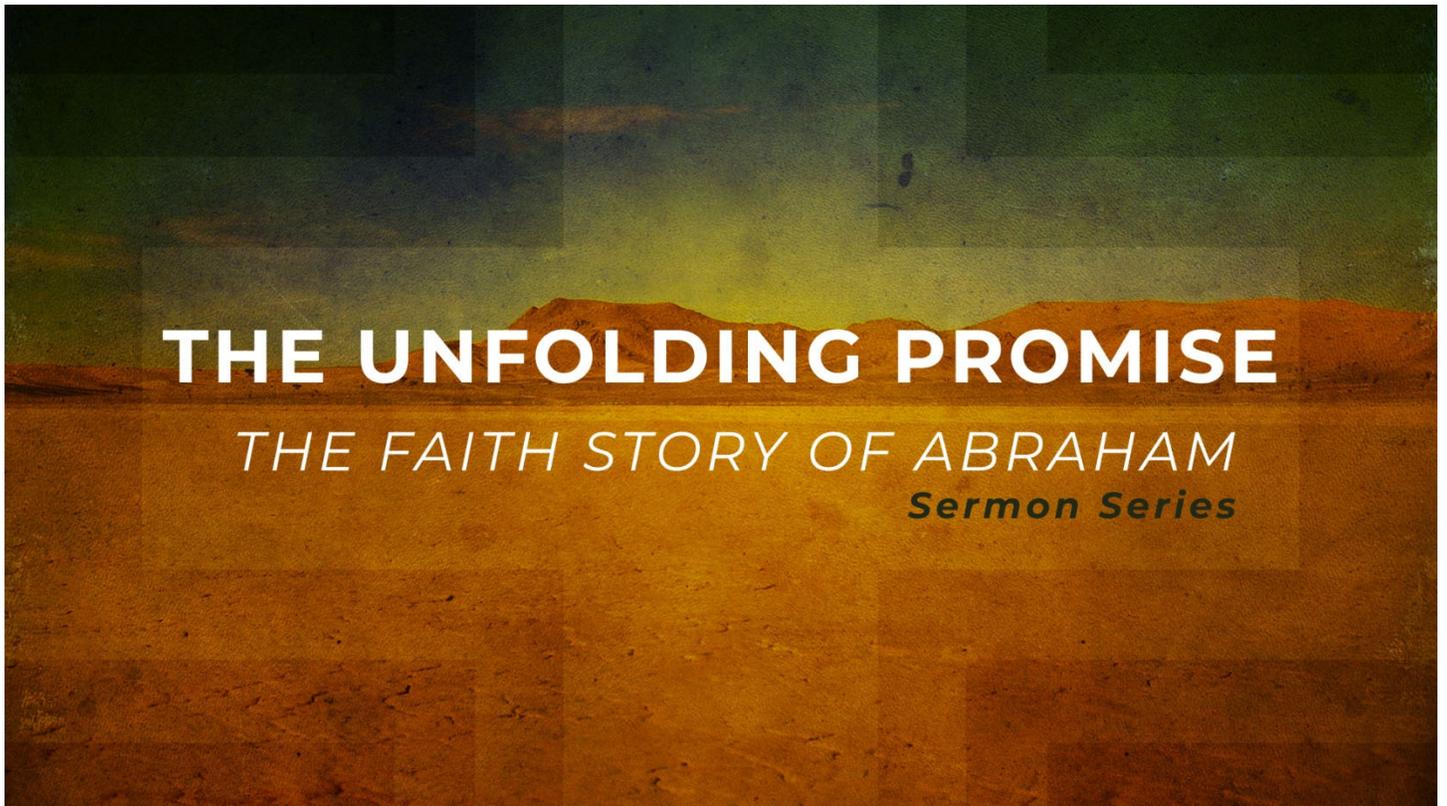




NPC strives to be an intercultural church of believers in Jesus Christ who delight to share the good news in Germantown and beyond.



Sunday, March 8, 2026 – 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 11.

The heavenly hosts of angels are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things created make reply.
Thou dost accept their praises; Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King!

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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**

Be Thou My Vision (Hull)

#434

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, 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 Armor, and be thou my Light,
Thou my soul's Shelter, thou my high Tow'r. Raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only be 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.

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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.

O Lord, You are true to Your Word. Every promise You have made has come to pass, and every promise yet spoken will surely stand. You remind us who You are and what You have done.

Yet we confess that we forget. We are prone to wander from the God who loves us. Instead of resting in Your faithfulness, we lean on our own understanding. We turn to our own ways, our skills, our gifts, and our intellect to solve our problems. We trust our plans more than Your promises. We rely on what we can see rather than walking by faith in what You have said.

In moments of waiting, we grow impatient. In moments of uncertainty, we grow anxious. In moments of opportunity, we seek our glory instead of Yours. Forgive us, Lord, of our self-reliance, our wandering hearts, our forgetfulness of Your steadfast love.

Remind us that we stand on the Rock of our salvation. Turn our eyes from ourselves back to You—our shield and our very great reward.

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

Ephesians 2:8-9

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: For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Confession of Faith (unison)

Nicene 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.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

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

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

The Solid Rock (Bradbury/arr. Berry)

Christine Gormley, piano

"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us." – 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.

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.

Scripture Reading

Genesis 15

Please turn in the pew Bible to page 10 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon*Faith Laying Hold of God*

Pastor SeongSu Hong

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.

HymnThe Solid Rock (Mote/Bradbury)*

#120

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. *(Refrain)*

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. *(Refrain)*

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. *(Refrain)*

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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.

PostludeLead on, O King Eternal (Arr. Bober)*

Christine Gormley, piano

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

After Worship Today!

Join us for 2nd Sunday Fellowship Chili Cook-Off in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

Financial Update

	January Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income (\$K)	\$ 72.4 K	\$ 72.4 K	\$ 68.8 K	\$ 827.9 K
Expenses (\$K) *	\$ 52.2 K	\$ 52.2 K	\$ 67.3 K	\$ 859.4 K



neelsville.org/give

Excess Income/Expenses	\$ 20.2K	\$ 20.2K
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*Adjusted expense includes mortgage principal

January 2026 income of \$72.4K, exceeding budget projections of \$68.8K. Expenses of \$52.2K, maintaining cost control, and operating \$15.1K under budget.

¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ² But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” ⁴ And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” ⁵ And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

⁷ And he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.” ⁸ But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹ He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰ And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. ¹³ Then the Lord said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. ¹⁴ But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. ¹⁵ As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶ And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, ¹⁹ the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, ²⁰ the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, ²¹ the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites.”

Something to think about . . .

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

1. Where in your life do you currently feel the tension between God's promise and your present reality?
2. How do you typically respond when God's timing feels delayed — with trust, frustration, self-reliance, or honest prayer like Abraham?
3. What does it mean to you that God alone walked between the pieces of the covenant? How does that strengthen your assurance of His faithfulness?
4. How does knowing that Jesus bore the covenant curse change the way you view your standing before God?
5. What would it look like this week to actively “lay hold of God” in faith rather than clinging to circumstances or outcomes?

Grow and Go with Us!

Opportunities are offered for all ages, to grow in our relationship with God, impacting our lives.

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 meets at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

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 – Get Your Life Back (Parlor)

Contact: Adam Condrick (acondrick@segalco.com)

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

Contact: Bill Kroah (billtrac108@gmail.com)

Sundays at 9:30am – The Imperfect Disciple (Room 1)

Contact: Pastor Jeff (pastorjeff@neelsville.org)

Sundays at 7:00pm – Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

Wednesdays at 7:00pm – Women’s Lenten Bible Study (Online)

Contact: Kim Evans (kyejohn316@gmail.com)

Wednesdays at 7:15pm – Men’s Lenten Bible Study (Online)

Contact: Brian Farrell (bpf3356@gmail.com)

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

Contact: Sue Farrell (bfarrell01@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 3/8	12:15pm 7:00pm	2nd Sunday Fellowship Chili Cook-Off (Fellowship Hall) Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)
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Monday 3/9

Tuesday 3/10	10:00am	MomCo Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
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Wednesday 3/11	7:00pm	NPC Students Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00pm	Women's Lenten Bible Study – <i>Jesus' Final Week</i> (Online)
	7:15pm	Men's Lenten Bible Study – <i>Jesus' Final Week</i> (Online)

Thursday 3/12

Friday 3/13	9:30am	Women's Bible Study – <i>Abraham</i> (Parlor)
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Saturday 3/14	9:00am	ESOL Classes (Lower Entrance)
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Sunday 3/15	9:15am	Small Group – <i>Get Your Life Back</i> (Parlor)
	9:30am	Classes for All Ages!
	10:45am	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	12:15pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	12:15pm	Missions Trip Meeting (Room 1)
	12:15pm	"Meet Your Deacon" Fellowship (Welcome Center)
	7:00pm	Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

Announcements

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

Neelsville Presbyterian Church is prayerfully searching for our next Director of Worship and Music (part-time) who will help us continue to grow as a worshipping community centered on the gospel of Jesus Christ. This person will guide our musical life—leading congregational singing, directing our choir and praise teams, coordinating musicians, and partnering with our pastors to craft services that are reverent, joyful, and welcoming to all. If you know someone who might be a good fit, please share this opportunity with them. Contact Pastor Jeff for full job description and inquiries (pastorjeff@neelsville.org).

Summer Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic – NPC will be on mission June 20-26 in the DR through Foundation for Peace. We will be working with the local church to amplify their ministries in the community, help with church construction, and most importantly, worship with them. If you are interested and have not signed up, please contact Pastor SeongSu at seongsu@neelsville.org. **There will be a Mission Trip Meeting NEXT SUN 3/15 at 12:15pm in Room 1.**

“Meet Your Deacon” Fellowship Reception – Please join us **after worship NEXT SUN 3/15** for some St. Patrick's Day treats and a chance to fellowship with your deacon. This is your opportunity to meet , converse and really get to know your deacon. We hope to see you!

Serve Neelsville Middle School with Spaghetti Dinners! We are planning monthly spaghetti dinners at NPC beginning **WED 3/18** to serve NMS and hopefully expand to the Germantown community in the future. Are you interested in serving with set-up, clean-up, cooking or being a table host (getting to know our guests)? Contact James Nelson (jan196@gmail.com).

We have another opportunity to serve and bless Neelsville Middle School! The 6th graders are participating in an Outdoor Education program, and we can help some of them with items they don't have including sleeping bags, duffle bags, pillows and bath towels. You may sign up thru this QR code. Amazon links to specific gifts are included in the sign-up. **All items are due by SUN 3/22 in the Narthex.** Thank you in advance for your wonderful support!



The Trustees invite you to join us for a mini workday after worship on SUN 3/22. We'll be cleaning the interior walls around the church with Magic Eraser (supplies provided). There will be pizza lunch provided for volunteers afterwards. Contact trustees@neelsville.org if you can help!

Job Search for M&P – Our friends, M&P, are in search of employment and have a heart to serve. M's degree is in Civil Engineering with experience in home remodeling and renovation. P would like to find a family in need of childcare or elder care. If you know of any opportunities for them, please reach out to Joanne Wilson (joannelwilson@gmail.com) or Steve Amar (sandkamar@gmail.com).

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.*

Co-Moderators – Vangie Fletcher, Carol Harris, & Lynn Kroah

deacons@neelsville.org

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

Moderator – Jason Craft

trustees@neelsville.org

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