



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



Sunday, September 27, 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. **With this in mind, an important update on a Nursery drop-off can be found at this QR code.**



Look for the  station outside the Sanctuary to ...

- **Check in for the Nursery or Worship & Praise Zone** which are available during the sermon and provide age-appropriate lessons and activities. Children will worship with their families and then be dismissed to these activities after the Children's Blessing.
 - **Nursery** - Available for children 3 years and under.
 - **Worship & Praise Zone** – Children ages 4 – 3rd grade.
- **Pick up a Worship Activity Bag** 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

In the context of 1 Peter, worship means far more than singing or gathering for a service. Peter frames worship as the *whole-life response* of God's chosen people—exiles who live faithfully in a world that does not always welcome the gospel. Therefore, worship is the lived, communal, hope-filled response of God's people—rooted in Christ, sustained by grace, empowered by the Spirit, and expressed through faithful lives in an unfriendly world. – *Pastor Jeffrey Rickett*

Prelude

The Church's One Foundation

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

Based on Psalm 118:20-24

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

Leader: This is the gate of the LORD;

People: the righteous shall enter through it.

Leader: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

People: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

Leader: This is the LORD's doing;

People: it is marvelous in our eyes.

Leader: This is the day that the LORD has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Hymn

All Praise Him (Bonar/Kauflin/Merker)

#43

All praise to Him, the God of light, Who formed the mountains by His might.
All praise to Him Who names the stars that sing His fame in skies afar.
All praise to Him Who reigns in love, Who guides the galaxies above,
Yet bends to hear our every prayer, with sovereign pow'r and tender care.

All praise to Him whose love is seen in Christ the Son, the Servant King,

Who left behind His glorious throne to pay the ransom for His own.
All praise to Him Who humbly came to bear our sorrow, sin, and shame,
Who lived to die, Who died to rise, the all-sufficient sacrifice.

All praise to Him whose pow'r imparts the love of God within our hearts,
The Spirit of all truth and peace, the fount of joy and holiness.
To Father, Son, and Spirit now our souls we lift, our wills we bow.
To You, the triune God, we raise with loving hearts our song of praise.

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***Prayer of Adoration**

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

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**

The Church's One Foundation (Stone/Wesley)

#466

The church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the word;
From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious Shall be the church at rest.

Though with a scornful wonder, Men see her sore oppressed
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with thee.

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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.

Search our hearts, O Lord, and reveal the areas where we fall short of Your glory. You are the Cornerstone, and our lives are to be directed by Your will and Your design. Forgive us when we go our own way, choose our own design, and try to create our own cornerstone.

Forgive us when we fail to live as Your royal priesthood, when we choose comfort instead of sacrifice, and when we give in to the desires of the flesh instead of setting ourselves apart for You and Your kingdom.

But because of Your great mercy and kindness, turn us away from our sinful ways and back to the people You have called us to be. We are built as Your temple, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation, set apart as Your possession. Help us to remember who we are in Christ and to live according to Your will and Your design. 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. He is willing to do this because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins on the cross.

Leader: According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In Christ your sins are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Confession of Faith

Based on the 1907 Twelve Articles
of the Korean Presbyterian Church

Christians have long formulated statements to summarize what we believe. These creeds can help answer the questions of those who may be wondering about Christianity.

Leader: Christian, in whom do you believe?

Congregation: We believe in the one true and living God, eternally existing in three Persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—who are the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Leader: How has God revealed His truth to us?

Congregation: We believe that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, given by divine inspiration, and serve as the only infallible rule of our faith and life.

Leader: What do we confess about the sovereign work of God?

Congregation: We believe that God created all things out of nothing by the word of His power, and that He continually preserves, governs, and overrules His creation according to His perfect wisdom and holy will.

Leader: What is our condition apart from Jesus Christ?

Congregation: We confess that our first parents sinned against God, and through their fall, all humanity inherited a nature corrupt and prone to sin. Bound in our spiritual brokenness, we are entirely dependent on God's mercy to deliver us from judgment.

Leader: How has God accomplished our salvation?

Congregation: We believe that God, out of His infinite love, sent His eternal Son, Jesus Christ, who took on true human flesh, suffered a substitutionary death on the cross, and rose bodily from the dead to satisfy divine justice and reconcile us to God.

Leader: How do we receive this gift of life?

Congregation: We believe that salvation is granted entirely by grace through faith in Christ alone. The Holy Spirit renews our hearts, convicts us of sin, and empowers us to live a life of progressive holiness, good works, and faithful witness.

Leader: What is our hope for the future?

Congregation: We look forward with steadfast hope to the personal and visible return of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will raise the dead and judge the world in perfect righteousness, welcoming the redeemed into eternal life and the fullness of His glorious kingdom.

All: 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

House of the Lord
(Smith/Wickham)

Ulung Tanoto
and Natalia Suwuh-Angkuw

"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

Eric Shirley

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 will be dismissed to the Nursery and Worship & Praise Zone following the message.

Hymn

Jesus Loves Me
(Warner/Bradbury)

#360

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Chorus: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Please turn in the pew Bible to pages 1014 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 10 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon

Christ the Cornerstone

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 9.

*Praise Song

Cornerstone

Mote/Lijero/Myrin/Morgan/Bradbury

My hope is built on nothing less, Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly trust in Jesus' Name. (2x)

Chorus: Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil.
My anchor holds within the veil. (*Chorus 3x*)

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone. Faultless stand before the throne.

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*Charge & Benediction

The Benediction Hope

Rickett/Tanoto

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. We then join in singing the Benediction together.

May grace and peace be multiplied to you
Peace to all of you, who are in Christ

*Postlude

Cornerstone

Praise Team

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

After Worship Today!

Choir Rehearsal will begin at 12:30pm today in the Sanctuary! All are invited!

- The Cornerstone _____ us into the _____
- The Cornerstone is a _____ for _____ who do not _____
- The Cornerstone _____ us into a _____

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸ and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense. They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.” ⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. What does it mean for Christ to be the Cornerstone of our lives? How is this different from simply believing in Jesus?
2. 1 Peter 2:5 says that we are “living stones” being built into a spiritual house. What do you think God is building in your life, and how is He shaping you?
3. What are some things that can become our “cornerstone” instead of Christ? How can our own plans, comfort, or desires affect the way we follow God?
4. Peter calls us a “royal priesthood” and says we are to offer spiritual sacrifices. What might those sacrifices look like in our everyday lives?
5. 1 Peter 2:9 says that we are called to “proclaim the excellencies” of God. Who in your life might need to see the love, grace, and hope of Christ through 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)

All of our kids (birth-5th grade) need to be registered each school year. This ensures we place them in age-appropriate activities and we have correct contact information for communication, emergencies and your child's security. Please take a moment to register each child in your family through this QR code.



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.

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

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 – Why Did Jesus Have to Die? (Parlor)

Contact: Adam Condrick (acondrick@segalco.com)

Sundays at 9:30am – Wrestling with God:

Lessons from the Book of Job (Conf Rm & Online)

Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

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

Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

1st Peter Small Groups – In a world that often feels scattered, pressured, or uncertain, Peter's letter reminds us that God has given us a living hope that steadies us, shapes us, and sends us out as His people. **Sign up for a small group at this QR code to discover *A Living Hope in Exile*.**



- Sun at 9:30am in Room 1 (shirleyfamily4@gmail.com)
- Tues at 7pm in Parlor (pastorjeff@neelsville.org)
- Wed at 7pm Online (women) (joannelwilson@gmail.com)
- Wed at 7:15pm Online (men) (bpf3356@gmail.com)
- Fri at 9:30am in Parlor (women) (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 9/27

NMS Outdoor Ed Collections Due!

12:30pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:00pm Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

Monday 9/28

Tuesday 9/29 7:00pm 1st Peter Small Group led by Pastor Jeff (Parlor)

Wednesday 9/30 **10:00am** **MomCo Meeting (Fellowship Hall)**
7:00pm Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)
7:00pm Women's 1st Peter Small Group led by Joanne Wilson (Online)
7:15pm Men's 1st Peter Small Group led by Brian Farrell (Online)
7:15pm Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday 10/1

Friday 10/2

Saturday 10/3 9-11am ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
10:00am **Next Gen Flag Football Game (Back Field)**

Sunday 10/4 9:15am Small Group led by Adam Condrick (NPC Parlor)
9:30am 1st Peter Small Group led by Eric Shirley (Ed Wing, Room 1)
9:30am Classes for All Ages!
10:45am **International Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary)**
12:00pm **International Day Potluck (Fellowship Hall)**
7:00pm Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

Financial Update

	Aug Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income (\$K)	\$ 64.7 K	\$ 520.5 K	\$ 551.9 K	\$ 827.9 K
Expenses (\$K)	\$ 91.2 K	\$ 527.3 K	\$ 572.9 K	\$ 859.4 K
Difference	- \$ 26.5 K	- \$ 6.8 K		



neelsville.org/give

Footnote – Any extraordinary expenses (or contributions) paid out of (or for) prior designated/special funds are excluded from these figures. Large increase in expense was due to our bi-annual payment to global missionaries.

Announcements

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

All items are due TODAY for Neelsville Middle School's Outdoor Education Program. Please place these items in the labeled bin in the Narthex. Thank you to all who signed up and donated! This will surely be a blessing to the 6th grade students.

Next Generation Ministry is hosting a Flag Football Game THIS SAT 10/3 at 10am on Neelsville's back field. All ages welcome for a fun time and little friendly competition! See Pastor SeongSu with any questions.

International Day is NEXT SUN 10/4! We will not only celebrate our church's diversity, but our unity in love for Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and our love for each other. Please feel free to wear your native dress or that of your ancestry. We will have a potluck lunch after worship so please bring a large dish to share. This would be a great time to bring a dish representing your culture. Any questions feel free to contact Gerry Davis (Gerry.davis@comcast.net).

Next Gen Ministry is hiking Sugarloaf Mountain on Sat 10/10 at 10am. Both Kids & Students are invited; a parent must accompany children in 3rd grade and younger. Sign up using this QR code. We'll meet at church and head out for a little adventure to marvel in God's creation. See Pastor SeongSu with any questions.



SAVE THE DATE for a Congregational Meeting after worship on Sun 10/11 to elect our new Officers for 2027. Read our officer candidate bios through this QR code or pick up a paper copy in the Narthex.



Share Christmas gifts, God's love and the Gospel, with children around the world through Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Program! Informational flyers and OCC "shoeboxes" are in the narthex for you to pick up. **Filled shoeboxes are due by Sunday, November 8th!** You may also build a shoebox online through this QR code. Questions? Contact: Sue Farrell, Angela Macri or Bev Cook.



Please pray for these new ministry opportunities and consider how you can best serve families in need. This fall, we have planned to be offering four ways to serve. Please see the remaining opportunities below, so you may make the best plan financially. Thank you to those who were able to support the Neelsville Middle School's Outdoor Ed Program this September!

- **October** – Serve children around by world by filling **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes with small gifts. See above for more info.
- **November** – Donate non-perishable food to fill **Thanksgiving Boxes** for local families and help us pack them on November 15.
- **December** – Support the annual **Giving Tree** ministry by providing gifts for children from Neelsville Middle School and Waters Landing Elementary School.

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

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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