

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



Sunday, December 28, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 8.

#### Order of Service

In the midst of twinkling lights, carols and gatherings, we remember that Christmas is not simply about celebration – it is about incarnation. This Christmas, let us reflect on how Christ's presence transforms our lives. Where there is fear, He brings courage. Where there is sorrow, He brings comfort. Where there is division, He brings reconciliation. Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men responded with worship – may we do the same, offering our hearts in gratitude and service. – Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

**Prelude** 

Here I Am to Worship (Hughes)

Natalia Suwuh Angkuw

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

#### Welcome & Announcements

**Brian Farrell** 

### \*Call to Worship

from Psalm 103

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

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul; all that is within me, bless His holy name.

All: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all His kind deeds—

Leader: He who forgives all your iniquities and heals all your diseases,

**All:** who redeems your life from the Pit and crowns you with loving devotion and compassion,

Leader: who satisfies you with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**All:** Bless the Lord, O my soul!

\*Hymn

Away in a Manger (Gabriel/Murray)

#357

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

<sup>\* =</sup> please rise if you are able

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay Close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

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#### \*Hymn

#### The First Noel (Dix/Stainer)

#765

The first Noel the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Chorus: Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. (Chorus)

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. (Chorus)

Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord, that hath made heav'n and earth of naught, And with his blood our life hath bought. *(Chorus)* 

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## \*Hymn

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (Wesley/Mendelssohn/Willcocks)

#779

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.

Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;

With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb! Veiled in flesh the God-head see: hail, the incarnate Deity,

Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

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# **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**

What a Miracle (Leeland)

Natalia & Elys Suwuh

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried "Alleluia!"

## \*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

A song of praise used by Christians since the early 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Scripture Reading**

Philippians 4:8-9 and Proverbs 4:23

Please turn in the pew Bible to page 982 and 530 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 7 to follow the text as it is read.

#### Sermon

Making Christmas Last All Year Long

**Elder Adam Condrick** 

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 6.

### **Time of Prayer**

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

#### \*Hymn

Go Tell It on the Mountain

#794

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, Behold, throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light.

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth, Rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth. (Refrain)

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

### \*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.

• Why? - Jesus

• Why? - Others

• Why? – You

**Next Week:** Why We Are Here: Our Core Convictions
A Global Family: The View from Heaven (Revelation 7:9-12)

# Scripture

**Philippians 4:8-9** - <sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things. <sup>9</sup> Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me - put into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Proverbs 4:23 – Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

# Something to think about . . .

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

- 1. Do you believe all good things come from God? How does that change how you think about the world?
- 2. What may you want to keep out of your heart that is creeping in now?
- 3. What light are you shining to others?
- 4. What is excellent and praiseworthy you can contemplate this week/year?

# 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 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)



Contact: students@neelsville.org

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

Ages: 6th - 12th grade

Wednesday Night Youth Group will NOT meet on 12/31. We'll be back on 1/7 at 7pm in the 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)

**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 9:15am – Small Group (Parlor)

Contact: Adam Condrick (acondrick@segalco.com)

Sundays at 9:30am – Jeremiah Bible Study (Library and Online)

Contact: Jason Evans (jason.evans@vikamd.com)

NEW!! Sundays at 9:30am - How to Talk about Jesus (Room 1)

Contact: Pastor Jeff (pastorjeff@neelsville.org)

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 5:00pm – Frederick Small Group

Contact: Pastor SeongSu Hong (seongsu@neelsville.org)

Wednesdays at 7:15pm - Men's Bible Study on Fulfillment (Online)

Contact: Brian Farrell (bpf3356@gmail.com) \*not mtg 12/31

Fridays at 9:30am – Women's Bible Study on Abraham (Parlor)

Contact: Sue Farrell (bfarrell01@aol.com) \*not mtg 1/2

# Announcements

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

The church office is closed through Thurs, Jan 1 so all our staff can have spiritual rest and quality time with their families for the holidays. The office email and voicemail will be checked for urgent matters periodically during that time. We will be back to our regular schedule the week of January 5th. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thank you for showing love to local families this Christmas with our Giving Tree! 50 children have been blessed with gifts, and each family will enjoy a Christmas meal. May they all remember the true gift of Christmas and grow in a relationship with Christ in the coming year.

Due to the winter storm warning on our last Second Sunday Fellowship, we have rescheduled our speakers for Sun 1/11! We will have lunch together in the Fellowship Hall and hear the testimony of M and P, who came to the US last year in July. Since then, they've attended NPC's ESOL classes, learned more about the Christian faith and were baptized. In June, M was picked up by ICE, but God restored him to us after 5 weeks in detention in Texas. Join us to hear how God worked His miracles during M's detainment. Thanks be to God for this amazing story!

**Can you donate coffee?** Fellowship committee is asking for donations of ground regular and decaf coffee and teas for Sunday mornings. We especially need decaf coffee at this time. Please place your donations on the counter in the Welcome Center. Thank you!

# Financial Update \_\_\_

|                 | Nov.      | YTD        | YTD        | Annual     |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
|                 | Actual    | Actual     | Budget     | Budget     |
| Income (\$K)    | \$117.1 K | \$ 777.5 K | \$ 728.3 K | \$ 784.0 K |
| Expenses (\$K)* | \$ 62.3 K | \$ 766.3 K | \$ 760.3 K | \$824.8 K  |



| Excess          | \$ 54.8 K | \$ 11.3 K |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Income/Expenses |           |           |

neelsville.org/give

November shows a very strong monthly income, which is a combination of rental income and increased end of the year giving. Expenses were average and account for about 53% of income in November, resulting in a net positive YTD.

<sup>\*</sup>Adjusted expense includes mortgage principal

# 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

**Natalia Suwuh Angkuw** – *Interim Director of Worship Music* nsuwuh@gmail.com

**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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