NEELSVILLE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 8, 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

Take My Life and Let It Be (Havergal/Hoffer) — Karina Hoffer

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 1 Peter 5:6-11 — Catherine Njuki

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

Leader: Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

All: We humble ourselves before Him and place our trust in His care.

Leader: Cast all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.

All: The God of all grace will restore, strengthen, and establish us.

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord.

All: To Him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

*Hymn

Oh How Good It Is (Getty) **#580**

Oh how good it is when the family of God
Dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
Are the fruit of His presence here among us.

Chorus: So, with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,
And with one heart we'll live out His Word;
Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come,
For He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh how good it is on this journey we share,
To rejoice with the happy, and weep with those who mourn;

For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace,
When we offer the blessing of belonging. *(Chorus)*

Oh how good it is to embrace His command
To prefer one another, forgive as He forgives;
When we live as one, we all share in the love
Of the Son, with the Father, and the Spirit. *(Chorus)*

© 2012 Getty Music Publishing CCLI License 1534861

*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.

*Praise Song — *Oceans (Where My Feet May Fail)* — Houston/Crocker/Lighelm

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep my faith will stand

Chorus 1: And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now *(Chorus 1)*

Bridge: Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Saviour *(2x)*

Chorus 2: I will call upon Your name
Keep my eyes above the waves
My soul will rest in Your embrace
I am Yours and You are mine

© 2012 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia CCLI License 1534861

Confession of Sin

Based on 1 Peter 5:1-14

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: Brothers and sisters, Peter calls us to humble ourselves under God's Mighty hand, to cast our anxieties on Him, and to stand firm in faith. Yet we confess that we often choose pride over humility, self-reliance over trust, and fear over faith.

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not clothed ourselves with humility toward one another. We have sought our own way rather than Your will. We hold tightly to our worries instead of bringing them to You. Forgive us for carrying anxieties that we were never meant to bear, doubting Your care and goodness. We have not always been watchful against temptation or steadfast in faith. Forgive us, strengthen us, and restore us by Your grace. Through Jesus Christ, our Chief Shepherd, have mercy on us. 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

Based on 1 Peter 5:1-14

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 from God's Word: "Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you... And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you!" In Christ, you are forgiven and kept for your eternal home!

All: Thanks be to God!

*Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism (Questions 1 and 2)

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: As we come to the Heidelberg Catechism, we hear the same encouragement that Peter gave to the scattered and suffering church: stand firm in the true grace of God. As exiles in a broken world, we need to know where our hope and comfort are found. Questions 1 and 2 remind us that our only comfort in life and in death is that we belong to Jesus Christ, our faithful Savior and Chief Shepherd. Let us confess this gospel hope together.

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Leader: What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

All: Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

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

Autumn Carol
(Monsell/Steurlein/Schulz-Widmar)

Choir & Handbells Ensemble

"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

Messenger Doxology

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)*

© 2012 Curb Dayspring Music CCLI License # 1534861

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 Message — Pastor Jeff

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.

Commissioning Missions Team — Rindra Andriamanamizao & Amanda Rickett-Barton

Please keep Rindra and Amanda in prayer as they serve with Foundations for Peace in the Dominican Republic November 13-18th. They will be providing medical care and medicine to underserved members of the community through two clinic days and one door-to-door care day. Basic medical care can be the difference in life and death.

Hymn — *Jesus, Strong and Kind* (Buchanan/Robinson/Farren/Thompson) — #362

Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to him.
No one else can satisfy, I should come to him.

Chorus: For the Lord is good and faithful. He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus. Jesus, strong and kind.

Scripture Reading — 1 Peter 5:1-14

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 — *An Exiled People Under God's Gracious and Mighty Hand* — 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 7-8.***

*Hymn — *Savior Like a Shepherd* (Lyte/Bradbury) — #213

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

We are thine, do thou befriend us. Be the guardian of our way.
Keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, hear, oh, hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, hear, oh, hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and power to free:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor; Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Thy love our spirits fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

© Words and Music Public Domain

*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!

Please join us today in the Welcome Center for a Veterans' Day Reception!

Choir Rehearsal is on a break this week and will resume next Sunday, 11/15.

Big Idea: As Christ's church, both leaders and members are called to display the humility, care, and grace of Jesus, the Chief Shepherd.

- Shepherds Who Look Like Jesus (vv. 1-4)
  - Shepherd the flock of God
  - Lead willingly and eagerly
  - Lead by example, not domination
  - Remember the Chief Shepherd is Jesus
  - **Key Verse:** "Be examples to the flock."

- A Church Clothed with Humility (vv. 5-7)
  - Humble yourselves toward one another
  - Live under God's mighty hand
  - Cast your anxieties on Him
  - Trust His care
  - **Key Verse:** "Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

- Stand Firm Together (vv. 8-9)
  - Be watchful
  - Resist the devil
  - Stand firm in faith
  - Remember you are not alone
  - **Key Verse:** "Resist him, firm in your faith."

- The Hope of God's Grace (vv. 10-11)
    - God Will Restore
    - God Will Confirm
    - God Will Strengthen
    - God Will Establish
    - **Key Verse:** "The God of all grace… will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."

- Stand Firm in True Grace (vv. 12-14)
    - Stand firm in God's grace
    - Encourage one another
    - Live in Christ's peace
    - **Key Verse:** "This is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it."

Takeaway

- Humble Shepherds
- Humble Sheep
- One Chief Shepherd
- **Key Verse:** "Live under God's mighty hand and follow Jesus, the Chief Shepherd."

Next Week: New Series - *Cries of Our Hearts* (Psalms)

Scripture 1 Peter 5:1-14

[1] So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as
well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: [2] shepherd the flock of God that is among
you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for
shameful gain, but eagerly; [3] not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the
flock. [4] And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.
[5] Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with
humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

[6] Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may
exalt you, [7] casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. [8] Be sober-minded; be
watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
[9] Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by
your brotherhood throughout the world. [10] And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all
grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen,
and establish you. [11] To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

[12] By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and
declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. [13] She who is at Babylon, who is likewise
chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. [14] Greet one another with the kiss of love.
Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. How would you summarize the right approaches to church leadership, both for leaders and for those being led? How well does our church fit Peter's description?
2. What approach should a believer take toward sin and temptation? How do you fit that approach?
3. What encouragement does Peter give as we live as exiles in a broken world (vv. 5-7, 10-11, and 12-14)? How does that encourage you in following in the footsteps of Jesus as we face suffering for our faith in Christ?

Grow and Go with Us!

Next Generation Ministry

Next Gen Families & Volunteers - Join us for a **Friendsgiving Brunch at 9:30am on Sun 11/22** in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP & sign-up to bring a food or drink here:

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

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)
Note – Special Topic for tonight 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.

- 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)**not mtg 11/11***
- 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 11/8	**12:00pm**	**Veterans' Day Reception (Welcome Center)**
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00pm	*Spiritual Beings* - Special One-Time Bible Study (Online)
Monday 11/9		
Tuesday 11/10	7:00pm	1st Peter Small Group led by Pastor Jeff (Parlor)
Wednesday 11/11	7:00pm	Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00pm	Women's 1st Peter Small Group led by Joanne Wilson (Online)
	7:15pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday 11/12		
Friday 11/13	9:30am	Women's 1st Peter Small Group led by Sue Farrell (Parlor)
Saturday 11/14	9-11am	ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
Sunday 11/15	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
	12:00pm	**Pizza & Packing Party for Thanksgiving Boxes (FH)**
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00pm	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.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes - Last chance: If you forgot your shoebox, bring it to the church this week. If it is here by 12pm on 11/15 it will still be delivered on time.

Veterans' Day Celebration: Please join us TODAY in the Welcome Center following the church service for a small reception honoring all the men, women and their families for their service. We are grateful and appreciative of all that you did and still do. God Bless You! Help is needed for clean-up. Please contact Gerry Davis if you can help.

Thanksgiving Box Donation Items are due TODAY for our Holiday Giving families from Neelsville Middle School and Water's Landing Elementary School All items can be dropped in the Narthex.

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 pack 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. If you'd like to serve on this team, please reach out to Michelle Nelson (office@neelsville.org).

Join us TONIGHT 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.

ESOL HELP NEEDED - We need a support person (8:30-10 am every other Saturday), a teacher, and one or two substitutes for the classes (8:45-11:00 am). These are not difficult ministries and any training needed will be supplied. Please see Joanne Wilson (joannelwilson@gmail.com) if you are interested.

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.

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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook
Facebook.com/neelsville

Instagram
@neelsvillechurch