mighty Spirit, upon this bread and cup that they may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. As once you set your face to Jerusalem to relieve your people's suffering once and for all –

All: Send now your Holy Spirit to the people of Palestine, starving and tired of being starved... the people of Berundi, impoverished and tired of being impoverished... the people of Ukraine, war-ravaged and tired of being war-ravaged... the people of El Salvador, corrupted and tired of being corrupted... the people of Madagascar being deprived of basic necessities and tired of being deprived... the people of North Korea, silenced and tired of being silenced... the people of the United States, divided and tired of being divided.

Leader: By your Spirit unite all peoples in Christ until we feast with him and all the saints in light.

All: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer after the Lord's Supper

Leader: Nourishing God, thank you for inviting us to your table where all are welcome, and for feeding us with the bread of life and the cup of blessing.

All: As you have filled our lives with love and hope in Christ, may we be a source of your love and hope for those who hunger for your good news. Amen.

*Hymn

By Faith (Getty/Getty/Townend)

#157

By faith we see the hand of God, in the light of creation's grand design,
In the lives of those who prove his faithfulness, who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth, with the pow'r of his promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand, a place where peace and justice reign.

Chorus: We will stand as children of the Promise;
We will fix our eyes on him, our souls' reward;
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the prophets saw a day, when the longed-for Messiah would appear,
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death and rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go, in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost,
To deliver captives and to preach good news, in ev'ry corner of the earth. (*Chorus*)

By faith this mountain shall be moved, and the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail;
For we know in Christ all things are possible, for all who call upon his name. (*Chorus 2x*)

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*Charge & Benediction

The pastor gives a charge to go into the world in Jesus' name, living and serving in ways that give witness to God's love. He then raises his hands, giving a blessing for the congregation to receive.

*Postlude

We close with another instrumental piece, carrying praise to God out of the church and into the world.

After Worship Today!

Men's Ministry Meeting is after church in the Conference Room.

Choir Rehearsal will be in the Sanctuary at 12:30pm. Please join us!

Women's Ministry Lunch at 12:30pm at Panera (Seneca Meadows). All are welcome!

- _____ in the Right Message (vv. 1-3)
- _____ in the Right Thing (vv. 4-8)
- _____ in the Right Person (v. 9)

Final Remark: Does your loss column list everything and your gain column list only Christ? I hope so for if you are resting only in Christ for your righteousness then it will powerfully and positively impact how we live among those within our family, our church, our work, our school, and the community at large.

Next Week: *Transformed In Christ* (Phil. 3:10-21)

¹ Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. ² Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. ³ For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— ⁴ though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.

Something to think about . . .

Use these questions for your own personal reflection and study at home.

1. What are we to rejoice in and what are we to reject in vv. 1-3? Why does that matter?
2. Paul lists his impressive religious qualifications in Philippians 3:4-6. What similar things do people today think will make them acceptable to God?
3. What is Paul's view of those religious qualifications now? (See vv. 7-8)
4. Paul no longer puts any confidence in who he is or what he has done. According to v. 8, who is he placing his confidence in now and why?
5. What does it mean for us as followers of Jesus to "consider everything a loss" (v. 8)? (See Luke 14:33.) How does that connect to Phil 2:1-11?
6. What kind of righteousness has Paul now gained, according to v. 9?
7. How can you and I get this righteousness? (See v. 9) How does that tie into v. 1? How can each of us resting in Christ for our righteousness impact our relationships within our local church and how we live life together?

Grow and Go with Us! _____

Next Generation Ministry



Ages: Birth – 5th grade

Contact: kids@neelsville.org

Sunday School at 9:30am (Ed Wing for PreK - 5th Grade)



Ages: 6th – 12th grade

Contact: students@neelsville.org

Sunday School at 9:30am (Andrew Small Room)

Youth Group is on Wednesdays at 7pm. (Fellowship Hall)

Young Adult Ministry

*A place for those aged
18-40ish to grow in
Christ & community.*



Contact: youngadults@neelsville.org

Fridays at 7:30pm – Weekly Gathering (Parlor)

This small group is studying Discipleship Explored!

Join our Group app! Scan the QR code to stay informed of upcoming events and service opportunities.

Adult Ministry

*Join a class or small
group that meets
throughout the week!*

*Scan the QR code for
more details and
descriptions.*



Sundays at 9:30am – Study of Discipleship, Grace and the Believer's Response (Conf Rm)

Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

Discipleship Explored Small Groups – What is the experience of following Jesus really like? Sign up for one of the following small groups at this QR code to find out.



- Sun at 9:15am in Parlor (ac0304di@verizon.net)
- Sun at 9:30am in Lg Classroom (eric.shirley1965@gmail.com)
- Sun at 5:30pm in Frederick (pastorjeff@neelsville.org)
- Sun at 5:30pm in Parlor (jason.evans@vikamd.com)
- Tues at 7pm in Parlor (cdw6@msn.com)
- Wed at 7pm Online (men) (bpf3356@gmail.com)
- Wed at 7pm Online (women) (joannelwilson@gmail.com)
- Fri at 9:30am in Parlor (women) (bfarrel01@aol.com)

This Week at Neelsville

More details of this week's schedule and upcoming events can be found in our weekly e-letter. Scan this QR code for last Friday's edition.



Sunday 10/5	12:00pm	Men's Ministry Meeting (Conference Room)
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	12:30pm	Women's Ministry Lunch at Panera (Seneca Meadows)
	5:30pm	Small Group led by the Hongs & Ricketts (Frederick)
	5:30pm	Small Group led by Jason Evans (NPC Parlor)
Monday 10/6		
Tuesday 10/7	7:00pm	Small Group led by Michele Kelly & Craig Wilson (Parlor)
Wednesday 10/8	7:00pm	NPC Students Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00pm	Men's Small Group led by Brian Farrell (Online)
	7:00pm	Women's Small Group led by Joanne Wilson (Online)
Thursday 10/9		
Friday 10/10	9:30am	Women's Small Group led by Sue Farrell (Parlor)
	7:30pm	Young Adults Weekly Gathering (Parlor)
Saturday 10/11	9:00am	ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
Sunday 10/12 International Day	9:15am	Small Group led by Adam & Diane Condrick (NPC Parlor)
	9:30am	Classes for All Ages!
	9:30am	Small Group led by Eric & Lena Shirley (NPC Lg Classroom)
	10:45am	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	12:00pm	International Day Potluck (Fellowship Hall)
	5:30pm	Small Group led by the Hongs & Ricketts (Frederick)
	5:30pm	Small Group led by Jason Evans (NPC Parlor)

Financial Update

	August Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income (\$K)	\$96.5 K	\$ 561.9 K	\$ 510.9 K	\$ 784.0 K
Expenses (\$K)*	\$ 72.9 K	\$ 539.1 K	\$ 565.6 K	\$ 824.8 K



neelsville.org/give

Excess Income/Expenses	\$ 23.5 K	\$ 22.8 K
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*Adjusted expense includes mortgage principal

YTD August reflects an excess of income over Expense. August Income continues to be strong with member donations and summer tenant rentals. August Expenses include 2nd half Global Missions support payments, roof repairs and VBS costs.

Announcements

Please send your announcements to office@neelsville.org by Tuesday at Noon for next week's bulletin & e-letter.

Thank you to all who helped with the funeral reception for Jenny Allen. It was appreciated by her family and friends. God Bless You! Gerry Davis

The next Men's Ministry hike is THIS Sat 10/11 at 8:30am. We'll meet at Damascus Regional Park, Shelter 3 (off of Kings Valley Road) and then head out for a 1–4-mile hike on the paved and dirt trails. Youth are welcome! Contact Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com) if you'd like to join us.

<p>SAVE THE DATE for a Congregational Meeting after worship on Sun 10/19 to elect our new Officers for 2026. Officer candidate bios will be available this Friday in the e-letter.</p>

Americans were asked to name their favorite season, and the overwhelming winner was Autumn! Delight in God's handiwork this fall at our upcoming **Fall-O-Ween event on Sat 10/25 from 2-5pm.** This event is a revamped version of Trunk or Treat, and our church will provide a variety of outdoor games, hot and cold food, and activities. But we can only do it with many helpers so please contact Pastor SeongSu (seongsu@neelsville.org) or Melissa Evans (melissa@neelsville.org) to find your perfect role. (Candy donations are not needed this year.)

The Cost and Rewards of Discipleship is the theme of this year's Stewardship Campaign. It is time to reflect on our stewardship of all God has given us: our time, our talents and gifts, and our financial resources. Where and how is God calling me to serve next year? How can I support the many ministries of this church financially in 2026? A letter will be mailed out this week. Join with Neelsville Church to continue to make a difference in the lives of our church families, with Montgomery County residents, and globally through our missionaries.

Neelsville Presbyterian Church is again partnering with Operation Christmas Child to fill and send gift boxes to children around the world sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Boxes are available in the Welcome Center (with brochures/information too) for pickup beginning TODAY Sun 10/5. Please return boxes by Sun 11/2 to the donation station in the Narthex. Contact Juanita with questions.

Stay Connected with Neelsville

CONTACT INFO

Questions?

office@neelsville.org

Website

www.neelsville.org

Phone

301-972-3916

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 10am-4Fri

10am – 1pm

PRAYER REQUESTS

Email office@neelsville.org to
join the prayer chain.



E-LETTER SIGNUP

The Weekly Neelsville News is
delivered each Friday at 10am.



MINISTRY STAFF

Rev. Jeffrey Rickett – *Lead Pastor*

pastorjeff@neelsville.org

Rev. SeongSu Hong – *Pastor of Next Generation Ministries*

seongsu@neelsville.org

Dr. Janna Leigh Ryon – *Director of Worship Music*

janna@neelsville.org

Michelle Nelson – *Director of Ministry Support*

office@neelsville.org

Melissa Evans – *Children's Coordinator*

melissa@neelsville.org

LAY LEADERSHIP

Elders – *Oversee the spiritual health of the congregation as well as the congregation's faithfulness to God's mission.*

Clerk of Session – Eileen Bauer

session@neelsville.org

Deacons – *Nurture fellowship and caregiving within and beyond the congregation.*

Moderator – Peggy Hurkett

deacons@neelsville.org

Trustees – *Provide care and oversight for Neelsville's buildings and grounds.*

Moderator – Jason Craft

trustees@neelsville.org

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