



NEELSVILLE
P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

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

SERMON SERIES

Did Jesus Really Say That?

THE CHALLENGING
TEACHINGS
OF JESUS



Sunday, July 12, 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.

Order of Service

Corporate worship is our shared surrender to Jesus' costly call. As we gather for corporate worship, we deny ourselves, seek His Kingdom above all, reconcile with one another, and submit to His hard but life-giving words. Corporate worship transforms us into people shaped by the cross-learning together to follow the One who calls us to lose our lives and find them in Him.
– Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

Prelude

Your Grace Is Enough (Maher)

Ulung Tanoto

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

Psalm 16

Catherine Njuki

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

Leader: Preserve us, O God, for in You we take refuge.

People: We say to the Lord, "You are our Lord; we have no good apart from You."

Leader: The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup; He holds our lot.

People: The lines have fallen for us in pleasant places; indeed, we have a beautiful inheritance.

Leader: We bless the Lord who gives counsel; even in the night our hearts instruct us.

People: We have set the Lord always before us; because He is at our right hand, we shall not be shaken.

Leader: You make known to us the path of life.

People: In Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord, our refuge, our portion, and our greatest treasure.

Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-Chorus: (So) remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Chorus 1: Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along. (*Pre-Chorus, Chorus 2x*)

Chorus 2: Yeah, Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God, I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me

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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.

HymnTurn Your Eyes* (Lemmel/Romanacce/Trout/Winebarger/Stiff)**#269**

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.

Turn your eyes to the hillside where justice and mercy embrace.
There the Son of God gave his life for us, and our measureless debt was erased.

Chorus: Jesus, to you we lift our eyes, Jesus, our glory and our prize.
We adore you, behold you, our Savior ever true.
Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to you.

Turn your eyes to the morning and see Christ the lion awake.

What a glorious dawn: fear of death is gone, for we carry his life in our veins. (*Chorus*)

Turn your eyes to the heavens; our King will return for his own.

Ev'ry knee will bow, ev'ry tongue will shout, "All glory to Jesus alone!" (*Chorus 2x*)

Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to you.

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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.

Merciful Father, we confess that we often come to You asking what we must do, while hiding the things we refuse to surrender. We trust in our morality, our accomplishments, our possessions, our reputation, and our control. Like the rich ruler, we may appear obedient outwardly, yet our hearts cling to lesser treasures. Lord Jesus, You have exposed our idols, not to shame us, but to free us. Forgive us for loving Your gifts more than You, for seeking security apart from You, and for believing eternal life could ever be earned by our goodness. Give us childlike dependence, humble repentance, and open hands to follow You wherever You lead. Have mercy on us, O God, for what is impossible with us is possible with You. Through Christ we pray. 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, seeking God's help to turn away from them, we are assured that He will extend grace, mercy and forgiveness. Jesus paid the penalty for our sins on the cross.

Leader: Hear the good news: Jesus says, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." Salvation does not rest on our achievement, our wealth, our sacrifice, or our strength. It rests on the grace of God in Jesus Christ, who gave Himself fully for sinners and promises eternal life to all who follow Him by faith. In Christ, our idols are forgiven, our guilt is removed, and our true treasure is secured forever. Brothers and sisters, if you are in Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Confession of Faith (unison)

The Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar

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.

The Church is deeply aware that its central emphasis throughout must be: Jesus Christ, The Son of God, is Lord and Savior.

It confesses this faith in communion with the Christian Church throughout the world. In this faith the Church worships the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit; one God in Trinity.

Its faith is in Almighty God, Father of Jesus Christ, and Father of all men in Jesus Christ. He is the Creator and Ruler of the universe, who sustains and provides for our lives in His everlasting love. He is the holy God.

Its faith is in Jesus Christ, the Lord, the only-begotten Son of God. There is one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all. Jesus alone is our hope and through him we await the final victory.

It is a faith in the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of the Father and the Son. He brings about faith unto the new birth through which salvation is received. He is the teacher, who explains God's word to us and he enables us to bring forth good works to the glory of God.

And God's people said: Amen!

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

All My Boast Is In Jesus (Boswell/Fowler/Getty/Papa)

Ulung Tanoto

"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

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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Minute for Mission

Sons of Thunder

Tom Costa

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

Luke 18:18-30

Please turn in the pew Bible to pages 877 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon

Sell All of What You Have

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.

What wonder of wonders, what love is this, that Christ would die for me!
His goodness, his merit, his righteousness, this sinner's only plea.
O foolish pride, be crucified; the work is finished!

Chorus 1: All my boast is in Jesus; all my hope is his love,
And I will glory forever in what the cross has done.

Now fully forgiven my life is filled with graces undeserved.
For mercy that flowed down that sacred hill, let praises now return.
Rise up, my soul, and bless the Lord! Who else is worthy? (Chorus 1)

Bridge: Oh, praise the One, forever blessed! Him alone my heart adores.
And I will boast in nothing less than the love of Christ my Lord. (2x)

I boast not in riches, in strength or might, but in the grace of God.
I glory in weakness; to live is Christ, in plenty or in want.
That I may know, that all may see his pow'r within me! (*Chorus 1*)

Chorus 2: Now I stand in His freedom, ransomed, clean in his sight,
And I cannot be ashamed for my boast is Jesus Christ,
My boast is Jesus Christ. Forever, my boast is Jesus Christ.

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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 an instrumental piece, carrying praise to God out of the church and into the world.

After Worship Today!

Our 2nd Sunday Fellowship will begin at 12:30pm today in the Fellowship Hall! Join us for lunch and to hear more about Sons of Thunder.

Did Jesus Really Say That? The Challenging Teachings of Jesus

Big Idea: Eternal life isn't earned by what we do—it's received when Jesus frees us from the idols we cling to.

- The Rich Ruler's Question: A Good Man Seeking Eternal Life (vv. 18-21)
- Jesus' Diagnosis: The Idol Beneath the Obedience (vv. 22-23)
- The Kingdom's Great Reversal: Impossible for Man, Possible with God (vv. 24-27)
- The Promise of Kingdom Riches: Losing Everything to Gain Everything (vv. 28-30)

Final Remarks: The One Thing You Lack

Next Week: *Whoever Divorces and Marries Another Commits Adultery*
(Matt. 5:31-32 and 19:3-11)

¹⁸ And a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁹ And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’” ²¹ And he said, “All these I have kept from my youth.” ²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” ²³ But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. ²⁴ Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, “How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶ Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷ But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” ²⁸ And Peter said, “See, we have left our homes and followed you.” ²⁹ And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life.”

Something to think about . . .

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

1. The rich ruler asked, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Where do you see the temptation in your own life to relate to God through performance, morality, or religious achievement?
2. Jesus exposed the ruler’s “one thing” by pressing on what he treasured most. What are some common things people today trust for security, identity, or life besides Jesus?
3. The ruler became sad because surrendering his wealth felt too costly. Why is surrender often painful, even when Jesus is calling us to something better?
4. Jesus said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” How does this truth change the way we think about salvation, spiritual growth, and freedom from idols?
5. Jesus promised that those who leave things behind for the kingdom will receive “many times more” now and eternal life to come. How have you experienced God’s generosity when obedience required sacrifice?

Grow and Go with Us!

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

Next Generation Ministry

👉 **NPC Kids and Students Sunday School is on break for the summer.**



Ages: Birth – 5th grade

Contact: kids@neelsville.org

👉 **VBS Registration is filling up!**

Scan the QR code to register for Rainforest Falls VBS (Aug 3-7 at 9am-12pm). While we explore the nature of God, we point our campers to living as a follower of Christ through praise songs, scripture lessons, recreational games, hands-on science, and more!



Ages: 6th – 12th grade

Contact: students@neelsville.org

Wednesday Night Youth Group will continue to meet throughout the summer at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

***On the 3rd Wednesday of each month**, Youth Group meets at 5:30pm for a service project.

Youth Outing to Harper's Ferry Waterpark on Wed 7/29.
RSVP by 7/15 through this QR code.



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 – Did Jesus Really Say That? (Room 1)

Contact: Pastor Jeff (pastorjeff@neelsville.org)

Sundays at 9:30am – The Essentials of the Faith (Conf Rm & Online)

Contacts: Peter Muriuki & Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

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

Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.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 7/12	12:00pm	2 nd Sunday Lunch (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00pm	Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

Monday 7/13

Tuesday 7/14

Wednesday 7/15	5:30pm	Youth Group Service Project (Fellowship Hall)
	7:15pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday 7/16

Friday 7/17

Saturday 7/18

Sunday 7/19	9:15am	Sunday Morning Small Group – <i>Life Lessons</i> (Parlor)
	9:30am	Classes for All Ages!
	10:45am	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	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.

TODAY after Worship please join us for a 2nd Sunday Fellowship Lunch to learn more about Sons of Thunder Ministry, a mission in Zambia that NPC has supported for many years. NPC members Tom and Michele Costa recently visited Sons of Thunder, and will provide their thoughts, observations, and encouragement.

Missions Prayer Support – In July we are praying for the Sons of Thunder Ministry in Zambia, which is feeding Africa physically and spiritually through the enabling of the Holy Spirit. They are sharing the gospel; running a medical clinic, lab, & maternity center; providing education and scholarships; teaching farming God's Way; and feeding the needy. We encourage you to pray for the success of these ministries. **TODAY we are praying for** the agricultural program at the Sons of Thunder farm in Zambia. We pray for good weather, protection from animals, and strong crops. We pray that they can continue to raise food for the 40 families that live there and have extra to feed the needy. We pray for success for all the farming efforts, especially the growing of corn, fish, and chickens.

Have a hand in VBS by joining us for two (maybe three) decorating days! Our team will meet on Sun 7/26 after worship and Sat 8/1 starting at 9am. Help transform Neelsville into Rainforest Falls so kids can engage with the beauty and nature of God. No experience necessary.

Young Adults are invited to a picnic at Pastor Jeff and Val's home in Frederick on Sat 7/25 at 3pm. We'll enjoy good food, great conversation, outdoor games, and time together as a young adult community. Come connect, unwind, and enjoy the summer together. We'd love to see you there. RSVP at pastorjeff@neelsville.org providing the dish you will bring.

Financial Update

	May Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income (\$K)	\$ 61.8 K	\$ 326.5 K	\$ 314.3 K	\$ 827.9 K
Expenses (\$K)*	\$ 57.8 K	\$ 331.2 K	\$ 362.7 K	\$ 859.4 K



neelsville.org/give

Excess Income/Expenses	\$ 3.9 K	-\$ 4.7 K
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*Additional expenses related to the DR Missions trip and the Cross renovation were released from restricted accounts (Harget Fund, Youth Missions, and Memorial Fund). Total of **\$42K released from restricted funds and not added to May Expenses.**

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

Ulung Tanoto – *Director of Worship & Music*

ulung@neelsville.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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