



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 26, 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	<i>Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart</i> (arr. Larson)	Janna Leigh Ryon, piano
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We invite you to let the music quiet your mind and heart to prepare for worship.

Welcome & Announcements	Pastor Jeffrey Rickett
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* = please rise if you are able

*Call to Worship	Based on Philippians	Eric Shirley
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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, let us gather in the presence of Christ, whose grace has called us and whose love sustains us.

All: We come, content in Christ, trusting in His provision and strength, able to do all things through Him.

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	<i>All People That on Earth Do Dwell</i> (Kethe/Bourgeois/Mason)	#3
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All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forthtell; come ye before him, and rejoice!

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed; without our aid he did us make.
We are his flock, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

Oh, enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good; his mercy is forever sure.
His truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

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!

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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

Lord, I Need You
(Carson/Maher/Nockels/Reeves/Stansfill)

#439

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.
And without you, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

Chorus: Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. Every hour I need you.
My one defense, my righteousness; oh God, how I need you.

Where sin runs deep, your grace is more. Where grace is found, is where you are.
And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.
Where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me. (*Chorus*)

So teach my song to rise to you when temptation comes my way.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, you're my hope and stay.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, you're my hope and stay. (*Chorus 2x*)

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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.

Our Provider and Strength, we confess our discontent and doubts about Your provision. Forgive us for the times we have relied on our own strength and forgotten that we can do all things through Christ. Help us to trust Your care and find contentment in Your sufficiency. 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: Trust in Christ, who gives you all you need. In Him, your sins are forgiven, and you are empowered to do all things through His strength.

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 un failing 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 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.

Stewardship Testimony

Sue Farrell

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

Sing Praise
(arr. Helvey/Govenor)

Janna Leigh Ryon, piano
Michele Kelly, organ

"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 Message

Melissa Evans

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 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.

Minute for Mission

Operation Christmas Child

Juanita Rosser

From time to time we take a moment to demonstrate how we give back to the community using the gifts God has given us. By doing so, we honor Him and spread His love.

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

Content In Christ

Pastor Jeff

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.

*Hymn

Be Still, My Soul (von Schlegel/Borthwick/Sibelius)

#610

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
 Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
 Leave to your God to order and provide;
 In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
 Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend
 Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul! your God will undertake
 To guide the future as he has the past.
 Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
 All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
 Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
 His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
 And all is darkened in the vale of tears,
 Then shall you better know his love, his heart,
 Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
 Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
 From his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul! The hour is hast'ning on
 When we shall be forever with the Lord,
 When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
 Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
 All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

***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!

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

Discipleship Explored: Following the One Who Loves Us

- Gospel _____ (vv. 10-13)

“I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” (v. 13)

- What it does *not* mean

- What it *does* mean

- Gospel _____ (vv. 14-18)

- Gospel _____ (vv. 19-20)

- Gospel _____ (vv. 21-23)

Next Week: *The Call to Go: Evangelism as a Command*
(Matt. 28:18-20, Romans 10:14-17)

¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned, in whatever situation I am, to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me. ¹⁴ Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵ And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. ¹⁶ Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸ I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. ²¹ Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. ²² All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. ²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. If you're being honest, how would you finish this sentence: "I can be content, as long as _____"?
2. If you currently feel discontent, what would Paul say to encourage you? (See Philippians 4:11-12.)
3. Where does Paul find true contentment, according to Philippians 4:13? (See also 1:21, 3:10-11 and 4:7.)
4. Paul is in chains as he writes. He's been "hungry" and "in want," and has had many "troubles" (4:12, 14). Yet he is content in Christ. Briefly skim through Philippians to find some of the promises that make this possible.
5. In Phil 4:14-18, Paul shares his hope of a gospel partnership with the Philippians. How can we at NPC show our partnership in the gospel with one another?
6. Describe the richness of the gospel in Phil. 4:19-20? How have you experienced that richness?
7. Describe the impact of the gospel in Phil. 4:21-23. How has the gospel personally impacted you?

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 –

Sing: A New Hymnal Rooted in Old Worship (Conf Rm)

Contact: Jonathan Harris (jp.hrrs@gmail.com)

Discipleship Explored Small Groups end this week – You can still catch the last session to learn more about following Jesus!

- 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 10/26	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	5:30pm	Small Group led by the Hongs & Ricketts (Frederick)

Monday 10/27

Tuesday 10/28	7:00pm	Small Group led by Michele Kelly & Craig Wilson (Parlor)
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Wednesday 10/29	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 10/30

Friday 10/31	9:30am	Women's Small Group led by Sue Farrell (Parlor)
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Saturday 11/1	9:00am	ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
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Sunday 11/2	9:15am	Sunday Morning Small Group (NPC Parlor)
	9:30am	Classes for All Ages!
	10:45am	Worship Service & the Lord's Supper (Sanctuary)
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal

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.

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 of 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! Stewardship reminder - You can find 2026 Stewardship information on a table in the narthex. This information was included in last Wednesday's mailing to all Covenant Partners. Please visit the table to pick up Stewardship information. OR ... See all the information and submit your estimated giving for 2026 at this QR code or bit.ly/2026_stewardship.



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 NEXT SUN 11/2** to the donation station in the Narthex. Contact Juanita with questions.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THANKSGIVING BOXES - We will receive **Holiday Giving families from Neelsville Middle School this year** so we can begin to build a relationship with the families and the school. For the first time, we will be giving our families Thanksgiving boxes of non-perishable food. **We are asking the congregation to donate the following items** – soup, mac & cheese, canned vegetables, canned fruit, nut butters (peanut, almond, etc), jelly, rice, pasta, bottles of juice, oatmeal, canned meats, granola bars and gift cards from Aldi or Walmart (\$35, \$50, \$100). **Please drop off items in the Narthex by Sun 11/16.** Let's celebrate all we are thankful for by sharing with others in our community.

Save the Date! Mark your calendars and please join us for a **Women's Christmas Brunch on Saturday, December 6th** from 10am – 12noon.

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

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Facebook

Facebook.com/neelsville



Instagram

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