



NEELSVILLE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 8, 2024 – 10:45 a.m.

Glorifying God by being and making disciples of Jesus Christ.

In the name of our Lord Jesus - Welcome to Worship!

If this is your first time at NPC, we'd love to connect with you!
Would you share some information about yourself at this QR code?



Worship via Facebook Live

facebook.com/neelsville

Prelude

Seek Ye First arr. Purifoy

Yi Xu, piano

Welcome & Announcements

Brian Farrell

(* = Please stand if you are able)

*Call to Worship

from Psalm 145:4-7

Leader: One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.

All: On the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate.

Leader: They shall speak of the might of Your awesome deeds, and I will declare Your greatness.

All: They shall pour forth the fame of Your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.

*Hymn

Creation Sings the Father's Song

Getty/Getty/Townend

Creation sings the Father's song; He calls the sun to wake the dawn

And run the course of day, till evening falls in crimson rays.

His fingerprints in flakes of snow; His breath upon this spinning globe;

He charts the eagle's flight, commands the newborn baby's cry.

Chorus: Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing:

“Hallelujah!” Fill the earth with songs of worship,

Tell the wonders of creation's King.

(continued next page)

Creation gazed upon His face; The ageless One in time's embrace,
Unveiled the Father's plan of reconciling God and man.
A second Adam walked the earth, whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free to live with Him eternally. (*Chorus*)

Creation longs for His return, when Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage are birth pains of a coming age.
When He renews the land and sky, all heaven will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme: The glory of our God and King! (*Chorus 2x*)

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Prayer of Adoration

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

***Praise Song**

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

Robinson/Thompson/Farren

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer. There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus. For my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken, For by my side the Savior, he will stay.
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing, For in my need, his power is displayed.
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me. Through the deepest valley he will lead.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven, The future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon, And he was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated. Jesus now, and ever, is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus, For he has said that he will bring me home.
And day by day I know he will renew me Until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus. All the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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Confession of Sin (unison)

Most Holy God, Your very words in Scripture say “words kill, words give life; they are either poison or fruit.” Lord, we know that Your words to us are always giving life and are fruitful; they bring hope and foster a deeper trust in You. But as I examine my words in light of Scripture, they often kill by discouraging others in the faith or they poison, leaving a lasting negative impact on others who do not know You. (continued next page)

I confess, Gracious Lord, that my words at times do not glorify You or bless others. My words are often not expressed in loving and kind ways. Merciful Lord, forgive me of my many sins in communication. Help me to learn from You how You communicate in Your Word. Then empower me to reflect Your design in communicating with You and others. I ask this in the name and power of my Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Confession

***Assurance of Pardon**

1 John 1:9

Leader: Hear the Good News: “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

***Confession of Faith** (unison)

Middle East Reformed Fellowship

(MERF is a family of churches throughout the Middle East; it began in Beirut, Lebanon in 1971)

Leader: The Bible reveals the true and living God, Sovereign Creator and Ruler of the universe.

This one and only God is revealed as three distinct persons:

All: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the same in substance, equal in power and glory, working all things after the counsel of His will.

Leader: Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who for us and for our salvation became fully man.

All: Being conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary, he was born of her without sin. He, by His perfect obedience and atoning death, provided full satisfaction to God for the sins of His elect people.

Leader: He was raised bodily from the dead and ascended to heaven where He sits at the right hand of God

All: From there, He reigns over His universal Church and Kingdom. At the last day, a day known only to the Father, He will return in glory to judge the living and the dead: the saved to enjoy His eternal glory and mercy, and the lost to suffer eternal conscious punishment.

Leader: The Holy Spirit is the one who inspired the prophets and apostles to write the Scriptures.

All: He authenticated their writings and ministry by means of supernatural gifts. He takes the things of Christ and sovereignly applies them to His people by calling, regenerating, sanctifying and glorifying them for Christ's eternal Kingdom.

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Leader: The Church is the instrument ordained by God to bring the message of the Gospel to a lost and condemned human race and to carry out His purposes in the world.

All: The mission of the Church is, therefore, the preaching of the Gospel and the discipling of all nations, this mission being accompanied by "doing good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Amen.

Offertory

Majesty

Hayford/arr. Bock

Michele Kelly, organ and Yi Xu, piano

***Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

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.

Children's Message

Sue Farrell

All children (infant to 5th grade) are invited to come forward to receive the children's message. We will dismiss children (ages 3 thru 2nd grade) to Worship & Play Zone after the Children's Message.

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1

See printed insert or last page of the PDF for the scripture passage.

Sermon

The Holy God Speaks

Pastor Jeff

Congregational Prayer and Lord's Prayer

If so led, please pray the Lord's Prayer in your language of origin.

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.

***Hymn**

Speak O Lord

Getty/Townend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your holy word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes, for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail; Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity.

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And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

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Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Come, Christians, Join to Sing Englert

Yi Xu

Prayer Concerns

Our prayer chain delights to pray for our congregation throughout the week! Use this QR code to submit your prayers thru our website or contact the office.
To join the prayer chain, email office@neelsville.org



Our Words Matter: Getting to the Heart of our Communication Issues

Sermon Notes:

The Holy God Speaks

Genesis 1: 1-3

- Four fundamental principles for this series (War of Words by Paul David Tripp)
 - God has a wonderful plan for our words that is far better than any plan we could produce on our own. “...*take every thought captive to obey Christ...*” (2 Cor. 10:5)
 - Sin has radically altered our agenda for our words, resulting in much hurt, confusion, and chaos. “*ALL have Sinned and fall short of the Glory of God...*” (Rom. 3:23)
 - In Christ Jesus we find the grace that provides all we need to speak as God intended us to speak. “*My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness*” (2 Cor. 12:9).
 - The Bible plainly and simply teaches us how to get from where we are to where God wants us to be. “...*by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope...*”(Rom. 15:13).

- God Speaks – A look at Creation

- God’s Words Give Value and Meaning – A look at Adam and Eve

- God’s Authority Over Our Words – A look at us

Next Week: *The Fallen Satan Speaks (Gen 3: 1-7)*

*****Small Groups Coming Soon to Your Area!*****

Our Words Matter! Could you talk in a more godly and loving way? Do you desire to change the way you speak to your parents, your children, your spouse, or others within the church? This Fall through our 8-week sermon series entitled, *Our Words Matter: Getting to the Heart of Our Communication Struggles* and small groups, we will be focusing on how we communicate with others in a Christ-centered way. The sermon series begins today, Sunday 9/8. If you are interested in joining a small group to discuss with others how you can grow in godly and gracious speech, please sign up via this QR code or sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



Small Groups will begin the week of 9/15 and end the week of 10/27 (a 7-week study) and will meet in homes and at NPC on a variety of days throughout our communities. We recommend buying the book *War of Words* by Paul David Tripp on which the sermon and study will be based. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jeff.

Small Group Locations & Meeting Times

Damascus Small Group
Facilitated by Farrells/Wilsons
Wednesdays 7:15 to 8:30 pm

Sunday Morning Small Group
Facilitated by Arols
Historic Church, Large Classroom
Sundays 9:15 to 10:30 am

Frederick Small Group
Facilitated by Honges/Ricketts/Barnes
Sundays 5:30 to 7:00 pm

Mt. Airy Small Group
Facilitated by Macris
Thursdays 6:15 to 8:00 pm

Germantown/Gaithersburg Small Group
Facilitated by Pastor Jeff
NPC Parlor
Wednesdays 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Young Adult Small Group
Facilitated by Sean Morrissey
NPC Parlor
Fridays 7:30 to 9:00 pm

Adult Ministry Opportunities

Join one of our opportunities to GROW as a disciple!

Scan this QR code or go to neelsville.org/ministries/adults for details & descriptions. Links for online studies are in the Friday e-letter.



CLASSES

- **The following classes meet at 9:30am on Sundays:**
 - *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* led by Brian Farrell, Jason Evans and Joanne Wilson in the Parlor. (joannelwilson@gmail.com)
 - *How to Share the Gospel with Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses* led by Michele Kelly and Craig Wilson in the Conference Room. (cdw6@msn.com)
 - *Understanding and Reaching Our Next Generation* led by Pastor SeongSu in the Fellowship Hall (seongsu@neelsville.org)
- **Sunday 7:00pm** – Online – *Intro to the Hebrew Bible* led by Craig Wilson and others. (cdw6@msn.com)
Discover the origins of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and develop the skills necessary for reading it well.

SMALL GROUPS

- **Sunday 9:15am** – Ed Wing Room 1 – The Small Group led by Adam Condrick is discussing a new book, *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion* by Rebecca McLaughlin. It's easy to drop in for discussion. Join us! (acondrick@segalco.com)
- **Sunday 9:15am** – Historic Church, Lg. Classroom – Based on our Fall sermon series entitled *Our Words Matter*, we will be focusing on how we communicate with others in a Christ-centered way. Led by Craig Arold (arold@lenovo.com)
- **Friday 9:30am** – Parlor – The weekly **Women's Bible Study** led by Sue Farrell (bfarrello1@aol.com) will start a new discussion of *1 Kings 1 - 11, the Rise and Fall of King Solomon*. All ladies welcome! (bfarrello1@aol.com)

Young Adult Ministry

A place for those aged 18 to 40-ish to grow in Christ and in community

Contact us at youngadults@neelsville.org.

- **STARTS 9/13! Fridays 7:30pm** – Andrew Small Room – **Young Adult Weekly Gatherings**

Starts early on 9/13 at 7:00pm with a cookout! Bible Study will cover “Our Words Matter” to align w/ Pastor Jeffs upcoming sermon series.

- **Please scan the QR Code** to stay informed of upcoming events & service opportunities!



Next Generation Ministry

Neelsville Kids (Pre-K thru 5th Grade)

kids@neelsville.org

- **Sunday School at 9:30am**
Ed Wing for Pre-K-5th Grade
- **Nursery Care during Worship**
Ed Wing for ages 2 & under
- **Worship & Play Zone** (3-2nd Gr.)
Bible story & crafts during sermon
Check in at Narthex before worship
Resumes TODAY Sunday 9/8!

NPC Students (6th-12th Grade)

students@neelsville.org

- **Sunday School at 9:30am**
Andrew Small Rm
See weekly e-letter for topic
- **Youth Group**
Fridays at 7pm in Fellowship Hall
Resumes THIS Fri 9/13!

The wiggles and giggles of children are always welcome in the Sanctuary as families worship together!

- Feel free to pick up a **worship activity bag** in the Narthex for your child to use during the service.
- **Nursery Care** continues to be available during Sunday morning worship for children 2 years and younger. More volunteers are always invited to serve with our little ones in this year-round program!

Youth Covenant Partner Class 9/22 following our worship service - What does it mean to be a church *covenant partner*? Membership means that we make promises to care for and pray for one another, to help each other grow, encourage one another into Christ-like living, and to partner together to share God's love with the wider community. Students (6th – 12th Gr) may sign up by emailing Pastor SeongSu(seongsu@neelsville.org)

Announcements

Find NPC on Facebook and Instagram for announcements, reminders, and resources!

Please join us immediately after worship TODAY for our special Monthly Congregational Prayer. Bring a yellow prayer card with you to share your praises and prayer requests (or drop your yellow card in the offering plate if you are unable to stay). We will gather in the front of the sanctuary for approximately 20 minutes of prayer, lifting up our petitions and praises to the Lord as we intercede on behalf of our brothers and sisters. *Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. James 5:13*

Join us TODAY, Sun 9/8 at 4pm for the Installation Service of Pastor SeongSu Hong as our new Assistant Pastor of Next Generation Ministries. We look forward to sharing this joyous occasion with our church family! We will celebrate with a reception afterwards.

EVERYONE can serve at our Neelsville Workday! Please join us **THIS Sat 9/14 from 9am-12pm** for a workday to beautify and improve our church building and grounds. We will primarily be working on exterior projects. No special skills or tools are required other than a willingness to serve. Any amount of time you can share is appreciated! Please see Dion Faradonez or Jason Craft for more information.

SAVE THE DATE for a Congregational Meeting after worship NEXT Sun 9/15. We will elect our new Officers for 2025 and consider a proposal to provide Pastor SeongSu with voice and vote at Session meetings, in his new role as Assistant Pastor. Read our officer candidate bios through this QR code or pick up a paper copy in the Narthex.



We're having an "Old Fashioned Church Picnic!" This will be NEXT Sun 9/15 following the worship service & congregational meeting. It's a time to come to church in comfortable clothes, participate in games, eat good food and try your hand at dunking Pastor Jeff in water! Help make it a fun day for everyone by volunteering to set up, clean up or bring a dish to share. You can sign up in the Narthex, through this QR code. Contact Gerry Davis with questions. (Gerry.davis@outlook.com)



Next Generation Ministries would like your feedback on our programs through this 5-minute survey. If you have a child or children in your household, please encourage all the adults to complete the survey through this QR Code. Your time is very much appreciated as we consider how best to serve our children and youth at Neelsville.



More Announcements

NPC has 350 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes for this holiday season and now is a good time to find school supplies on sale to use to help fill them! There are donation cards in the Narthex along with red totes to drop your donations in! We'll start packing boxes in late September. For questions see Janna Leigh.

MomCo is starting a new year soon at NPC! While the name has changed from MOPS, the goal remains the same: to offer mothers of young children a space to grow in relationship with one another and with Jesus. All moms of newborn to 5 years old are welcome to join! Also, childcare volunteers are needed for the biweekly meetings. If interested, please complete the form through the QR code here. Contact Danielle Harris at dl.hrris13@gmail.com for more info.



Save the date for the 2024 Walk to Defeat ALS on Sat 9/28 at Baker Park in Frederick, MD. Our NPC team, "Take a Lapp for ALS", was formed in support of our beloved Rodney Lapp who was afflicted with the suffering and struggles of this progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. **Become engaged in supporting our team through the QR code here.** Check-in is 9am and Walk Start is 10am. Contact Lewis Johnston (lejohnston52@gmail.com) or Hugh Smith (hugh3smith@comcast.net) with questions.



You can reach the world through a new ESOL Bible Study! We would like to start a Bible Study immediately after ESOL classes on Saturdays from 11am-12pm beginning 10/5. We are hoping that God will provide helpers to take turns teaching twice a month for one hour. Would you consider being one of these people? Materials are provided. Contact Joanne Wilson at joannelwilson@gmail.com.

October Book Club Meeting – Join the Neelsville Book Club in reading *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding during the month of September. We'll meet for a discussion and snacks at the home of Jonathan & Danielle Harris on **Mon 10/7 at 7pm**. Please contact Danielle if you'd like to attend or for more info (dl.hrris13@gmail.com).

NPC Women and Teens, join us this Fall for a Weekend Retreat, "Discovering the Beauty of Prayer," with speaker and author Nairy Ohanian on **Friday Night and Sat - Oct 11th and 12th** - at our Historic Chapel. Her own mission experience includes over 25+ years living overseas. Cost is \$35. To register, use this QR code or flyer in the Narthex. Contact Cathy Brown at women@neelsville.org with questions.



You can prayerfully give your tithes & offerings at www.neelsville.org/give or by texting GIVE to 240-451-8511. Scan the QR code for more details.



Neelsville Ministry Staff

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Scripture Reading

Genesis 1: 1-31

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” ²¹ So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.