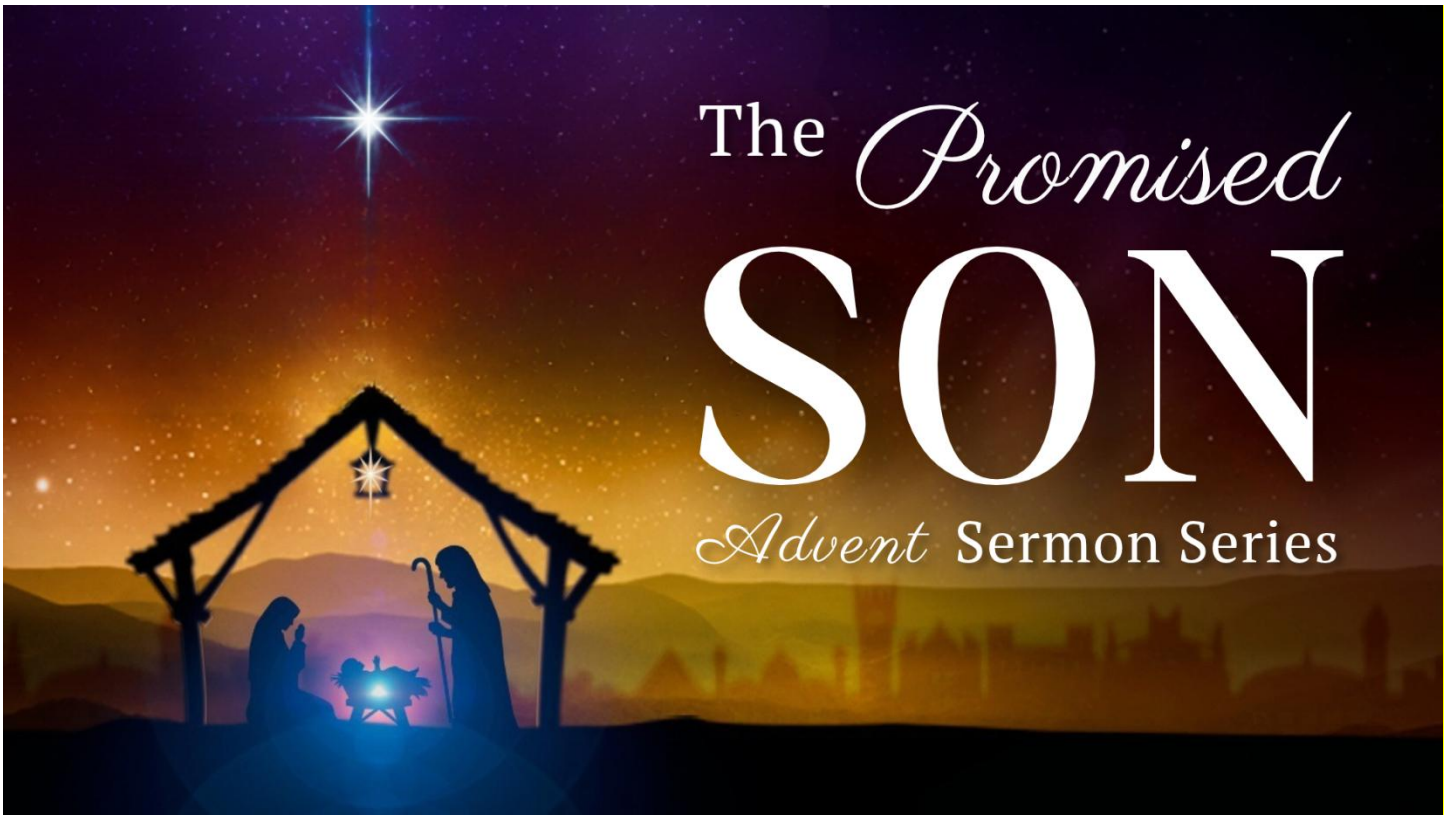
NEELSVILLE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 29, 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

Gratitude (Lake/Bowe/Hastings) — Ulung Tanoto

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

Galations 4:4-7 — The Harris Family

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

Leader: But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law,

All: so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Leader: And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

All: So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Advent Reading & Lighting of the 1st Candle

HOPE — Wesley, Keely, Ivy & Declan Hutto

A family will present a biblical reading to reflect on Christ's birth and continued presence in the world to help prepare individuals and the community for the celebration of Christmas. A new candle is lit each week in the four weeks before Christmas. The Advent wreath is circular shape representing God's infinite love.

Congregational Prayer (unison)

Advent worship has a focus on "already" and "not yet." We reflect on the wonder of the first coming of our Lord Jesus. We also long for his promised second coming to set all things right for the new heavens and new earth.

Lord, scripture reminds us that you are faithful and the promises you make never fail. We confess that we do not always trust your mercy and protection and are fearful to live as you call us to do. We forget the power of your love and hide in the shadows of our sinfulness. But you sent Jesus, while we were yet sinners, giving us light and **hope** and new life. Hear the confessions of our hearts as we name our sins before you in silence.

*Praise Song — *Gratitude* — Lake/Bowe/Hastings

All my words fall short I got nothing new
How could I express All my gratitude

I could sing these songs As I often do
But every song must end And You never do

Chorus: So I throw up my hands And praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah
And I know it's not much But I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing hallelujah, hallelujah

I've got one response I've got just one move
With my arms stretched wide I will worship You *(Chorus)*

Bridge: Come on my soul Oh don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song 'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord *(2x)*

(Chorus)

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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 — *I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)* (Kauflin/Getty/Merker/Townend) — **#578**

Out of the depths I cry to You, in darkest places I will call.
Incline Your ear to me anew, and hear my cry for mercy, Lord.

Were You to count my sinful ways, how could I come before Your throne?
Yet, full forgiveness meets my gaze, I stand redeemed by grace alone.

Chorus 1: I will wait for You, I will wait for You, on Your word I will rely.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You till my soul is satisfied.

So, put your hope in God alone, take courage in His power to save,
Completely and forever won by Christ's emerging from the grave.

Now He has come to make a way, and God Himself has paid the price,
That all who trust in Him today find healing in His sacrifice. *(Chorus 1)*

Chorus 2: I will wait for You, I will wait for You
Through the storm and through the night.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, for Your love is my delight.

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*Hymn *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (Baker/Neale) #715

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

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Baptism Declan Frederick Hutto

Baptism is a sign and seal of the covenant of grace, a mark of entrance into the visible church, and it is the Holy Spirit who makes this sacrament efficacious in God's time to those whom God has called. At Neelsville both infant and adult baptisms are practiced, requiring either a profession of faith or a parents' faith for infants.

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

Breath of Heaven (Eaton/Grant) — Natalia Suwuh Angkuw and 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

Kathy 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.

This week we will not have Worship & Praise Zone so families can worship together this holiday weekend!

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 — Genesis 3:15

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 — *The Son of the Woman Who Will Crush the Head of the Serpent* — Pastor SeongSu Hong

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 — *I Set My Hope in Jesus* — Papa/Boswell/Getty

When this life of trials tests my faith, I set my hope on Jesus.
When the questions come and doubts remain, I set my hope on Jesus.
For the deepest wounds that time won't heal, there's a joy that runs still deeper.
There's a truth that's more than all I feel. I set my hope on Jesus.

Chorus: I set my hope on Jesus, my rock, my only trust,
Who set His heart upon me first. I set my hope on Jesus.

Though I falter in this war with sin, I set my hope on Jesus.
When I fail the fight and sink within, I set my hope on Jesus.
Though the shame would drown me in its sea, and I dread the waves of justice,
I will cast my life on Calvary. I set my hope on Jesus. (*Chorus*)

Though the world calls me to leave my Lord, I set my hope on Jesus.
Though it offers all its vain rewards, I set my hope on Jesus.
Though this heart of mine is prone to stray,
Give me grace enough to finish 'till I worship on that final day.
I set my hope on Jesus. *(Chorus 2x)*

I set my hope on Jesus.

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*Charge & Benediction — Pastor SeongSu

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

After Worship Today!

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

Our Next Gen Praise Team is preparing for two special performances of "Little Drummer Boy" at Christmas! Short rehearsals will be each Sunday after worship beginning TODAY. See Pastor SeongSu if your child is interested in participating.

- Bruise Your Head

- Bruise His Heel

Next Week: *The Son of Abraham by Whom All Families On Earth Will Be Blessed* (Genesis 12:3)

Scripture

Genesis 3:15

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Something to think about . . .

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

1. Why is Genesis 3:15 considered the first promise of the Gospel? What does this reveal about God's plan of salvation?
2. What does it mean that Jesus crushed the head of the serpent? How does Christ's victory over Satan change the way we live?
3. Satan continues to tempt and accuse believers. How can we stand firm in the freedom that Jesus has already secured for us?
4. Why did the promised Son have to suffer and die to defeat Satan and take away our sin? How does the bruising of His heel point to the cross?
5. Are you trusting in what Jesus Christ has accomplished, or are you still trying to establish your own righteousness and kingdom? What would it look like to surrender more fully to Him?

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)

Our Next Gen Praise Team is preparing for two special performances of "Little Drummer Boy" at Christmas! Short rehearsals will be each Sunday after worship beginning TODAY. See Pastor SeongSu if your child is interested in participating.

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) ***not mtg 12/2**

***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)

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)***at Loretta's 12/4***
Contact: Sue Farrell (bfarrell01@aol.com)

Sundays at 9:30am – Advent Devotional Class (Room 1)
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 11/29	12:30pm	Next Gen Praise Team & Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Monday 11/30		
Tuesday 12/1		
Wednesday 12/2	7:00pm	Women's Bible Study led by Joanne Wilson (Online)
	7:15pm	Men's Bible Study led by Brian Farrell (Online)
	7:15pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday 12/3		
Friday 12/4	9:30am	Women's Bible Study (at Loretta's)
Saturday 12/5		
Sunday 12/6	9:15am	Small Group led by Adam Condrick (NPC Parlor)
	9:30am	Classes for Adults
	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	12:30pm	**Women's Lunch at Panera (Seneca Meadows)**

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.

NPC Ladies! Let's get together for lunch after church NEXT Sunday, 12/6! We will meet at 12:30-ish at Panera (Seneca Meadows) for a nice time of fellowship. Bring a friend!

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. **Wrapped gifts and baked goods are due by Sun 12/20.** Contact Michelle Nelson at msn617@gmail.com with questions.

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. Also, all are welcome to join us to discuss the devotional at our Sunday Class at 9:30am in Room 1.

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*
ulung@neelsville.org

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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