



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 25, 2026 – 10:45am Worship
Reformation Sunday

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 11.

Order of Service

1 Peter reminds us that we are a people born again into a living hope, called to holiness and steadfast faith as exiles in the world. On Reformation Sunday, we remember how God used the Reformers to call the church back to the sufficiency of Scripture, unconditional grace of God in our salvation, and the unshakeable hope we have in Christ alone. Together on October 25, 2026, we celebrate that the same Living Word that renewed the church in the 16th century continues to anchor, shape, and sustain us today. – *Pastor Jeffrey Rickett*

Prelude

May the Peoples Praise You
(Zimmer/Cash/Getty/Getty/Townend)

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 86:1-13

Peter Njuki Muriuki

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

Leader: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

All: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name.

Leader: I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

All: For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

*Praise Song

May the Peoples Praise You
(Zimmer/Cash/Getty/Getty/Townend)

#552

You have called us out of darkest night, into Your glorious light,
That we may sing the wonders of the risen Christ.

May our every breath retell the grace that broke into our strife
With boundless love and deepest joy, with endless life.

Chorus: May the peoples praise You, let the nations be glad!
All Your blessing comes that we may praise, may praise the Name of Jesus.

All the earth is Yours and all within, each harvest is Your own,
And from Your hand we give to You, to make Christ known.

May the seeds of mercy grow in us for those who have not heard,
May songs of praise build lives of grace to spread Your Word. *(Chorus)*

This our holy priv'lege to declare Your praises and Your name
To every nation, tribe and tongue Your church proclaim. *(Chorus)*

Bridge: Holy, Holy, is the Lord Almighty.
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Holy, Holy, is the Lord Almighty.
All creation praise Your glorious Name. *(Chorus 2x)*

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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**

The 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 vale. *(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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Confession of Sin

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.

Leader: Peter reminds us that becoming fully human in Christ means turning from old desires and embracing a life marked by holiness and love. Let us confess the ways we have resisted this calling.

All: Gracious Father, You have called us to arm ourselves with the mind of Christ, yet we often cling to comfort instead of embracing Your refining work. You call us to be self-controlled and

sober-minded in prayer, yet our minds are distracted and our prayers shallow. You call us to genuine love, yet we have loved selectively and conditionally. You call us to generous hospitality, yet we have guarded our time, our homes, and our resources. You call us to gracious serving, yet we have served reluctantly or for recognition. Forgive us for living more for ourselves than for Your glory. Make us fully alive in Christ, that our lives may reflect His holiness, His love, and His goodness. 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: Hear the good news: Christ suffered for you—the Fully Human Savior who bore your sin so that you might live for the will of God. You are forgiven through His sacrifice. You are renewed by His Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God! In Christ we are forgiven, restored, and made fully alive for His glory.

*Confession of Faith

Nicene 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.

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

Stewardship Testimony

Blessed to be a Blessing

Adam Condrick

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

Messenger Doxology (Boswell)

Praise Team

“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

This short hymn of praise and glory to the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—celebrates His majesty, goodness, and eternal worthiness of worship.

Praise and glory to the Father
Praise and glory to the Son
Praise and glory to the Spirit
Ever three and ever One (*Repeat*)

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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.

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.

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Scripture Reading

1 Peter 4:1-11

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

Counter-Cultural Living

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.

*Hymn

O Church Arise (Getty/Townend)

#470

O church, arise and put your armor on; hear the call of Christ our Captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong, in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle cry is "Love!" reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul, but to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole, we will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side, we know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died: an inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet, as the Son of God is stricken;
Then see his foes lie crushed beneath his feet, for the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away, and Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day ev'ry eye and heart shall see him.

So Spirit, come! Put strength in ev'ry stride, give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize of a servant good and faithful.

As saints of old still line the way, retelling triumphs of his grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day when with Christ we stand in glory!

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

The pattern of Gospel counter-cultural life is:

- Armed with Christ's Mindset in Suffering (vv. 4:1-2)
- Leaving the Old Life Behind (vv. 4:2-4)
- Living in Light of Final Judgement (vv. 4:5-6)
- Living More Fully in Jesus (vv. 4:7-11)

Next Week: *Suffering for Christ* (1 Peter 4:12-19)

Read in Swahili

⁴ Basi kwa kuwa Kristo aliteseka katika mwili, ninyi pia jiimarisheni kwa nia hiyo hiyo kwa maana mtu aliyekwisha kuteseka katika mwili hana uhusiano tena na dhambi.

² Matokeo yake ni kwamba, kwa muda wa maisha yake yaliyobakia hapa duniani, haishi tena kwa kufuata tamaa mbaya za mwili bali anaishi kwa kufuata mapenzi ya Mungu.

³ Maana mmekwisha kutumia muda wa kutosha katika maisha yenu yaliyopita mkifanya yale ambayo watu wasiomjua Mungu hupenda kutenda: uasherati, tamaa mbaya, ulevi, karamu za ulevi na ibada ovu za sanamu.

⁴ Wanaona ajabu kwamba sasa hamshi riki tena pamoja nao katika ufisadi wao wa kinyama, nao huwatu kana.

⁵ Lakini itawabidi kujieleza mbele zake yeye aliye tayari kuwahukumu walio hai na waliokufa.

⁶ Kwa maana hii ndio sababu Injili ilihubiriwa hata kwa hao waliokufa: wahukumiwe kama wana damu wengine kuhusu maisha yao katika mwili, bali wapate kuishi katika roho kama Mungu aishivyo.

⁷ Mwisho wa mambo yote umekaribia. Kwa hiyo muwe na akili timamu na wenye kiasi ili mweze kuomba.

⁸ Zaidi ya yote, pen daneni kwa moyo wote, maana upendo hufunika dhambi nyingi sana.

⁹ Karibishaneni pasipo manung'uniko.

¹⁰ Kila mmoja na atumie kipawa alichopewa kuwahudumia wengine, kama mawakili waaminifu wa neema mbalimbali za Mungu.

¹¹ Mtu akisema kitu, basi na awe kama anayesema maneno halisi ya Mungu. Mtu anayetoa huduma na ahudumu kwa nguvu apewayo na Mungu; ili katika mambo yote, Mungu atukuzwe kwa njia ya Yesu Kristo. Yeye ni mwenye utukufu na uweza, milele na milele. Amina.

English Translation

¹ Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ² so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. ³ For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. ⁴ With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; ⁵ but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶ For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

⁷ The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. Where do you most feel the tension between living for “human passions” and living for “the will of God”? How does Christ’s suffering reshape that struggle?
2. Peter says the world is “surprised” when believers no longer join in old patterns. Where do you experience that surprise—or even slander—and how does final judgment give you courage?
3. In what ways does the nearness of “the end of all things” challenge your current priorities, habits, or prayer life?
4. What would it look like for love to “cover a multitude of sins” in your relationships right now—especially in the church?
5. Which gifts has God entrusted to you, and how can you steward them more intentionally so that “in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ”?

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		

***Blessed to
be a Blessing***



neelsville.org/give

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

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 to serve at our Community Dinners.

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 10/25	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	12:30pm	CFC Meeting (Parlor)
	7:00pm	Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

Monday 10/26

Tuesday 10/27	7:00pm	1 st Peter Small Group led by Pastor Jeff (Parlor)
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Wednesday 10/28	10:00am	MomCo (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00pm	Youth Group (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 10/29

Friday 10/30	9:30am	Women's 1 st Peter Small Group led by Sue Farrell (Parlor)
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Saturday 10/31	9-11am	ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
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Sunday 11/1	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)

Announcements

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

EVERYONE MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Join us for the next Neelsville Workday! Let's come together to spruce up our NPC grounds. Join us on **Sat 11/7 from 12 – 3pm** as we roll up our sleeves for some landscaping pruning and exterior painting. **Every helping hand counts!** Whether you can stay for the whole afternoon or just a little while, your time and talents are greatly appreciated. Together, we can make our Neelsville community even more welcoming and beautiful! Please see Jason Craft for more information (trustees@neelsville.org).

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Operation Christmas Child praises God for 50 million children disciplined since 1993 with "The Greatest Journey" class taught where shoeboxes are delivered. **Filled Shoesboxes are due by Sun 11/8!** Questions? Contact: Sue Farrell, Angela Macri or Bev Cook.

SAVE THE DATE for Neelsville's Thanksgiving Service on Wed 11/25 at 7pm in the Historic Chapel. It will be a time of prayer, singing, giving thanks, testimonies of things people are thankful for, and a brief devotion. This is a wonderful time to join with your church family to do just what the holiday was established for — expressing gratitude to God for all his blessings.

We are blessed to be a blessing. How have you been blessed this year? Let's pass some of those blessings along to others! *"I will bless you ... and you will be a blessing."* (Genesis 12:2) **You may submit your estimated giving for 2027 at this QR code.**



THANKSGIVING BOXES - We will receive **Holiday Giving families from Neelsville Middle School and Water's Landing Elementary School this year** to build a relationship with the families and the schools. We will give our families Thanksgiving boxes of non-perishable food once again and are asking the congregation to **donate the following items through Sun 11/8.** All items can be dropped in the Narthex. Let's celebrate all we are thankful for by sharing with others in our community.

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| • Soup | • Granola bars | • Bottles of juice |
| • Canned vegetables | • Mac and Cheese | • Canned meats |
| • Canned fruit | • Cereals | (chicken, tuna, etc) |
| • Rice | • Nut butters (peanut, | • Gift cards from Aldi |
| • Pasta | almond, etc) | (\$35, \$50, \$100) |
| • Oatmeal | • Jelly | |

In December – Support the annual Giving Tree ministry by providing gifts for children from these same families at NMS and WLES.

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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