

Overbrook  
Presbyterian Church



3rd Sunday of Advent  
Sunday, December 11, 2016  
10:30 a.m.

*Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare for worship and remember to silence all cell phones before the service.*

## GATHERING IN

PRELUDE: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (Two Settings) Sharon Elery Rogers  
Johannes Brahms

INTROIT Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming Michael Praetorius

### ❖CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the oppressed.

MANY: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

ALL: Let us worship our God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Terri & Solomon Hunter

❖HYMN No. 94 Now the Heavens Start to Whisper JEFFERSON

GREETING *Dr. Mann*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, Gracious God, that we have not always turned to you for guidance. At times, we have allowed the world's time to dominate your time. Forgive us for our sins of hurriedness and impatience. Forgive us when we have slumbered instead of remaining alert, waiting and watching for you. Forgive us for allowing the world's fears to become our fears. Shine upon us this Advent season so that we may be restored unto you. Guide us into your time. As we call upon your name, hear our prayers and give us life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

### SILENT CONFESSION

KYRIE (*See Insert*) Malcom Archer

### PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn No. 587, Alleluia! Fintan O'Carroll

# HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

Page 595  
Pew Bible

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

**O Comfort, Now My People**

Thomas Pavlechko

*The Overbrook Choir*

O comfort, comfort now my people, says the Lord, your God.  
Speak gently to Jerusalem and cry unto her.  
Her warfare is accomplished, her penalty is paid.  
A voice cries in the wilderness, "Prepare ye the way!"  
So every valley shall be raised, all mountains, hills made low.  
As desert flowers rejoice and praise, and springs of water flow;  
Uneven ground, a level field, rough lands become a plain;  
The glory of the Lord revealed, God's children see again.  
All humankind is grass and reeds, like flowers of the field;  
They wither at the gentlest breeze, their feeble lives to yield.  
Yet eyes are opened, ears unstopped, the lame leap like a deer,  
and speechless tongues all sing for joy, the weak no longer fear.  
For waters in the wild break forth, the desert flows with streams;  
the burning sand becomes a pool, the thirsty ground, a spring.  
Their highway is the holy way God's chosen walk along;  
the ransomed of the Lord return with gladness, joy, and song.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

*Dr. Mann*

*(Following Time With Children, students in Pre-K through Grade 2 will depart for Sunday School)*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 1:1-17

Page 1  
Pew Bible

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Whoever Would Have Guessed”

*Dr. Mann*

❖ HYMN No. 99

**My Soul Gives Glory to my God** MORNING SONG

*(During the Sermon Hymn, students in Grades 3-12 will depart for Sunday School)*

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from the Apostle's Creed*

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; where he sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence 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.

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

*Dr. Mann*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

*debtors/debtors*

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Magnificat

Randall Thompson

*Iris Fairfax, Soprano - (The Nativity According to St. Luke)*

❖ DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 607

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN NO. 105

People, Look East

BESANCON

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ CHORAL RESPONSE

SevenFold Amen

John Stainer

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

POSTLUDE:

Trumpet Tune for Advent

Daniel Read

# Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church

We are glad you are worshipping with us this morning!

## Notes on Today's Service

If you are a visitor, we invite you to fill out a card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

### Leading Worship Today:

The Rev. Dr. Andrew H. Mann, Jr. - Interim Minister  
Lay Leader: Andrea Knight, Acolyte: Lucy Duckworth  
The Overbrook Choir  
Minister of Music: Dennis Elwell  
Iris Fairfax-Soprano

## The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God...

by Max and ZeeAnn Mason in memory of Max M. Mason, Jr.

### Childcare -

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

### Ushers:

Max Mason, Ken Carroll, John Mason, Mary Scott, Jason Sheau  
Alan Sigler, Nickie Stokes and Adepeju Adebajo.

### Deacons Delivering Flowers:

Carol Tulba & Davorka Sabljak

❖ Stand as you are able.

### Worship Kits For Children-

Are available at the front entrance to the Sanctuary.

### 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 Coffee Hour in the Wistar Morris Room. We thank Kevin and Kristan Davis for hosting today. If you would like to host an upcoming coffee hour, please sign up now on the sign-up board in the Wistar-Morris Room. Contact Amarilis Stricker at 484-343-0679 with questions.



The Overbrook Quartet

Iris Fairfax  
*Soprano*

Lois Randel  
*Mezzo-Soprano*

Toffer Mihalka  
*Tenor*

Matthew Lulofs  
*Bass*

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**The Rev. Dr. Andrew H. Mann, Jr.** - *Interim Minister*

**The Rev. David McMillan** - *Pastor Emeritus*

**Dennis Elwell** - *Minister of Music*

**Margene Biedermann-Jr.** - *Choir Director*

**Earlene Ford** - *Financial Secretary*

**Lisa Faso** - *Office Manager*

**Leonard Robbins** - *Church Custodian*

Kyrie Malcolm Archer

## This Week at Overbrook Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 11	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour
	11: 30 a.m.	Special Congregational Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	Mission and Outreach
Sunday, December 18	9:15 a.m.	Adult Forum
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour
	12:00 p.m.	Annual College Luncheon

☞ Bible Study Gospel of Luke- Come join us on Wednesday, December 14th @ 10:30a.m.

☞ Christmas poinsettia sign up is now in the Wistar Morris Room, sign up any time for your Christmas plant donation. Pay what you wish.

☞ FORUM: December 18th, Sharon Parker facilitates a time of shared treasured memories of Christmas past, present joys and future visions. Coming to reflect about our Christmas memories are like small treasures of life

☞ Staff Office: Please be aware that the staff office will be closed from 11:45-2pm on Tuesday, December 13th so that the staff can enjoy a Christmas luncheon with each other.

☞ **Hanging of the Greens, Saturday, December 17:** Please join in the fellowship and festivities as we prepare the sanctuary for Christmas. The annual Hanging of the Greens will be held on Saturday, December 17, at 3:00 PM. in Fellowship Hall. Come decorate wreaths and trees, and help string the lights and garland. As you are able, please bring cut greens to brighten our pews and window sills. All ages are welcome; special activities are planned in the Chapel for young children. A light soup supper will be provided (Drew Mann is the Chef!) at 5:00 PM, followed by Christmas caroling at Saunders House. There is a sign up sheet in the Wistar Morris Room. Contact Jill Van Rawley ([jill.vanrawley@gmail.com](mailto:jill.vanrawley@gmail.com)) to sign-up for the "Greening Team" or visit the sign up sheet in the Wistar Morris room after worship.

☞ **OPC Traditional Christmas Eve Dinner and Gingerbread House Decorating**

Everyone is invited to enjoy a simple meal served between the Family Service at 5:00 pm and Service of Lessons and Carols at 9:00 pm on Christmas Eve. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Wistar Morris Room so we can plan for an approximate number of attendees. This is one night during the hectic season that you don't have to cook dinner! There is no charge for the meal but we do take a free will offering to cover expenses. Volunteers are needed to set-up, serve, shop and clean-up and/or contribute cookies for dessert. An online sign-up sheet has been sent via OPC Listserve.

Gingerbread houses will be ready to be decorated after dinner. **Please note a correction from last week's announcement, there will be no cost for this event, just a free will donation.** Please sign up by December 14th in the Wistar Morris Room or using the online sign up sheet that has been sent via OPC Listserve.

For questions on the meal, please contact Judy Williamson at [judymwill@gmail.com](mailto:judymwill@gmail.com) or 610-687-6761. For questions on the gingerbread houses, please contact Artia Benjamin at [newlife5125@aol.com](mailto:newlife5125@aol.com). Thank you

☞ **Special Congregational Meeting**-immediately following worship today. Please see the nominating committee report below.

☞ **2016 Congregational Meeting-Nominating Committee Report**

The following members are to be considered for Elder:

**Class of 2019:**

To be installed a second term:

Jeffery Bowker, Raelyn Harman, Kate Shackelford

To be installed a first term:

Eileen Wiggins, Deborah Rottinger

The following members are to be considered for Deacon:

**Class of 2019:**

To serve a second term:

Michael Rottinger, Angie Goodall

To serve a first term:

Nickie Stokes, Suchita Fiorillo, Artia Benjamin

The following are to be considered for **Members at Large** positions on 2017 nominating committee:

Elizabeth Mendoza, Kenneth Carroll, Becky Lazo, Olga Hoggard, Solomon Hunter (as alternate)