



# Overbrook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 28, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church (on the Road)  
We are glad you are worshiping with us this morning!

## Notes on Today's Service

### Leadership:

The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson, Pastor  
Mary Bear Shannon, Liturgist  
Sharon Parker, Parish Care Associate  
Marc Alfonse, Seminary Intern  
Anthony M. Carrella, Director of Children and Family Ministry  
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music  
The Overbrook Choir  
Toffer Mihalka, tenor

Today's chancel flowers are given by Janet Bowker in loving memory of her father, John Steindl.

**Childcare** is available during the worship service. Worship is for all ages, but, should your infant or preschooler become restless, excellent childcare is provided in the nursery.

### **Large Print Bulletins and Hymns are Available.**

Please speak to one of the ushers if you have special needs.

Following worship today, please join us for Fellowship Hour, hosted by Mads Cosgriff. All are welcome!

❖=*Stand as you are able*

## GATHERING IN

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Praise the Lord, O my soul

G. T. Thalben-Ball  
(1896-1987)

❖CALL TO WORSHIP

*Mary Bear Shannon*

Leader: Come all you people. Come into the place where God is listening.

People: You are welcome here. You don't need money or status here. You don't need to give anything. You don't need to speak the right words or wear the right clothes.

Leader: Where you are from is no barrier here. Where you are going is not an obstacle here.

People: You can be sick, tired, and needy. The angry, the joyful, the indifferent and the oblivious are all welcome here.

Leader: Come, beloved, and experience the true mystery of this faith.

All: Christ is here. Sitting among us. Hallelujah.  
The savior is among us. Hallelujah.

❖HYMN (*on next page*)

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

FOUNDATION

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er  
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be  
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -  
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of  
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the  
 do - us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his  
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth  
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ  
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark-ness grim, we  
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and  
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from  
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for  
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

WELCOME

*Adam Hearlson*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE (*unison*) *Mary Bear Shannon*  
*From Jack Lohr*

Life-giving Wind, blow through our souls today!  
Show us where we have dug in our heels and refused to grow.  
Teach us that we have nothing to fear from change—  
that Christ's only power is love,  
and that this love, without any weapons, is stronger than death itself.  
Source of All that is Good, we offer our silent prayers of confession,  
for all we have done, and all we have left undone. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

EMBRACING GOD'S GRACE

❖ GLORIA PATRI

HYMN No. 581

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.

## HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT *Esther 1:1-9* *Mary Bear Shannon*  
The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

BIBLICAL STORYTELLING *Anthony Carrella*  
*(Following the storytelling, learners in Pre-K through Grade 5  
are encouraged to recess to Sunday School.)*

SOLO

Let the Life I've Lived Speak for Me  
*Toffer Mihalka, tenor*

Gwyneth Walker  
(b. 1948)

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Let the life I've lived speak for me.  
When I come to the end of the road,  
And I lay down my heavy load,  
Let the life I've lived speak for me.

Let the friends I've made speak for me.  
When I come to end of the road,  
And I lay down my heavy load,  
Let the friends I've made speak for me.

Lay down your burden,  
and rest with the setting sun.  
All the beauty of your life will shine  
when your day is done.

Let the love I've shared speak for me.  
Let the love that I've tried to share,  
And the burdens I've struggled to bear.  
All this life of joy and care speak for me.  
Let the life I've lived speak for me.

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❖ SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION

HYMN No. 591



OLD TESTAMENT  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Esther 1:10-20*

*Adam Hearlson*

SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION (*above*)

SERMON            “Women of the Old Testament: Vashti”    *Adam Hearlson*

❖ HYMN (*on next two pages*)

FAITHFULNESS

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

1 \*Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.  
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.  
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

\*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!  
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.  
 날 마 다 자 비 를 배 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.  
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!  
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

## ❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

### *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will 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.

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

LIFE AT THE CROSSROADS

*Adam Hearlson*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Sharon Parker*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SHARING OF PEACE

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*Adam Hearlson*

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

Undine Smith Moore

I Would Be True  
*The Overbrook Choir*

(1904-1989)

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I would be true, for there are those who trust me;  
I would be pure, for there are those who care;  
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;  
I would be brave, for there is much to dare!

I would be friend of all, the foe, the friendless;  
I would be giving, and forget the gift;  
I would be humble, for I know my weakness;  
I would look up and laugh and love and lift!

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*Howard A. Walter (1833-1918)*

❖ DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 607

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

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Mary Bear Shannon*

Holy and life giving God, may these gifts bless those who have said “no” to the deathly forces of the world. May these gifts be our “yes” to your reign of love and grace. Amen

SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN (*on next two pages*)

PROMISES

**Standing on the Promises**

1 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my king,  
2 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail,  
3 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord,  
4 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fall,

through e - ter - nal a - ges let his prais - es ring;  
when the howl - ing storms of doubt and fear as - sail,  
bound to him e - ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord,  
lis - tening ev - ery mo - ment to the Spir - it's call,

glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,  
by the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,  
o - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,  
rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Refrain

Stand - ing, stand - ing,  
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior;

stand - ing, stand - ing,  
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

I'm stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

❖BENEDICTION

Adam Hearlson

❖CHORAL RESPONSE

Renew us by thy grace

Donald Cashmore

(1929-2013)

POSTLUDE

*Please depart quietly for those who wish to listen to the postlude.*

Music Spotlight: Anthem at the Offering



Undine Smith Moore earned the nickname of “The Dean of Black Women Composers” with her prolific output. Although many of her compositions were inspired by Black spirituals and folk music, her compositional style was eclectic and modern. This piece, “I Would Be True,” encourages us to be strong and humble, especially as we are reminded of Vashti’s courage in today’s reading.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Centering Prayer and Bible Study—Wednesday, 9:30 A.M. We will meet at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El; Centering Prayer begins at 9:30 A.M., and Bible Study begins at 10:30 A.M.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) Update. Exciting news! This summer, VBS will be held off-site from **June 25–27**. Please save these dates in your calendars, as the CFM anticipates offering a vibrant program filled with art, nature, contemplative practices, and delicious snacks. While we finalize our camp facility option, please stay tuned for signup details and release forms coming soon.

Youth Summer Mission Trip—July 14-19. All youth ages 14+ are invited to join us for a youth mission trip to Urban Promise, Camden, NJ. The trip will be July 14-19. (overnight stay Sunday-Friday) the cost will be \$400 per person. (scholarships available). RSVP by Sunday, May 5 to Suchita at youth@overbrookpresb.org.

**Walking with Spirit: A Celebration of Creation** Adventurers of all ages are invited to join the growing group of OPC woodland walkers as we explore area trails. Inspired by the work of Christine Valters Paintner, *Eyes of the Heart: Photography as a Contemplative Christian Practice*, trail walks include an opportunity to capture the beauty of God's creation through observation and photography. The length of the trails ranges from 1-1.5 miles. Each trail is both accessible and inspirational! Please join us as we journey through God's creation.

- **May 4: 10:00 AM Stoneleigh: A Natural Garden**, 1829 County Line Road, Villanova Participants will meet in the Stoneleigh parking lot at 10:00 AM. Those needing a ride, and those willing to provide transportation for others, are asked to meet in the OPC parking lot at 9:30 AM. Following the walk, we'll gather in Stoneleigh Garden pavilion for a light picnic brunch. Participants are invited to bring their own beverages. Fruit and brunch treats will be provided. To assist with the planning and carpooling, all are asked to RSVP to Sharon Parker ([sharon@overbrookpresb.org](mailto:sharon@overbrookpresb.org)) by May 2.

**Fellowship Hour Hosts Needed!** During these past two months we have been able to continue our tradition of after worship refreshments, thanks to those who have volunteered to host. We at CLC are so grateful for your assistance! The next few months we will still need your help. Just scan the QR to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Artia Benjamin by email at [clc@overbrookpresb.org](mailto:clc@overbrookpresb.org). You will receive a reminder email from the Signup Genius website. Please provide your email and phone number when you sign up. We will send you the Fellowship Hour Tips and guidelines document. So, let's "offer hospitality to one another without grumbling" (1 Peter 4:9, NIV).



**Immediately available Fellowship Hour Host Dates:**

May 5	May 26
June 23	July 7
July 14	July 21
July 28	

## OPC HAS A NEW LOOK!

The Design Team (Molly Burke, Emily Stewart, Artia Benjamin, and Adam Hearlson) has been working with the firm **Visionary Collective** to create a refreshed OPC logo and brand identity that better reflects the vibrancy, welcome, and mission of the congregation. OPC's new glyph will now be incorporated into our written and digital materials and external facing communications.

A full display of the new branding elements and the thinking behind them will be shown at Fellowship Hour beginning today, and there will be free stickers for all to take home, as well as magnets for purchase for \$3 each.



### *What does the glyph mean?*

The glyph serves as a symbolic representation of a stained-glass window or doorway, combining abstract elements with recognizable features. It evokes a sense of familiarity for those who have admired the beautiful windows within the Overbrook Church building.

Take a close look and you'll see a heart, an anchor and a cross—an early set of Christian symbols. The heart represents love, the anchor represents hope, and the cross represents faith.

### *Why are the colors important?*

Visionary Collective explains that color plays a pivotal role in shaping a brand's identity. The Overbrook Brand Voice is split among three complementary tones: Love, Light and Welcome. These tones are communicated through words, voice, imagery, and interactions.

Maintaining a consistent application of brand colors ensures a uniform portrayal each time the public engages with it. Over time, this consistency fosters recognition, as people associate these colors with the distinctive Overbrook brand identity. Along with primary colors, complementary colors draw inspiration from nature. Beyond their individual significance, the arrangement of colors in relation to one another is equally crucial for crafting a signature OPC look.



## Prayer List

- Prayers of consolation for Phil Sheau and the Sheau family on the death of Phil's sister, Pat Walker.
- Prayers for comfort and compassionate care for Joyce, friend of Bette Homer.
- Prayers for comfort and healing for Larry Arata who remains under medical care.
- Prayers of consolation for Michael Eastling and his family, on the death of his step-mother.
- Prayers for compassionate care and comfort for Doris McDaniel, mother of Jim McDaniel.
- Prayers for comfort and peace for Colleen Granata, mother of Brad Biedermann. .
- Prayers for comfort and peace for Barbara Lappen, mother of Mary Bear Shannon.
- Prayers for compassionate care and comfort for Hannah Baukert's mother Mary, who is receiving hospice care.
- Prayers for compassionate care and comfort for John Shackelford, brother of Kate, as he receives medical treatment following brain surgery.
- Prayers for all who are facing health challenges, especially Scott Long, Caroline Skinner, Sonya Smith, Gwen Harden, Ed Harvey, Aqueelah Folwell, Stephanie Stokes, Milton Stokes, Natalie DeShields, Bill Long, and Jean Long.
- Prayers of gratitude for all who have supported Overbrook during our time of relocation.

*Please contact Bill Baker (wbaklava@aol.com) or Sharon Parker (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) to add names to the prayer list.*

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## OPC SESSION MEMBERS:

Adam Hearlson, Moderator

Raelyn Harman, Clerk of Session; Stephanie Morris, Treasurer

\*\* indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Herb Brabham**	Elizabeth Cosgriff**	Artia Benjamin
Elizabeth Mendoza**	Bob Harden, Jr. **	Joseph Blair
Brian Taussig-Lux	Linda Huff-Paul**	Keedra Carroll**
Christoph Von Andreae	Corinna Bowser	Solomon Hunter**
Mimi Winkler	Cheryl Davis	Nathalie May**

## OPC DEACONS:

Bill Baker, Moderator, Board of Deacons

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; Mary Lou Ryce, Secretary

\*\* indicates second consecutive term/\* indicates one year term

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Gloria Brabham	Dela Geraldo	Denise Stewart
Nancy Gilhool**	Sharon Elwell	Miriam Harden**
Mike Rottinger	Bill Baker**	Hannah Lazo*
Mary Lou Ryce**	Bob Kaercher**	Leah Mayne**
Sabrina Johnson	Philip Brown	Jason Sheau**

## **OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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[www.overbrookpresb.org](http://www.overbrookpresb.org)

*The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson - Pastor*

*The Rev. David McMillan - Pastor Emeritus*

*Dr. Christopher Gage - Director of Music*

*Anthony M. Carrella - Director of Children and Family Ministry*

*Sharon Parker - Parish Care Associate*

*Lisa Faso - Office Manager*

*Carol Rozmiarek - Financial Secretary*

*Leonard Robbins - Church Custodian*

*The Overbrook Quartet:*

*Iris Fairfax, soprano; Allison Chang, alto;*

*Toffer Mihalka, tenor; Matthew Lulofs, bass*

*“Overbrook Presbyterian Church actively seeks to worship God, serving each other and the world through a welcoming, loving, and inclusive ministry.”*

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