



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



Sunday, November 1, 2026 – 10:45am Worship
International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

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

In 1 Peter, we meet believers who cling to Christ while suffering for their faith—exiles whose hope, holiness, and endurance shine amid pressure. As we join the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, we remember that their story is not distant from ours: the same Lord who sustained those early Christians strengthens our brothers and sisters today. We lift them before God with confidence, asking that their witness—like Peter’s audience—be refined, upheld, and filled with the living hope of Jesus. – *Pastor Jeffrey Rickett*

Prelude

When the Saints Go Marching In (Spiritual)

Praise Team

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

Welcome & Announcements

Brian Farrell

* = please rise if you are able

The flower on today’s communion table is in honor of Annemarie Lyne Harris,
born on October 13 to Danielle & Jonathan Harris and big brothers, Jesse, Jack & Caleb.
May God bless their family!

*Call to Worship

Psalm 46

Eric Shirley

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

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

All: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Leader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

All: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Leader: Come, behold the works of the Lord, how he has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

All: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

I love You, Lord, oh, Your mercy never fails me;
All my days I've been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head,
I will sing of the goodness of God.

Chorus: All my life You have been faithful,
And all my life You have been so, so good;
With every breath that I am able, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire.
In darkest night, You are close like no other.
I've known You as a Father, I've known You as a friend.
I have lived in the goodness of God. (*Chorus*)

Bridge: Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now; I give You everything.
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me. (2x)

(*Chorus 2x*)

I will sing of the goodness of God.

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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.

HymnJesus I Come (Sleeper/Thompson)***#107**

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health, Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to 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.

Merciful God, You tell us not to be surprised by the fiery trials that test us, yet we confess that we often are. We resist suffering, doubt Your goodness, and seek comfort more than obedience.

You call us to rejoice in sharing Christ's sufferings, but we have preferred ease, approval, and self-protection. When insulted for Christ, we have not counted ourselves blessed. When called to do good, we have chosen what is selfish or convenient.

You remind us that judgment begins with Your household, yet we have lived casually, forgetting the call to holiness. You invite us to entrust our souls to a faithful Creator, but we have relied on our own strength and desires.

Forgive us, Lord. Cleanse us from fear, compromise, and self-reliance. Make us steadfast in doing good for the sake of 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

1 Peter 4:12-19

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: In Christ, your suffering does not condemn you—He has already borne your sin and secured your salvation. The Spirit of glory rests upon you, and your faithful Creator keeps you. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and upheld.

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.

Time of Offering

Blessed to be a Blessing

*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

*Gabriel's Oboe (A theme from "The Mission")
(Ennio Morricone)*

*Ulung Tanoto
& Dian Permana*

"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.

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 blessing.

Hymn	<i>Jesus, Strong and Kind</i> (Buchanan/Robinson/Farren/Thompson)	#362
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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.

Scripture Reading	1 Peter 4:12-19
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Please turn in the pew Bible to pages 1016 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 10 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon	<i>Suffering for Christ</i>	Pastor Jeff
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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!

*Hymn

What A Friend We Have In Jesus (Scriven/Converse)

#267

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our Refuge; Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

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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**

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

Converse

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!

Ladies, please join us for **Lunch at Panera (Seneca Meadows)** at 12:30pm! Bring a friend for a nice time of fellowship.

- Rejoicing As We Share Christ's Suffering (vv. 12-14)
- Interlude (vv. 15-18)
- Entrusting Ourselves to God in Suffering (v. 19)

Next Week:

An Exiled People Under God's Gracious and Mighty Hand (1 Peter 5:1-14)

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" ¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. If we understand why suffering comes, we will not only accept it but rejoice in it. How can we arrive at that conclusion in vv. 12-16?
2. What suffering do you face currently? How do these verses help you to face suffering?
3. How does the idea of judgment fit into Peter's view of suffering?
4. "Only here in the New Testament is God called the Creator", states Clowney. What is the significance of this observation for the way we face suffering?

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)

Note – Special Topic for Sun 11/8 Only – *Spiritual Beings

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 11/1	12:30pm	Women's Panera Lunch (Seneca Meadows)
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00pm	Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

Monday 11/2

Tuesday 11/3	7:00pm	1 st Peter Small Group led by Pastor Jeff (Parlor)
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Wednesday 11/4	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 11/5

Friday 11/6	9:30am	Women's 1 st Peter Small Group led by Sue Farrell (Parlor)
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Saturday 11/7	9-11am	ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
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Sunday 11/8	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	<i>Spiritual Beings</i> - Special One-Time 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		

*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.

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.**



Announcements

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

Join us for the next Neelsville Workday! Let's come together to spruce up our NPC grounds **THIS Sat 11/7 from 12 – 3pm** as we roll up our sleeves for some landscaping pruning and exterior painting. **Every helping hand and any amount of time makes a difference!** Together, we can make our Neelsville community even more welcoming and beautiful! Please see Jason Craft for more information (trustees@neelsville.org).

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are due NEXT Sun 11/8! Did you know that you can build a “virtual box” online for \$30 through this QR code? Please leave filled boxes in the Narthex near the bell. Questions? Contact Sue Farrell, Angela Macri or Bev Cook.



Join us NEXT Sun 11/8 at 7pm for a one-time-online session on *Spiritual Beings* in Scripture. We'll explore such passages as the Council of God in Job 1&2 and the spiritual powers Paul writes about in Ephesians 6. Reach out to Craig Wilson at cdw6@msn.com with questions.

Christmas Decorating Day! Please join us following the worship service on **Sun 11/22** to decorate the church for Christmas. It will be a fun time for all! Lunch will be provided for those who stay and help. Please contact Gerry Davis or Michele Kelly for questions.

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.

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 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 | |

Join us after worship on Sun 11/15 for a packing party of our Thanksgiving for our Holiday Giving families. We will have a pizza lunch and then package boxes for each family.

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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