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 22, 2026 – 10:45am Worship

Welcome to Neelsville!

Welcome to Neelsville Presbyterian Church! We are so thrilled that you are visiting with us today. We are a church that is growing more and more captivated by Jesus Christ, delighting to glorify and serve Him in every area of our lives. Wherever you are in your walk with God, we have resources for you and your family. Please contact me if you have any questions or desire additional information. Thanks for visiting and I hope you experience the welcome of Christ during your time with us!

Warmly in Christ,

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

pastorjeff@neelsville.org

First Time Here?

We're so glad you've joined us! Please fill out a green guest card in the pew and hand it to a Welcome Team member for a small gift. They can help connect you with our various ministries and answer any questions you may have.

When you join us again, please take a moment each Sunday to sign in with our Welcome Team. This helps us to stay connected and to reach out to ensure you are well if we haven't seen you in a while.

Tips for Families

We are a church who believes in the value of families worshipping together, and we welcome the wiggles & giggles of little ones in the pews.

Look for the  **station outside the Sanctuary to learn more about…**

- **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

Worship is a conversation between the Triune God and Christians. Christians come together corporately, gripped by God's grace, to give praise and adoration to Him and to learn from Him. The Triune God is worthy of our worship for He is perfect in all his attributes. It is because of Jesus Christ, and his sacrifice on our behalf, that we are able to worship God acceptably. The Holy Spirit empowers us to worship God as we sing, pray, confess our sin and faith, read and listen to Scripture explained, and partake of the Lord's Supper.

Prelude

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

Welcome & Announcements

Angela Macri

* = please rise if you are able

The flower on today's communion table is in honor of Bill and Pam Armstrong's grandson, Theodore "Teddy" Armstrong Read, born on November 1 to Megan and Andy Read. May God bless their family!

*Call to Worship

Psalm 73:23-28

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

Leader: Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.

All: You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.

Leader: Whom have I in heaven but you?

All: And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

Leader: My flesh and my heart may fail,

All: But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Leader: It is good to be near God.

All: The Sovereign Lord is our refuge. We will tell of all His deeds.

*Hymn

Your Great Name We Praise — Smith/Kauflin

Immortal, invisible God only wise;
In light inaccessible, hid from our eyes.
Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light;
Not wanting or wasting, You rule us in might.
Your Justice like mountains high soaring above;
Your Clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Chorus: Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;
Almighty, victorious, Your great Name we praise!

All life comes from You, Lord, to both great and small.
In all life You live, Lord, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish, but quickly grow frail;
We wither and perish, but You never fail!

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light,
Your angels adore You, all veiling their sight.
All praise we will render, O Father of Grace,
'Til one day in splendor we see face to face! *(Chorus 2x)*

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*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.

*Hymn

Praise Him Again (Psalm 42)
(Westlake/Fowler/Nnamani/Davidson/Ng/Victoria 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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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 our eyes are often fixed on our circumstances rather than on You. Like Asaph, we become anxious, fearful, envious, and discouraged when life does not unfold according to our plans. We question Your goodness and seek our happiness in temporary things rather than in Your sustaining and real presence. Forgive us for our unbelief, our discontentment, and our failure to trust You and Your wise and loving purposes. Turn our hearts again to Christ, who is our refuge, our strength, and our portion forever. In His name we pray. 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

Matthew 11:28-30

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: Friends, hear the good news of the gospel. Jesus invites all who are anxious, weary and burdened by sin, shame, and sorrow: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Jesus does not wait for us to lighten our own load before we come. He bore the weight of our sin on the cross, and he welcomes the anxious and heavy-laden to himself. So as you confess your sins and your anxious burdens to God, and trust in Christ alone, hear this promise: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Your sins are pardoned, your guilt is carried by him, and your anxious soul now may rest in his gentle and finished work.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Confession of Faith

From The Evangelical Church of Togo

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.

Leader: With the universal church of which we are a part,

All: We acknowledge Jesus Christ as attested in Holy Scripture as the source of our faith.

Leader: We believe that God has a plan for the world in general and for humanity in particular.

All: We believe that human sin is an impediment to this plan and made the coming of a Savior necessary. This Savior, the one and only, is Jesus Christ our Lord.

Leader: We believe that the plan of God was accomplished in Jesus Christ;

All: We await its full manifestation. We proclaim that the church is the community of all those who in the power of the Holy Spirit glorify God in Jesus Christ. In this way we become his witnesses and coworkers in the world. It is this which constitutes our joy.

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

The Lone, Wild Bird (MacFayden/Graham) Ulung Tanoto

"Music is a fair and glorious gift of God." 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)*

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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 know 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 SeongSu Hong

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 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 week 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

Psalm 73

Please turn in the pew Bible to page 485 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon

Anxiety

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.

*Praise Song

The Goodness of Jesus
Aghajanian/Druery/Farren/Maxwell/Robinson/Thompson

Come you weary heart now to Jesus.
Come you anxious soul now and see.
There is perfect love and comfort in your tears.
Rest here in His wondrous peace.

Chorus: Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus. Satisfied, He is all that I need.
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days in the goodness of Jesus.

Come find what this world cannot offer.
Come and find your joy here complete.
Taste the living water, never thirst again.
Rest here in His wondrous peace. *(Chorus)*

Come and find your hope now in Jesus.
He is all He said He would be.
Grace is overflowing from the Saviour's heart.
Rest here in His wondrous grace. *(Chorus 2x)*

May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days in the goodness of Jesus.

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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.

*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 another instrumental piece, carrying praise to God out of the church and into the world.

After Worship Today!

Please join us today to decorate the church for Christmas! Lunch will be provided for volunteers!

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

- Anxiety often reveals where our eyes are fixed. (vv.1-16)

- Anxiety begins to change in God's presence. (vv.17-22)

- The answer to anxiety is not control but communion with God. (vv.23-28)

- Final Remarks

Next Week: *Give Thanks* (Luke 17:11-19)

Scripture

Psalm 73

[1] Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. [2] But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. [3] For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. [4] For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek. [5] They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind. [6] Therefore pride is their necklace; violence covers them as a garment. [7] Their eyes swell out through fatness; their hearts overflow with follies. [8] They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression. [9] They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth. [10] Therefore his people turn back to them and find no fault in them. [11] And they say, "How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?" [12] Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches. [13] All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence. [14] For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning. [15] If I had said, "I will speak thus," I would have betrayed the generation of your children. [16] But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, [17] until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end. [18] Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin. [19] How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors! [20] Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as phantoms. [21] When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart, [22] I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you. [23] Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. [24] You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory. [25] Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. [26] My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. [27] For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. [28] But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

Something to think about . . .

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

1. Asaph's anxiety exposed where his eyes were fixed. What outcome, fear, or disappointment is currently shaping how you see God's goodness, and what might it reveal about where your hope is resting?
2. Asaph's perspective changed when he entered the sanctuary, even though his circumstances did not. What practices (worship, prayer, Scripture, gathering with God's people) help lift your eyes beyond a problem? Which do you need to return to this week?
3. Anxiety often craves certainty and control. In what area of your life are you trying to control the uncontrollable, and what would it look like to bring that honestly to God?
4. Asaph rested in four truths: God is always with him, holds him, guides him, and will take him into glory. Which of these do you most need to hold onto right now, and how does Jesus' invitation in Matthew 11:28-30 speak to it?

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

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 at 7pm (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)
Contact: Adam Condrick (acondrick@segalco.com)

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

Wednesdays at 7:00pm – Women's Bible Study (Online)***not mtg 11/25***
Contact: Joanne Wilson (joannelwilson@gmail.com)

Wednesdays at 7:15pm – Men's Bible Study (Online)***not mtg 11/25***
Contact: Brian Farrell (bpf3356@gmail.com)

Fridays at 9:30am – Women's Bible Study (Parlor)***not mtg 11/27***
Contact: Sue Farrell (bfarrell01@aol.com)

***NEW on 11/29!* Sundays at 9:30am – Advent Devotional Class**
Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)
Through the Bible Project's Advent devotional, we will remember the first arrival of Jesus in history and look forward to His return when he makes all things new.

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 11/22	**12:00pm**	**Christmas Decorating Day!**
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Monday 11/23		
Tuesday 11/24		
Wednesday 11/25	**7:00pm**	**Thanksgiving Worship Service (NPC Historic Chapel)**
Thursday 11/26		**Happy Thanksgiving!**
		Holiday - Church Office Closed
Friday 11/27		**Holiday - Church Office Closed**
Saturday 11/28		
Sunday 11/29	9:15am	Small Group led by Adam Condrick (NPC Parlor)
	9:30am	Classes for Adults
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Financial Update

	Oct Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income ($K)	$ 110.1K	$ 659.9 K	$ 689.9 K	$ 827.9 K
Expenses ($K)	$ 85.7 K	$ 665.5 K	$ 716.2 K	$ 859.4 K
Difference	$ 24.4 K	- $ 5.6 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.

Today is Christmas Decorating Day! Please join us following the worship service **TODAY** 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.

Show love to a local family this Christmas with our Giving Tree! This year we will be serving 22 families from Waters Landing Elementary, Neelsville Middle School and families with whom we have built a relationship through past Christmases. Select a tag from the tree in the Narthex or use the Signup Genius at this QR code to select a gift or baked good that you would like to provide for one of these families. More needs will be added throughout the week. **Wrapped gifts and baked goods are due by Sun 12/20.** Contact Michelle Nelson at msn617@gmail.com with questions.

Join us for Neelsville's Thanksgiving Service THIS 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.

Participate with us during the Advent Season. We will remember the first arrival of Jesus in history and look forward to His return when he makes all things new. This year we are using an Advent devotional from the Bible Project, which can be found at this QR code. Paper copies are also in the Narthex. Enjoy this material for your personal and family worship times and join us to discuss the devotional at our Sunday Class at 9:30am in Room 1 beginning 11/29.

ESOL Help Needed beginning Sat, Jan 9 - 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 if interested. (joannelwilson@gmail.com)

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!

Give Something That Means Something! Give Blood! NPC will host a Red Cross Blood Drive on **Sat 12/19 from 9am–2pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up using the QR code or this link: https://bit.ly/4t90ZQs. Contact Karen Clark at 2karclark@gmail.com with any questions or if you would like to help with registration the day of the blood drive. We need a couple volunteers.

Stay Connected with Neelsville

CONTACT INFO

Questions?
office@neelsville.org

Website
www.neelsville.org

Phone
301-972-3916

Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 10am-4pm
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*
nwuwuh@gmail.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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