



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



THE UNFOLDING PROMISE
THE FAITH STORY OF ABRAHAM
Sermon Series

Sunday, May 10, 2026 – 10:45am Worship

Welcome to Neelsville!

Welcome to Neelsville Presbyterian Church! We are so thrilled that you are visiting 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 12.

Order of Service

Corporate worship at Neelsville Presbyterian Church is our shared heartfelt response to God as a multi-ethnic, multi-generational family in Christ. Rooted in Scripture and centered on the gospel, we gather as one body to pray, sing, hear God's Word, and be formed together into Christ's likeness for the sake of our community, our neighborhood, and the world.

– Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

Prelude

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

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

* = please rise if you are able

*Call to Worship

Based on Genesis 23

Pastor SeongSu Hong

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

Leader: Come, let us gather in the presence of God, who assures us of a lasting inheritance beyond this life.

All: As Abraham grieved the loss of Sarah but held fast to God's promises,

Leader: we too are invited to trust in the Lord's faithfulness and kindness, knowing we are sojourners and strangers in this world, yet heirs of a glorious future in and with Jesus Christ.

All: Praise the Lord!

*Hymn

Glorify Thy Name (Adkins)

#44

Father, we love you, we worship and adore you

Chorus: Glorify thy name in all the earth.
Glorify thy name, glorify thy name
Glorify thy name in all the earth.

Jesus, we love you, we worship and adore you (*Chorus*)

Spirit, we love you, we worship and adore you (*Chorus*)

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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.

***Praise Song**

From Everlasting (Psalm 90)

Hudson/Clow

O God, before the mountains were brought forth
Or days of spring and summer filled the earth.
From everlasting, You are God.

We dwell beneath the stars in ancient skies.
A thousand years are nothing in Your sight.
From everlasting, You are God.

Chorus: And all our days are held within Your hands.
Your perfect love and favor have no end.
We rest within the wisdom of Your plan,
Everlasting God.

O God, when joy and tragedy collide
And loss reminds us life is but a sigh,
From everlasting, You are God. (*Chorus*)

O God of light, our ways are known to You,
But by Your grace You're making all things new.
So satisfy us in our numbered days,
Establish every effort while we wait.
From everlasting, You are God. (*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.

Gracious God, we confess that we often cling to the comforts of this world and forget our true identity as sojourners and strangers. We mourn with the grief of those who do not know You, instead of trusting in Your promises and living with hope. Forgive us for doubting Your goodness and for neglecting the down payment of Your Spirit, which assures us of our inheritance with Christ. Help us to surrender our fears and pride, and to walk by faith in Christ. We ask this through our Co-heir Jesus Christ. 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

Based on 2 Cor. 1:22

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: Hear the good news: God has sealed us and given us His Spirit as a guarantee of what is to come. In Christ, our sins are forgiven and we are welcomed as joint heirs, assured of a lasting inheritance. Let us rejoice, for in Him we are pardoned and made new, and nothing can separate us from the love of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Confession of Faith

Apostle's 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.

Leader: Let us confess together what we as Christians believe.

All: 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 & 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

Hymn of Heaven (Wickham)

Praise Band

"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 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 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.

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Scripture Reading

Genesis 23

Please turn in the pew Bible to page 16 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 10 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon

Mourning and Moving Forward

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 9.

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.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Holy and merciful God, our Father, you have made us in your image and for yourself. You have made this good world for us to tend and to enjoy. God our Father,

People: Hear the praise of grateful hearts.

Leader: You sought your ancient people when they strayed from you. You freed them from the oppressor and brought them home. God, our Father,

People: Hear the praise of grateful hearts.

Leader: You have sent your Son to bring us home to you.

Leader: By his Incarnation—

People: You have found us.

Leader: By his Death—

People: You have forgiven us.

Leader: By his Resurrection—

People: You have freed us.

Leader: God, our Father,

People: Hear the praise of grateful hearts.

Prayer of Consecration

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: Holy and merciful God, our Father, send down your Holy Spirit on our bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ, and on your people, that we may be the body of Christ, reconciled to you and to each other by his blood. By your Holy Spirit make us—

People: One with Christ, one with each other, and one in mission to all the world,

Leader: Until Christ shall come in final victory and we feast together at his heavenly banquet. We cry,

People: Maranatha! Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen!

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep my faith will stand

Chorus 1: And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now (*Chorus 1*)

Bridge: Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Saviour (*2x*)

Chorus 2: I will call upon Your name
Keep my eyes above the waves
My soul will rest in Your embrace
I am Yours and You are mine

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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!

Join us to celebrate Mother's Day in the Welcome Center! We are honoring all women who help raise all our children and make our lives richer with their caring ways.

Financial Update

	March Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income (\$K)	\$ 80.3 K	\$ 204.6 K	\$ 191.8 K	\$ 827.9 K
Expenses (\$K)	\$ 71.2 K	\$ 182.8 K	\$ 221.7 K	\$ 859.4 K
Quarterly Mission Expense (\$K)	\$ 16.4 K	\$ 16.4 K		



neelsville.org/give

Excess Income/Expenses	-\$ 7.3 K	\$ 5.4 K
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¹ Sarah lived 127 years; these were the years of the life of Sarah. ² And Sarah died at Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. ³ And Abraham rose up from before his dead and said to the Hittites, ⁴ “I am a sojourner and foreigner among you; give me property among you for a burying place, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.” ⁵ The Hittites answered Abraham, ⁶ “Hear us, my lord; you are a prince of God among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our tombs. None of us will withhold from you his tomb to hinder you from burying your dead.” ⁷ Abraham rose and bowed to the Hittites, the people of the land. ⁸ And he said to them, “If you are willing that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me and entreat for me Ephron the son of Zohar, ⁹ that he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which he owns; it is at the end of his field. For the full price let him give it to me in your presence as property for a burying place.”

¹⁰ Now Ephron was sitting among the Hittites, and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the Hittites, of all who went in at the gate of his city, ¹¹ “No, my lord, hear me: I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it. In the sight of the sons of my people I give it to you. Bury your dead.” ¹² Then Abraham bowed down before the people of the land. ¹³ And he said to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, “But if you will, hear me: I give the price of the field. Accept it from me, that I may bury my dead there.” ¹⁴ Ephron answered Abraham, ¹⁵ “My lord, listen to me: a piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver, what is that between you and me? Bury your dead.” ¹⁶ Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver that he had named in the hearing of the Hittites, four hundred shekels of silver, according to the weights current among the merchants.

¹⁷ So the field of Ephron in Machpelah, which was to the east of Mamre, the field with the cave that was in it and all the trees that were in the field, throughout its whole area, was made over ¹⁸ to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the Hittites, before all who went in at the gate of his city. ¹⁹ After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah east of Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan. ²⁰ The field and the cave that is in it were made over to Abraham as property for a burying place by the Hittites.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. How did Abraham respond to Sarah's death? How is this a model for us?
2. How should the grief of a Christian differ from that of a non-Christian when loved ones die?
3. How does Abraham describe himself in Gen. 23:4? Explain why Abraham would want to purchase a piece of property?
4. Like Abraham, we possess a "down payment" of the promises of God. What is our down payment, and how does it foreshadow our full inheritance as joint heirs with Christ? Read 2 Corinthians 1:22.
5. What does it mean to you to be an alien and a stranger in this world? How does it affect the decisions you make from day to day?

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 (Youth Room / 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 – Life Lessons from 1&2 Peter (Parlor)

Contact: Adam Condrick (acondrick@segalco.com)

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

Contact: Pastor Jeff (pastorjeff@neelsville.org)

Sundays at 9:30am – Basics of Christian Beliefs (Conf Rm & Online)

Contacts: Craig Wilson & Bill Kroah (cdw6@msn.com)

Sundays at 7:00pm – Ezekiel Bible Study (Online) **not mtg 5/10*

Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

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

Contact: Kim Evans & Joanne Wilson (joannelwilson@gmail.com)

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

Contact: Brian Farrell (bpf3356@gmail.com)

Fridays at 9:30am – Women’s Bible Study on Joshua (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 5/10 **12:00pm** **2nd Sunday Fellowship for Mother's Day (Welcome Ctr)**
Happy
Mother's Day!

Monday 5/11

Tuesday 5/12

Wednesday 5/13 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 7:00pm Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)
 7:00pm Women's Bible Study – *Sermon on the Mount* (Online)
 7:15pm Men's Bible Study – *Psalms: Prayers of the Heart* (Online)

Thursday 5/14

Friday 5/15 9:30am Women's Bible Study – *Joshua* (Parlor)

Saturday 5/16 9:00am ESOL Classes and Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
 12:00pm **Car Wash Missions Fundraiser (NPC Front Parking Lot)**

Sunday 5/17 9:15am Sunday Morning Small Group – *Life Lessons* (Parlor)
 9:30am Classes for All Ages!
 10:45am **Worship Service (Sanctuary)**
 12:30pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 12:30pm **VBS Training (Fellowship Hall)**
 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.

Please note the Lord's Supper will be served on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in May.

Support the Rockville Women's Center Baby Bottle Campaign TODAY and make a meaningful impact. Return your baby bottle filled with a donation to the bin in the Narthex or prepare cash or check payable to **NPC with RWC in the memo** to be collected during offering time TODAY. **Questions?** Contact Jaimie Bement, Mercy Muna, Lena Shirley or Joanne Wilson.

Visit our Car Wash Fundraiser at Neelsville to help support the mission team traveling to the Dominican Republic this June! The team would love to wash your vehicle **THIS SAT 5/16 from 12-2pm**. You may also support with your prayers that they carry the gospel forward and with financial donations through this QR code.



It's almost time to celebrate and bless our NPC graduates! If your child is graduating this year from high school or college, please send to NPC Students (students@neelsville.org) his/her full name, a baby picture and recent picture, name of the school they are graduating from, and if a college graduate, their major(s). **Photo and info is due by Mon 6/1.**

Women's Tea in England - You're invited to our annual Tea on Sat 6/6 from 10am to 12:30pm where we will enjoy English cuisine and culture. You don't want to miss this fun, faith-filled fellowship event! Childcare is provided for those who pre-register. It's also great opportunity to invite a friend! We'd love to see you! You may register at this QR code or at www.neelsville.org. Any questions or if you want to help, please contact Gerry Davis at (gerry.davis@outlook.com) or Cathy Brown at (ccbrown8488@gmail.com).



Sign up now as a Vacation Bible School volunteer or participant August 3-7 from 9am-12pm. Registration is flourishing and we're already 1/3 full! The Rainforest Falls theme provides beautiful scenery to remind us of God's glorious creation. While we explore the nature of God, we're also pointing our campers to living as a follower of Christ through praise songs, scripture lessons, recreational games, hands-on science, and more! We look forward to your involvement. **Register your children through the QR Code.** Contact Pastor SeongSu (seongsu@neelsville.org) if you would like to volunteer.



We will have a VBS training NEXT Sun 5/17 after worship. Lunch will be provided. We will give an overview of the VBS program, assign station leaders, and identifying those who would like to help with decorations. If you are on the fence about volunteering, please come to this meeting to get a sense of the duties. Let us love upon our Next Generation to raise them to know and love our Lord! See Pastor SeongSu if interested.

Stay Connected with Neelsville

CONTACT INFO

Questions?

office@neelsville.org

Website

www.neelsville.org

Phone

301-972-3916

Office Hours

Tues-Thurs 10am-4pm

Mon & 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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