



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 19, 2025 – 10:45am Worship

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 10.

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 delights to take our worship and deflect it towards Christ! – Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

Prelude *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* (arr. Labenske) Janna Leigh Ryon, piano

We invite you to let the music quiet your mind and heart to prepare for worship.

Welcome & Announcements Brian Farrell

* = please rise if you are able

***Call to Worship** Based on Philippians Connie Barnes

God’s words in scripture remind us that He is the one who calls us to gather.

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

All: We come, rejoicing in Christ, with hearts guarded by peace, anxious for nothing, grateful for everything.

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

All: Amen

***Hymn** *Rejoice, the Lord is King* (Wesley/Darwall) **#858**

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Our Savior, Jesus, reigns, the God of truth and love;
When he had purged our stains, he took his seat above:
Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, he rules o’er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv’n.

Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope, for Christ the Judge shall come
To gather all his saints to their eternal home:
Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

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Prayer of Adoration

Brian Farrell

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

Beneath the Cross of Jesus (Getty/Getty)

#473

Beneath the cross of Jesus, I find a place to stand,
And wonder at such mercy, that calls me as I am.
For hands that should discard me hold wounds which tell me, "Come!"
Beneath the cross of Jesus, my unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, his family is my own—
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, now one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor the ones that you have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus, see the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, the path before the crown—
We follow in his footsteps where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us to be his perfect bride!
Beneath the cross of Jesus, we will gladly live our lives.

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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.*

Faithful Lord, we confess that anxiety and ingratitude creep into our hearts, distracting us from rejoicing in You. Forgive us for allowing worries to overwhelm us, and for failing to see Your gifts. Guard our hearts with Your peace and fill us with gratitude. 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, we are assured that He will extend grace, mercy and forgiveness because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins on the cross.

Leader: In Christ, your heart is guarded by peace, and your gratitude restored. Rejoice, for you are forgiven and held in God's care.

All: Thanks be to God!

***Confession of Faith (unison)**

Gospel for Asia Doctrinal Statement

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.

We believe that the Bible is the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of God. It is the complete revelation of His will for salvation and the only unfailing rule of faith and practice for the Christian life.

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and that these three are co-eternal and of equal dignity and power.

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ; His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit; His virgin birth; His sinless life; His substitutionary death on a cross; His bodily resurrection; His ascension to the right hand of the Father; and His personal, imminent return.

We believe that man was created by and for God; that by man's disobeying God, every person incurred spiritual death, which is separation from God, and physical death as a consequence; and that all people are sinners by nature and practice.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins and that all who believe in Him are declared righteous because of His sacrificial death and are, therefore, in right relationship with God.

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit indwelling all believers and thus enabling and empowering the life and ministry of the believer.

We believe in the bodily resurrection of everyone who has lived, the everlasting blessedness of those in right relationship with God, and the everlasting punishment of those who have rejected God's forgiveness in His Son.

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 #612
(Getty/Getty/Townend)

Praise Team

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

*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

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 3-2nd grade will be dismissed to the Worship & Play Zone following the blessing/message.

*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 980 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon

Rejoicing In Christ

Eric Shirley

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 8.

Celebration of 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.

Minister: Let us boldly proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

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.

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace. By our communion, keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel, preserve us from all sin and strengthen us for life as your ambassadors in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

*Hymn

Standing on the Promises (R.K.Carter)

#142

Standing on the promises of Christ my King, through eternal ages let his praises ring;
Glory in the highest I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.

Chorus: Standing, standing (standing on the promises),
Standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing (standing on the promises),
I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. (*Chorus*)

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God. (*Chorus*)

Standing on the promises I cannot fall, list'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. (*Chorus*)

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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!

Please join us for a Congregational Meeting for Officer Elections TODAY in the Sanctuary immediately after worship.

Choir rehearsal will be in the Sanctuary at 12:30pm. All are welcome!

- Rejoicing in Standing Together in Christ (vs. 1-3)

- Rejoicing in Faith in Christ (vs. 4-9)

Next Week: Content in Christ (Phil. 4:10-23)

¹ Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved. ² I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. ³ Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. How does Philippians 3:12-21 lead Euodia and Syntyche to “agree in the Lord?”
2. Why does Paul ask “you” to “help these women?” Why is it important to remind everyone that their names are in the “Book of Life?” What is our call if there are divisions in the church?
3. Think about all Jesus has for us and why verse 7 is so important as we are called to pray.
4. What would happen if you put verses 8-9 into practice and did that every time you worried or felt anxious?

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)

Wednesday Night Youth Group 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) ***not 10/19**
- 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 10/19	12:00pm	Congregational Meeting for Officer Election (Sanctuary)
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	5:30pm	Small Group led by the Hongs & Ricketts (Frederick)
Monday 10/20		
Tuesday 10/21	7:00pm	Small Group led by Michele Kelly & Craig Wilson (Parlor)
Wednesday 10/22	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 10/23		
Friday 10/24	9:30am	Women's Small Group led by Sue Farrell (Parlor)
	7:30pm	Young Adults Small Group (Parlor)
Saturday 10/25	9:00am	ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
Sunday 10/26	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)
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
	5:30pm	Small Group led by the Hongs & Ricketts (Frederick)
	5:30pm	Small Group led by Jason Evans (NPC Parlor)

Financial Update

	Sept. Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income (\$K)	\$47.8 K	\$ 609.6 K	\$ 572.4 K	\$ 784.0 K
Expenses (\$K)*	\$ 74.7 K	\$ 613.7 K	\$ 630.8 K	\$ 824.8 K



neelsville.org/give

Excess Income/Expenses	-\$ 26.9 K	-\$ 4.1 K
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*Adjusted expense includes mortgage principal

YTD September Income and Expense are fairly even. Expenses this month were higher than usual with additional cleaning, repairs and property taxes, while Income was lighter than average.

Announcements

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

Join us for a Congregational Meeting after worship TODAY to elect our new Officers for 2026. Officer candidate bios are available in the Narthex and at this QR code.



Fall-O-Ween donations are requested for our community outreach event THIS SAT 10/25 from 2-5pm. Baked goods, apples, and more are just some of the items that will help us celebrate fall with y'all! Help is needed in advance and on the day of the festival so please consider how you can participate. Connect with Pastor SeongSu (seongsu@neelsville.org) for more information. Use the QR code to view our donation requests.



Neelsville is doing a new pictorial directory! We want everyone to get a new picture made so that our new directory will be complete. IT WON'T BE COMPLETE WITHOUT YOU! You can make your appointment online at this QR code or see one our signup team members after worship service. **Photo dates are Fri 11/21 and Sat 11/22.** You will have a professional photography session, see your proofs, and have the opportunity to purchase extra portraits for family and friends. **You will receive a free 8x10 of your chosen directory photo along with a hard copy of our new directory!!**



***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 with Stewardship information will be mailed out to all this week. **You may submit your estimated giving for 2026 at this QR code.**



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 Narthex (with brochures/information too) for pickup. 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-4pm

Fri 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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook

Facebook.com/neelsville



Instagram

[@neelsville.church](https://www.instagram.com/neelsville.church)