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 15, 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

God of Our Fathers (Warren) — Ulung Tanoto, organ

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

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

* = please rise if you are able

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 55 & Hebrews 4:14-16 — Adam Condrick

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

Leader: When loneliness surrounds us and fear overwhelms us, God invites us to draw near.

All: We come to the throne of grace to receive mercy and find help in our time of need.

Leader: Jesus, our great High Priest, understands every sorrow, temptation, and struggle.

All: He is able to sympathize with our weaknesses and sustain us with His grace.

Leader: Cast your cares upon the Lord, for He will sustain you.

All: We trust in the Lord our God and worship Him with grateful hearts.

*Praise Song

Lord, I Need You — Reeves/Stanfill/Maher/Nockels/Carson

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.
And without you, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

Chorus: Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. Every hour I need you.
My one defense, my righteousness; oh God, how I need you.

Where sin runs deep, your grace is more. Where grace is found, is where you are.
And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.
Where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me. *(Chorus)*

So teach my song to rise to you when temptation comes my way.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, you're my hope and stay.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, you're my hope and stay. *(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 — *Be Still My Soul (Sibelius/Schlegel)* — #610

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side; Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide; In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend; Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul! your God will undertake; To guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know; His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart, And all is darkened in the vale of tears,
Then shall you better know his love, his heart, Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay; From his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul! The hour is hast'ning on; When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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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 Father, we confess that when loneliness, disappointment, and fear enter our lives, we often turn inward rather than upward. We look for security in people, circumstances, and our own strength instead of resting in Your faithful care. Forgive us for the bitterness we harbor when others fail us, for the pride that keeps us from seeking help, and for the unbelief that doubts Your presence when we feel alone. Too often we carry our burdens ourselves rather than casting them upon You. Thank You that You welcome our honest cries and do not turn away from the brokenhearted. Renew our trust in Your unfailing love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 Hebrews 4:14-16 and Psalm 55:22

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: Hear the good news: Jesus Christ is our great High Priest who understands our weaknesses and welcomes us to God's throne of grace.

Leader: "Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you."

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, sustained, and loved.

Leader: Brothers and sisters, your sins are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

Installation of Officers

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

Names in italics indicate those being ordained as a first-time Elder or Deacon.

Elder: Sue Farell, Craig Wilson, Sam Amoako-Atta, Michele Kelly & Margaret Kemngang

Deacon: *Mercy Muna,* Felix Ewange & *Evelyn Asante*

Trustee: Gregg Couillard, Bob Macri, Jason Craft & Diane Condrick

*Confession of Faith (unison)

Apostles' Creed

Since the earliest years when disciples gathered, Christians have formulated statements to summarize what we believe. These creeds help remind us of the richness of our faith and 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 & generations.

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

Praise Him Again (Psalm 42)
(Westlake/Fowler/Nnamani/
Davidson/Ng/Christine)

Ulung Tanoto &
Natalia Suwuh-Angkuw

"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us." – Martin Luther

*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

A song of praise used by Christians since the early 18th century.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus said: "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do… for your Father 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

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

Psalm 55

Please turn in the pew Bible to pages 475 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon *Loneliness* 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.

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.

*Praise Song *Praise Him Again (Psalm 42)* Westlake/Fowler/Nnamani/ Davidson/Ng/Christine

Why are you so downcast so shaken O my soul
Lift your eyes to see the God you know
Remember all His goodness the songs you sang aloud
Why are you so downcast O my soul

Chorus: Hope in God praise Him again
He's my help my refuge and my strength
In the day His kindness will surround me
In the night my heart will sing His praise

Why am I so downcast Your waves crash over me
The depths of me cry out to all You are

Your hand holds all the waters
So You can keep my heart
Why am I so downcast O my soul *(Chorus)*

Why should I be downcast
You've sent Your light to me
To bring me to Your holy dwelling place
I stand before Your altar and sing another song
Why should I be downcast O my soul *(Chorus 2x)*

In the night my heart will sing His praise

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*Charge & Benediction — Pastor Jeff

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. He then raises his hands, giving a blessing for the congregation to receive.

*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 Fellowship Hall after Worship for a Thanksgiving Box Packing Party! Lunch will be provided for volunteers!

Choir Rehearsal begins at 12:30pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome!

- Intro: Data on Loneliness

- Psalm 55 and Loneliness

    - The Source of David's Loneliness

    - The Impact of David's Loneliness

    - The Solution of David's Loneliness

- Jesus and Loneliness

Next Week: Cries of the Heart Series – *Anxiety* (Psalm 73)

Scripture

Psalm 55

[1] Give ear to my prayer, O God, and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy! [2] Attend to me and answer me; I am restless in my complaint and I moan, [3] because of the noise of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked. For they drop trouble upon me, and in anger they bear a grudge against me. [4] My heart is in anguish within me; the terrors of death have fallen upon me. [5] Fear and trembling come upon me, and horror overwhelms me. [6] And I say, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! would fly away and be at rest; [7] yes, I would wander far away; I would lodge in the wilderness; Selah [8] I would hurry to find a shelter from the raging wind and tempest." [9] Destroy, O Lord, divide their tongues; for I see violence and strife in the city. [10] Day and night they go around it on its walls, and iniquity and trouble are within it; [11] ruin is in its midst; oppression and fraud do not depart from its marketplace. [12] For it is not an enemy who taunts me—then I could bear it; it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me— then I could hide from him. [13] But it is you, a man, my equal, my companion, my familiar friend. [14] We used to take sweet counsel together; within God's house we walked in the throng. [15] Let death steal over them; let them go down to Sheol alive; for evil is in their dwelling place and in their heart. [16] But I call to God, and the Lord will save me. [17] Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he hears my voice. [18] He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage, for many are arrayed against me. [19] God will give ear and humble them, he who is enthroned from of old, Selah because they do not change and do not fear God. [20] My companion stretched out his hand against his friends; he violated his covenant. [21] His speech was smooth as butter, yet war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, yet they were drawn swords. [22] Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved. [23] But you, O God, will cast them down into the pit of destruction; men of blood and treachery shall not live out half their days. But I will trust in you.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. The sermon connects our longing for companionship with God's declaration in Genesis 2:18 that it is not good to be alone. How does this help you understand loneliness without immediately treating it as a spiritual failure?
2. In Psalm 55 David brings his anguish and the pain of betrayal honestly to God. Which part of his prayer resonates with you and what burden could you entrust to the Lord today?
3. Read Mark 14:32–42 and Hebrews 4:14–16. How do Jesus' sorrow in Gethsemane and his welcome at the throne of grace help you trust his love when you feel lonely, forgotten or unsupported?
4. Because Christ has drawn near to us, the sermon calls us to draw near to one another. What is one specific step you could take this week either to seek trustworthy companionship or to offer patient, faithful care to someone who feels alone?

Grow and Go with Us!

Next Generation Ministry

Next Gen Families & Volunteers - Join us for a **Friendsgiving Brunch at 9:30am NEXT 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 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 – Proverbs (Parlor) ***New Topic!***
Contact: Adam Condrick (acondrick@segalco.com)

Sundays at 9:30am – Wrestling with God: Lessons from the Book of Job (Conf Rm & Online) ***last mtg 11/22***
Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

Sundays at 7:00pm – Ezekiel Bible Study (Online) ***last mtg 11/15***
Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

Wednesdays at 7:00pm – Women's Bible Study (Online)
Contact: Joanne Wilson (joannelwilson@gmail.com)

Wednesdays at 7:15pm – Men's Bible Study (Online)
Contact: Brian Farrell (bpf3356@gmail.com)

Fridays at 9:30am – Women's Bible Study (Parlor)
Contact: Sue Farrell (bfarrell01@aol.com)

Starting 11/29! **Sundays at 9:30am – Advent Devotional Class**
Contact: Eric Shirley (shirleyfamily4@gmail.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 11/15	**12:00pm**	**Pizza & Packing Party for Thanksgiving Boxes (FH)**
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00pm	Bible Study (Online)
Monday 11/16		
Tuesday 11/17		
Wednesday 11/18	**5:30pm**	**Youth Group / Community Dinner Night (Fellowship Hall)**
	7:00pm	Women's Bible Study – *Come, Thou Fount* (Online)
	7:15pm	Men's Bible Study – *Psalms* (Online)
	7:15pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday 11/19		
Friday 11/20	9:30am	Women's Bible Study led by Sue Farrell (Parlor)
Saturday 11/21	9-12:30pm	ESOL Classes & Thanksgiving Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday 11/22	9:15am	Small Group led by Adam Condrick (NPC Parlor)
	9:30am	Classes for Adults
	9:30am	**NPC Kids Friendsgiving Brunch (Fellowship Hall)**
	12:00pm	**Christmas Decorating Day!**
	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.

Join us after worship TODAY in the Fellowship Hall for a packing party of our Thanksgiving for our Holiday Giving families. We will have pizza for 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).

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

Christmas Decorating Day! Please join us following the worship service **NEXT 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 with questions.

Join us 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.

The Cultivating Flourishing Congregations (CFC) process is helping us prayerfully envision the next chapter of ministry for our church. **We invite you to join us for a Town Hall Meeting on Sun 12/13 after worship in the Fellowship Hall.** We will receive an update on the process, interact with the presentation, celebrate milestones along the way, and learn how each member can play a part in cultivating a flourishing congregation at NPC. **Lunch is provided.** All are welcome!

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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