



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



Sunday, October 18, 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 ...

- **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

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

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor SeongSu Hong

* = please rise if you are able

The flower on today's communion table is in honor of Declan Frederick Hutto, born on September 8 to Keely and Wesley Hutto and big sister, Ivy. May God bless their family!

*Call to Worship

Psalm 34:18-19

Connie Barnes

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

Leader: The LORD is near to the brokenhearted

All: and saves the crushed in spirit.

Leader: Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

All: but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

*Hymn

O Worship the King

Tomlin/Hayden/Grant

O worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light and canopy space!
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Chorus: You alone are the matchless King, to You alone be all majesty.
Your glories and wonders, what tongue can recite?
You breathe in the air, You shine in the light.

O measureless might, ineffable love;
While angels delight to worship above.
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend. *(Chorus)*

Shine in the light... You shine in the light.

O worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

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***Prayer of Adoration**

Pastor SeongSu

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**

O Great God

Kauflin

O great God of highest heaven, occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme , conquer every rebel power.
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war.
You have loved and purchased me, make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin, Had no ears to hear Your voice,
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace.
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed.
O great God of highest heaven, glorify Your Name through me.

You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed.
O great God of highest heaven, glorify Your Name through me.

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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.*

Jesus, we are saved by Your grace, which we have received through
faith, and called to participate in Your loving work. You have secured
our salvation through Your suffering, death on the cross, and
resurrection. You alone deserve all glory and honor.

Forgive us when we pursue the things of this world instead of Your will. Forgive us when we seek pleasures apart from You and Your will. You call us to be in the world but not of the world. Forgive us when we fail to live according to this calling.

Forgive us when we see suffering as Your judgment rather than as an opportunity for Your discipline and correction. As we reflect on Your suffering for us, may our hearts be led to repentance and renewed obedience to Your commands. Lead us to “love one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.”

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

Psalm 34:22

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: The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Confession of Faith (unison)

Apostles' Creed

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.

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 and generations.

This is a time to reflect on our stewardship of all God has given us (our time, talents, gifts, and financial resources) and how we can give them back to His church and the world.

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

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

Hymn

Jesus, Strong and Kind
(Buchanan/Robinson/Farren/Thompson)

#362

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.

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Scripture Reading

1 Peter 3:18-22

Please turn in the pew Bible to pages 1016 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon

The Righteous Conqueror

Pastor SeongSu

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.

Minister: Let us boldly proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

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.

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace. By our communion, keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel, preserve us from all sin and strengthen us for life as your ambassadors in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn

I Am Not My Own (Peterson/Shive/Fowler/Anderson)

#355

The One who made the heavens made my heart and soul,
Before I drew a breath, I was loved and known.
I am His creation, the Maker's masterpiece,
And all that He designs will be done in me.

My body is a temple of the Living God,
I'll worship in this house that his blood has bought.
As I bear his image, oh, may I not profane
The holiness I hold in this earthly frame.

Chorus: I belong to the Lord; oh, I am not my own.
I belong to the Lord; I am not my own.
I will honor him, for this I know:
I belong to the Lord; I am not my own.

And if he has redeemed me, I am not my own;
The measure of my worth is his love alone.
He declares my standing and he declares my state.
So I will know myself by the name he gave.

I am not my own, and now my heart is free;
Oh, Maker, come and make what you will of me.
There is nothing broken that you cannot repair,
So Lord, I leave my life in your loving care. (*Chorus*)

I will honor him, for this I know:
I belong to the Lord; I am not my own.

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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**

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

After Worship Today!

Choir Rehearsal is on break today and will resume next Sunday in the Sanctuary! All are invited!

- Jesus Conquered Our Sin
- Jesus Conquered by Making Us Alive in the Spirit
- Jesus Conquered and Has Authority Over All

Next Week: *Counter-Cultural Living* (1 Peter 4:1-11)

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. Jesus, the Righteous One, suffered for the unrighteous to bring us to God. How does this change the way you understand your salvation and your relationship with God?
2. Why is it important to remember that Jesus' sacrifice for our sins was once and for all? How does this truth free us from trying to earn God's acceptance? Where do you need to apply this truth in your life?
3. How does Jesus' resurrection give us hope when we experience suffering, rejection, or hardship because of our faith?
4. Peter tells us that Jesus has authority over all angels, authorities, and powers. How should this truth change the way we face our fears and difficulties?
5. If Jesus has already won the victory, what does it look like for you to stand firm in your faith and remain faithful to Him, even when following Him is difficult?

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)



Ages: 6th – 12th grade

Contact: students@neelsville.org

NEW! Sundays at 9:30am – Youth are invited to help with our elementary children for Sunday School in the Ed Wing. See Pastor SeongSu with questions.

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 10/18	7:00pm	Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)
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Monday 10/19

Tuesday 10/20	7:00pm	1 st Peter Small Group led by Pastor Jeff (Parlor)
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Wednesday 10/21	5:30pm	Youth Group Service Project (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00pm	Women's 1 st Peter Small Group led by Joanne Wilson (Online)
	7:15pm	Men's 1 st Peter Small Group led by Brian Farrell (Online)
	7:15pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday 10/22

Friday 10/23	9:30am	Women's 1 st Peter Small Group led by Sue Farrell (Parlor)
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Saturday 10/24	9-11am	ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
	2-4pm	Fall-O-Ween! (Back Field)

Sunday 10/25	9:15am	Small Group led by Adam Condrick (NPC Parlor)
	9:30am	1 st Peter Small Group led by Eric Shirley (Ed Wing, Room 1)
	9:30am	Classes for All Ages!
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00pm	Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

Financial Update

	Sept Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income (\$K)	\$ 37.6K	\$ 559.8 K	\$ 620.9 K	\$ 827.9 K
Expenses (\$K)	\$ 59.2 K	\$ 587.7 K	\$ 644.6 K	\$ 859.4 K
Difference	- \$ 21.7 K	- \$ 27.9 K		



neelsville.org/give

Note: Any extraordinary expenses (or contributions) paid out of (or for) prior designated/special funds are excluded from these figures.

Announcements

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

Fall-O-Ween is THIS Sat 10/24 from 2-4pm! This year, it will be a relaxed, picnic-style event where we can get to know one another, enjoy some good food, play games, and have fun together as a church family. Children are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite costume and we invite you to invite your friends and family! If you are interested in helping or have any questions, please contact Pastor SeongSu (Seongsu@neelsville.org). **We also would appreciate donations of candy and mini pumpkins. Please drop these contributions in the blue bin in the narthex.**

Are you building an Operation Christmas Child shoebox? Informational flyers and OCC boxes are in the narthex. You can always fill boxes that your shoes came in and wrap them with Christmas paper (But wrap the lid separately.) **FILLED SHOEBOXES ARE DUE BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH!** You can also build a shoebox online through this QR code. Questions? Contact: Sue Farrell, Angela Macri or Bev Cook.



We are blessed to be a blessing. The 2027 NPC Stewardship Campaign is underway! The Lord said to Abram, "I will bless you ... and you will be a blessing." (Genesis 12:2) Let's pass along our many blessings to others in our church family, our community and our world. We respond in faith and the Lord does the rest! **You may submit your estimated giving for 2027 at this QR code.**



Neelsville Membership – Would you like to learn more about becoming a Covenant Partner (member) of NPC? The first step is to attend two brief sessions to learn more about our church, our denomination, and our beliefs. Then you can decide if you would like to join. The sessions can be scheduled when convenient for you – on Sunday mornings, weekday evenings, or even remotely. For more info contact Pastor Jeff or Brian Farrell (bpf3356@gmail.com).

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.

- **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.

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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