
Overbrook Presbyterian Church



Worship Service
Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2018
10:30 a.m.

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. Raymond Bonwell
Lay Leader: Bob Bevan; Acolyte: Everett Whalen
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music
The Overbrook Junior Choir

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God
by Adepeju Adebajo in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Delapo, Tinuade,
Alaba Adebajo.

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.

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.

Ushers:

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

Opener/Closer:
Buck Scott

Deacons Delivering Flowers:
Artia Benjamin and Ellen Valudes

Following worship today, please join us for refreshments
in the Wistar Morris Room. We would like to thank Mimi Winkler and
Laurie Geers for today's coffee hour. All are welcome!

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

❖=Stand as you are able.

GATHERING IN

PRELUDE

Gottes Sohn ist kommen

J. G. Walther
(1684-1748)

INTROIT

Light One Candle
The Overbrook Junior Choir

Natalie Sleeth
(1930-1992)

❖CALL TO WORSHIP-*from Isaiah 12*

One: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,

Many: for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
the Lord has become my salvation.

One: And you will say in that day:

Many: Give thanks to the Lord, call on the Lord's name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the nations;

All: Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

❖HYMN No. 83

STUTTGART

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

GREETING

The Rev. Raymond Bonwell

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT

CANDLE

Greta Ham and Mary Lou Ryce

RESPONSE: Hymn No. 88

VENI EMMANUEL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(Verses 5 and 6)

SERMON

The Rev. Raymond Bonwell

“Shout, Shout, Let It All Out!”

(Following the Sermon, students in Grades 3-12 will depart for Sunday School.)

❖ HYMN No. 163

ABERYSTWYTH

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH-*(Heidelberg Catechism 4.083-4.084)*

What are the keys of the kingdom?

The preaching of the holy gospel
and Christian discipline toward repentance.

Both of them

open the kingdom of heaven to believers
and close it to unbelievers.

How does preaching the holy gospel open and close the kingdom of heaven?

According to the command of Christ:

The kingdom of heaven is opened

by proclaiming and publicly declaring

to all believers, each and every one, that,
as often as they accept the gospel promise in true faith,
God, because of Christ's merit,
truly forgives all their sins.

The kingdom of heaven is closed, however,

by proclaiming and publicly declaring

to unbelievers and hypocrites that,
as long as they do not repent,
the wrath of God and eternal condemnation
rest on them.

God's judgment, both in this life and in the life to come,
is based on this gospel testimony.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CELEBRATIONS, CONCERNS, AND WELCOME *The Rev. Raymond Bonwell*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER-*Debts/Debtors*

Page 35, *Glory to God Hymnal*

SHARING OF PEACE (*"The peace of Christ be with you," "And also with you"*)

OFFERING

Rejoice in the Lord always
The Overbrook Choir

Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)

❖DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 607

❖PRAYER OF DEDICATION

❖HYMN (on next page)

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

❖BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH

❖CHORAL RESPONSE

I waited patiently for the Lord

Eric Thiman
(1900-1975)

POSTLUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

This called congregational meeting is for the sole purpose of receiving the report of the Nominating Committee, consisting of elders, deacons, and the 2019 Nominating Committee. The meeting was announced in the December newsletter, the Dec. 2, 9, 16 bulletins (and also mentioned from the pulpit on those dates). Congregational meetings are moderated by the pastor, and only members of the congregation are entitled to vote. All members of the community are welcome to attend.

Call to Order – R. Bonwell

Declaration of Quorum – S. Davis

Report of the Nominating Committee – W. Schick

Presentation of the Slate of Nominees

Nominations from the Floor

Closing of Nominations

Election

Closing Prayer

1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that we may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and na - tion and blind - ness to your way,
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray!
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Another harmonization, 68.

Words: William Watkins Reid, Jr. (b. 1923), alt.

Music: *Llangloffen*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865;
 harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

$\text{♩} = 60$
 76. 76. D

Words: Copyright © 1958 by The Hymn Society of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

This Week at Overbrook Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 16	11:30 a.m.	Congregational Meeting followed by Coffee Hour
Monday, December 17	5:15 p.m.	Junior Choir-Choir Room
Wednesday, December 19	10:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	7:30 p.m.	Mission & Outreach Committee
Thursday, December 20	6:15 p.m.	Handbell Choir-Bell Room (2 nd fl.)
	7:30 p.m.	Overbrook Choir-Choir Room
Friday, December 21	7:00 p.m.	Longest Night Service
Saturday, December 22	10:00 a.m.	Hanging of Greens/Caroling
Sunday, December 23	9:15 a.m.	Adult Forum
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour

The cover artwork, painted by Blasco de Grañén (1400-1459), is a depiction of St. Martin of Tours. While Martin was a soldier in the Roman army, he cut his cloak in half to share with a beggar; that night, he dreamed that Jesus himself had been clothed with that garment. This legend recalls John the Baptist's words, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none," and encourages us to see Christ in all people.

☞ Looking Ahead: Adult Christian Education

Wednesday, Dec. 19, 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study – Jonah! (Chapter 4, one of Pastor Raymond's favorite passages in Scripture.) More than 20 people have participated as we reflect upon this story that is so much more than "a whale of a tale." And you can too!

Sunday, Dec. 23, 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum – What is so special about Christmas?

☞ Looking Ahead: OPC Happenings

Today, December 16

Special Congregational Meeting, immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting will be to receive the report of the Nominating Committee posting their slate of nominees for Elder (Class of 2022), Deacon (Class of 2022), and 2019 Nominating Committee. Since it is a Special Congregational Meeting, no other business may be conducted except the business at hand.

Comfort Cases are still available. If you missed the chance to pick up your duffle bag to support children transitioning into or out of foster care from the Village, the bags will be available today at Coffee Hour, with more instructions provided. Please contact Nancy Gilhool with any questions.

Friday, December 21

Service of the Longest Night, 7:00 p.m. The excitement of the holidays can also bring challenges for each of us; the stresses and strains of preparation and celebrations can take their toll. Many people find that they have trouble feeling “in the spirit” because of the loss of a loved one, illness, an unsettling workplace environment, marital discord, or lingering sadness. Recognizing the emotional unevenness of the holidays, we will continue the practice of gathering in worship for The Service of the Longest Night. The service is so named because of its occurrence on the winter solstice, the longest night of the year. At this time of darkness, we will gather in worship, asking God’s blessing on our lives and seeking His loving guidance in our lives. May peace be a gift to all.

Saturday, December 22

Hanging of the Greens, 10:00 a.m.-1 p.m. All are welcome to participate in this annual event and help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas! There will be special craft activities for children in the Chapel, and they will be invited to decorate the tree in the Wistar Morris Room. We will serve a chili lunch or all who participate. For those who would like to continue the festivities, Simpson House welcomes us to come caroling at 1:30 p.m. Please sign up in the Wistar Morris Room.

Sunday, December 23

Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. Join us next Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Advent, to hear the Word from Micah 5:2-5a, and Luke 1:39-45. The sermon title is “Laboring Forth!”

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve Family Service, Dinner, and Gingerbread House Decorating, 5:00 p.m. This evening is a longtime OPC tradition. After the service, we will serve a simple supper of sandwiches, soup, veggie sticks, and cookies—giving the cooks in your home a much-needed break from the hectic holiday schedule (a free-will offering will be collected). Gingerbread houses will be ready for decorating at 7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is available online and during coffee hour for donations, set-up and clean-up. Any families who are interested in the Gingerbread House Decorating are asked to email office@overbrookpresb.org to reserve a house. Everyone is welcome.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 9:00 p.m. This traditional service presents lessons and carols to celebrate the birth of Christ. The Overbrook Quartet, along with organist Christopher Gage, will present a half-hour of Christmas preludes beginning at 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 30

Pre-College (11th and 12th grade) and College Students' Lunch and Conversation, 12:30 pm. If you are home for winter break, come and meet up with other students—some already in college, and some just looking forward to beginning the experience.. Share your stories or just enjoy the lunch. Check our church website, <http://www.overbrookpresb.org/>, for more information. If you can attend, please let Artia Benjamin know by text at 215-266-8758 or by email at newlife5125@gmail.com. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Saturday, January 5, 2019

OPC Youth New Year's Celebration-5:00-8:00pm. Come celebrate the start of the new year with dinner, games, and a movie! We will be celebrating in the newly “refurbished” Youth Room!

Sunday, January 6, 2019

“The Art of Advent: seven centuries of great sacred art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art” tour. All are welcome to join our very own Peter Seidel, art teacher and Overbrook member, on this tour of the art museum. We will gather on the second-floor balcony of the Great Hall in the Philadelphia Museum of Art at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the museum is “pay as you wish.”

New Start for Sunday School: 9:30-10:15 a.m. 2019 brings a new curriculum, a new year, and a new time for Sunday School! Starting on January 6, Sunday School classes for students in Pre-K through Grade 12 will be held each Sunday from 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Coffee Hour Hosts are needed for December: 23rd and 30th. Instructions for coffee hour are available on the OPC web site and in the church kitchen (on the microwave). For more information, please contact Raelyn Harman at 610-331-8972 or Artia Benjamin. Thank you!

Just a reminder: This is the last week to sign up for the Christmas poinsettias. The sign-up sheet is in the Wistar Morris Room. Pay what you wish; monies can be dropped off at or mailed to the Church Office.

PNC Committee Process Update: The Overbrook Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) has started its work. Throughout October and November, the PNC met with the Presbytery and updated Overbrook's pastoral candidate requirements (with the approval of Session). Additionally, the PNC reviewed candidate materials and conducted initial interviews of pastoral candidates provided by the Presbytery. We have evaluated the information gathered during this interviewing process. Currently, we are inviting chosen candidates for second-round interviews. Please pray for us as we continue our charge of evaluating and proposing a pastoral candidate who we believe will faithfully serve the needs of our church family.

Sermon Notes

Prayer List

- ◆ We pray for Larry McGhee and his family, following the passing of his mother, Cecelia McGhee.
- ◆ We pray for Dela Geraldo and her husband, Serge, following the passing of her mother, Lucie Gumedzo.
- ◆ Ernestine Harris, mother in law of Lynn Pompa, is undergoing several cardiac procedures.
- ◆ Dick Williamson is undergoing medical testing.
- ◆ Luis Wong is now in the Salvation Army Rehab center in Roxborough.
- ◆ The Rev. David McMillan is recovering from knee surgery.
- ◆ Terri Carter's is home recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- ◆ Wayne Gage, Chris Gage's father, is recovering from a heart procedure.
- ◆ Jessica Canning, a friend of Eileen Wiggins, is in hospice following brain surgery.
- ◆ We offer prayers of thanksgiving for Christopher, Peggy Boatwright's grandson, who has now returned to his elementary school.
- ◆ John Nathaniel is still recovering from a stroke.
- ◆ Ellen Burr is experiencing ongoing medical concerns.

Please contact Mike Rottinger for any pastoral concerns or to add names to the prayer list. Mike can be reached by email (mike.rottinger@comcast.net). You can also leave a message with the Church Office.

Meet your Nominees

Your OPC Nominating Committee is pleased to announce a slate of nominees for Elder, Deacon and the 2019 Nominating Committee. Members will vote at the called congregational meeting [today](#) immediately following the service.

After prayerful consideration of the many names submitted to the committee, we are confident that we have chosen nine members who are persons of strong faith and dedicated discipleship and demonstrate in their lives a love of Jesus Christ as Savior. These candidates together also reflect our diversity.

Nominees for Elder:



Lainie Blodgett has been a member of OPC since 2012. She has served on the Finance Committee, volunteered at NCT performances, and been an enthusiastic host of coffee hour. Lainie has worked in the consulting industry for fifteen years, specializing in governance and operations. She also serves on the Board of the Scleroderma Foundation of the Delaware Valley. Lainie lives in Gladwyne with her husband Keith and son Asa.



Herbert Brabham and wife Gloria have been attending Overbrook for five years and became OPC members in the summer of 2018. Herbert served as a chaperone on a Youth Mission Trip. He has enjoyed volunteering with Broad Street Ministries, Rebuilding Together, and YMWIC—testimony of his passion for giving back to the community. They reside in Lansdowne, Delaware County. He has over thirty years in the Information Technology profession.



LJ McGhee is a Realtor. LJ (Larry) has been an OPC member since 2012 and previously attended Tenth Presbyterian for over 15 years. Larry has served with The Matthew 25:35 Project, Board of Deacons, and OPC Property Committee. Larry and his wife Andrea reside in Wynnefield, and they have three children and eight grandchildren.



Elizabeth Mendoza, resident of Havertown, is a professional cellist and has been a member at Overbrook Presbyterian for about 13 years. She served for six years as Moderator of the Board of Deacons, has served on the Christian Ed. Committee, and recently joined the New Members Committee. She was also on the PNC that brought in Wallace Bubar and chaired the Music Director Search Committee. One of her greatest joys has been sharing her

music in church, joining forces with our fabulous choir on occasion. She is married to Ruben Mendoza, a professor at SJU. Their daughter Maya, a high school senior, was confirmed at OPC five years ago.



Richard B. Owens, a lifelong Presbyterian, has been a member of Overbrook for over 30 years. He and his late wife, Barbara, joined the church in 1984. He resides in Wynnewood, where he has lived for 38 years. Before he came to Overbrook, he was a member of the First African Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia and that is where he

was first ordained as an Elder. He has previously served on Session at OPC, and has been chair of both the Personnel Committee and the Property Committee. He was instrumental in helping to build the education wing at OPC, and he and his wife Barbara co-chaired the church's Centennial Celebration. He also served as Secretary of the Church Relations of the Presbytery. He has practiced real estate for most of his life and continues to work in this field. His career has included teaching real estate for over 25 years, as well as being a consultant to the School District of Philadelphia, the Law Department of Philadelphia, and the Women of the Vietnam War. He loved traveling with his wife and has been to all 7 continents. He now enjoys spending time with his two sons and traveling to Georgia to see his two grandchildren.

Nominees for Deacon



Nancy Elmore, a resident of Ardmore, began attending OPC in February at the suggestion of former interim pastor Helen Nablo; she joined the church in April. She was instrumental in creating the new Photo Directory and is also an active member on the Communications and Congregational Life Committees. Nancy has two adult children, Alex and Nina, and five grandchildren. She recently retired from a thirty-two-year career with the US Department of Health & Human Services, where she served as the senior manager for Head Start programs in the mid-Atlantic states.



Nancy Gilhool has been a member of OPC for over 35 years. She has served as a Deacon and Elder, has chaired the Preschool Committee, and currently is a member of the Mission and Outreach Committee. Five times a year, she heads up the OPC crew that cooks and serves for the Life Center of Greater Delaware County. In her free time, she enjoys reading, quilting, and having lunch with friends.



Mary Lou Ryce lives in Lansdowne. She retired six years ago to western Massachusetts after a career in Baltimore, Maryland, as an underwriting attorney. She moved to the area last fall to be closer to her daughter, Greta Ham, and started attending OPC, joining in the spring. A love of hand crafts has helped her serve the congregations where she has been a member. She taught lap loom weaving to Honduran women on seven mission trips with Towson (Maryland) Presbyterian Church, where she also served as an Elder and chair of Adult Ministries. At Stockbridge (Massachusetts) Congregational Church, she belonged to the prayer shawl ministry and worked on activities such as crafts for VBS and Sunday School cookie decorating, delivering the cookies to shut-ins at Christmastime. In Massachusetts, she also served on the committee for Adult Education and then Mission and Action. She is very encouraged by the support Overbrook has given the new prayer shawl ministry and looks forward to more opportunities to serve God with the church.

Nominees for 2019 Nominating Committee



Jason Duckworth resides in Center City. He is a real estate developer that specializes in walkable communities. His involvement at OPC includes serving on the Property Committee for 5 years and teaching grade 5-6 Sunday School for four years. Jason joined OPC in 2008. His family includes his wife Angela and two daughters, Amanda and Lucy.



Sabrina Johnson is originally from the West Oak Lane section of Philadelphia. She graduated from Penn State University in 2005 with a B.S. in Human Development and Family Studies with a minor in American Studies. Sabrina has 12 years' experience working in admissions and recruitment for technical schools. Sabrina has been a member of OPC since 2014 and is currently serving her second term as a Deacon. Sabrina is on the Christian Education Committee and is a Sunday School teacher for 1st & 2nd graders. Sabrina and her daughter Julianna live in Narberth.



Raelyn Harman, Chair has been a member of OPC since 1995. Next year will be the last year of her second term as an Elder on Session. Raelyn Co-Chairs the Congregational Life Committee with Artia Benjamin, is a member of the Personnel Committee and served as the Vice-Chairperson of this year's Nominating Committee. She will be a Session representative on next year's Nominating Committee and the Chairperson.

Raelyn is the Church and Preschool Administrator at Ardmore Presbyterian Church. She is married to Gopal Subramanian and they have two children in college, Peter and Maya.



Mike Rottinger lives with wife Deborah in Wynnewood. He is an embedded firmware engineer, with Ellenby Technologies Inc. in Woodbury Heights, NJ for over 20 years. Mike has been a member of Overbrook Church for over 25 years. He has served Overbrook as an elder and as a deacon and has been active in Mission and Outreach. He chaired the PNC which called pastor Wallace Bubar to OPC. Mike has always felt that he receives so much more from this community than he could ever give.



Davorka Sabljak lives in Philadelphia and has been a member for ten years. She has served on Board of Deacons, on the Christian Education and Stewardship Committees, as an usher, as a lay leader, and as a key member of the Taste of Overbrook team. She joins the 2019 Nominating Committee because her background in HR/personnel helps her detect talents and abilities among our membership. She wants to best utilize the talents and interests of both new and long-term members.

OPC SESSION MEMBERS:

Sara Davis, Clerk of Session ,
Kate Shackelford & Stephanie Morris, Co-Treasurers

Jeff Bowker, Rachel Carnahan, Edelene Carroll, Kevin Davis, Raelyn Harman,
Anil “Bob” Kothari, Becky Lazo, Deborah Rottinger, Jane Rozmiarek,
Kate Shackelford, Aimerie Scherluebbe, Will Schick, Sean Whalen,
Eileen Wiggins and Karen Wong.

OPC DEACONS:

Mike Rottinger, Moderator-Board of Deacons,
Brad Biedermann, Treasurer, Jill Van Rawley, Secretary
Adepeju Adebajo, Artia Benjamin, Brad Biedermann, Suchita Fiorillo, Angie
Goodall, Terri Hunter, Sabrina Johnson, Stephanie Morris, Davorka Sabljak,
Alan Sigler, Nickie Stokes, Carol Tulba, and Ellen Valudes.

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Phone: 215-877-2744 Email: office@overbrookpresb.org

www.overbrookpresb.org

The Rev. David McMillan - *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. Christopher Gage - *Director of Music*

Sharon Parker - *Director of Christian Education*

Lisa Faso - *Office Manager*

Carol Rozmiarek - *Financial Secretary*

Leonard Robbins - *Church Custodian*

The Overbrook Quartet

Iris Fairfax, *soprano*; Molly McDonald, *alto*;

Toffer Mihalka, *tenor*; Matthew Lulofs, *bass*

***Overbrook Presbyterian Church
is a welcoming and diverse Christian community
that actively seeks to love and serve God,
each other and the world.***
