
Overbrook Presbyterian Church



Worship Service
Christmas Eve
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 24, 2017
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.*

❖=Stand as you are able.

GATHERING IN

PRELUDES

Savior of the Nations, Come Paul Manz
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland Dieterich Buxtehude

INTROIT

Hymn No. 88, **O come, O Come, Emmanuel** VENI EMMANUEL
verses 5, 6, and 7

❖CALL TO WORSHIP (*Micah 5, Luke 1*)

Leader: God has done great things for us!

People: God's love is heralded in the promise of Christ.

Leader: Holy is God's name!

People: God's promises are fulfilled in the coming of Christ.

Leader: God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

People: God's salvation is offered in the gift of Christ.

❖HYMN No. 102

Savior of the Nations, Come NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Buck and Mary Elizabeth Scott

GREETING

Pastor Carolyn Gillette

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our
lives: The fear that stifles us,

The prejudice that blinds us, the ignorance that hobbles us,

The doubt that plagues us.

Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in an unlikely place,

See the world with new and gracious eyes,

Move to those places where love is needed,

Have faith that you are with us.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

❖HYMN No. 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING Luke 1:46b-55 Page 53/pew Bible
The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

TIME WITH CHILDREN *Pastor Bruce Gillette*
(All children are welcomed to remain in worship. Should parents so wish, children in PreK through Grade 2 may gather in the Nursery following Time with Children.)

ANTHEM

Magnificat from *Short Service* Orlando Gibbons
The Overbrook Choir

GOSPEL READING Luke 2:8-14 Page 54/pew Bible
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Two Songs That Center Us” Pastor Carolyn Gillette

❖HYMN No. 139

That Boy-Child of Mary BLANTYRE

❖AFFIRMATION OF FAITH- *The 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

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

Pastor Carolyn Gillette

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

"Glory to God" from *Messiah*
The Overbrook Choir

G. F. Handel

❖ DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 607

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

❖ HYMN NO. 105

People, Look East

BESANCON

SENDING FORTH

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ CHORAL RESPONSE

Our soul waiteth for the Lord

Eric Thiman

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

POSTLUDE

Excerpt from *Magnificat primi toni*

Dieterich Buxtehude



Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church

We are glad you are worshiping 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. Our pastors would welcome talking with you after today's worship service or in the future.

Leading Worship Today:

The Revs. Bruce and Carolyn Gillette - Co-Pastors
Lay Leader: Jill Van Rawley, Acolyte: Hannah Lazo
The Overbrook Choir
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music

Today's bulletin cover was drawn by Zubin Fiorillo.

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God
by Gail Kaercher and family in memory of Fred Kaercher.

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:

Robert Harden, Jr., Davorka Sabljak, Aimerie Scherluebbe,
Will Schick, Trudy Sheau, Kevin Trindade, and Kevin Davis

Deacons Delivering Flowers:

Terri Hunter and Brad Biedermann

Following worship today - please join us for refreshments in the Wistar Morris Room. 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.

This Week at Overbrook Presbyterian Church

Sunday. Dec 24 th	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour
	4:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Family Service followed by Dinner and Gingerbread House (NOTE NEW TIME)
	9:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Wednesday. Dec 27 th	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Sunday. Dec 31 st	9:15 a.m.	Adult Forum
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour

☞Reminder: There will be no Sunday School or Confirmation Class this Sunday or next Sunday December 31st.



☞Tonight Christmas Eve Family Service, Dinner & Gingerbread House Decorating Immediately after the 4:00 p.m. Family Service on Christmas Eve, we will be serving a simple supper of sandwiches, soup, veggie sticks and cookies. Gingerbread houses will be ready for decorating at 6:00 p.m. **PLEASE NOTE NEW TIMES.** This evening's plans are a long-time OPC tradition. Serving a simple meal (we will be collecting a free will donation) helps the cooks in your home get a much-needed break from the hectic holiday schedule. Grown OPC "children" come back year after year for the gingerbread house decorating.. Everyone is welcome. The Christmas Eve candlelight service will follow later in the evening at 9:00 p.m

☞Wednesday Bible Study- Starting this Wednesday, Dec. 27th, we will resume our Wednesday morning Bible study at 10:30am. This week Bible study will be led by Pastor Bruce. He will be teaching on the following Sunday's lectionary reading, Luke 2:22-40, December 31st.



✚ Join Us Next Sunday, December 31st for a Service of Healing and Wholeness! Please join us in the front of our sanctuary for Service for Healing and Wholeness. Do you need healing in your life? Then join us after worship service for a special time of prayer for individuals.



✚ Sunday Forum on December 31: Ideas for a Healthier New Year: Join us next Sunday, December 31, at 9:15 a.m. in the McMillan Chapel for a discussion of adult vaccination and other

ways we can practice preventive health in the New Year. The discussion will be led by Amy J. Behrman, MD, Director of Occupational Medicine Services and Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and an Overbrook Presbyterian Church member.

✚ Sunday Forum on January 7: Growing in the Christian Faith in 2018-Join us on the first Sunday of the New Year, January 7, at 9:15 a.m. in the McMillan Chapel for a presentation and discussion on different spiritual ways that individuals can grow in faith in the New Year. Our discussion leader will be Sharon Kraybill, a graduate of Eastern Baptist Seminary (now Palmer Seminary) and spiritual director who has been using space at Overbrook Presbyterian Church for nine years



Everyone is invited to come join Peter Seidel, art teacher and Overbrook member, to consider the reason for the season! On January 7th, come join Peter Seidel from 1:30-3:00pm for “The Art of Christmas Season Seven Centuries of Sacred Art at the Philadelphia”. Everyone is to gather on the 2nd floor balcony in the Great Hall of the Philadelphia Art Museum at 1:30pm. The cost is “Pay what you wish” Sunday at the museum. There is plenty of parking at the museum or member can carpool from the church right after service.



✚ From the Finance Office: We are looking forward to receiving your generous year-end gifts (pledges or other contributions) but please aware that the IRS will not allow a donation to be counted in 2017 unless we have it in hand by December 31st, or if mailed, it must be postmarked by December 31st. To confirm your pledge balance please contact Carol Rozmiarek by email (carol@overbrookpresb.org) or by calling the church office. If you have not already paid Apportionment this year (per capita is \$28 per member,) please do so now. Thank you!

The Christmas flowers are given...

- ◆ In memory of Sue Wilson, Dick, Wilson and Ann Behrman by The Behrman-Wilson Families
- ◆ In honor of William by Lois Randel
- ◆ In memory of Mary Vandenberg by Ted and Pat Dillon
- ◆ In memory of our grandparents and parents by Peg and Bob Kaercher (Brett & Austin)
- ◆ In memory of grandparents by Cherriel Gentles
- ◆ In memory of her mother and father: Margaret and Eugene Biedermann by Margene and Brad Biedermann
- ◆ In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Adebajo, her parents, by Adepeju M. Adebajo
- ◆ In memory of Frances Louie, my mom by Trudy Sheau
- ◆ In memory of Oliver and Amil by Emil Nunez
- ◆ In memory of Binnie Savage, Joan Taubel and May Vandenberg by Kate Schackelford
- ◆ In memorium by Ellen Burr
- ◆ In memory of Jane and Charles S. Krumrine by Jane Krumrine
- ◆ In memory of Jessamine and Erdmann Brandt by Susy Brandt
- ◆ In memory of our families by Mary Elizabeth and Buck Scott
- ◆ In memory of Louise Gillette and David O. Winfrey by Bruce and Carolyn Gillette
- ◆ In memory of parents and grandparents by Sharon Parker
- ◆ In memory of parents, grandparents; husband and brother by Rachel and Lillian Carnahan and Jeremy Blatchely.
- ◆ In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Dolapo, Tinuade, Alaba Adebajo by Adepeju Adebajo.
- ◆ In memory of our parents and brother Phil by Emily Amerman and Jim Vagnoni.
- ◆ In memory of Aunt Mary, Uncle Edward, Uncle Ernest Mobley by Artia Benjamin.
- ◆ In memory of parents by Elaine Blodgett.
- ◆ In memory of Alice Crowell by Susy Brandt and Ellen Burr.
- ◆ In memory of Virginia Campbell by Susy Brandt and Jane Krumrine.



Prayer List

- ◆ Emily Amerman and Jim Vagnoni's son Will is going through transitions
- ◆ Peter Seidel having back issues
- ◆ Dick Williamson having back issues
- ◆ Andrea Gosfield recovering from a car accident
- ◆ Lynn Pompa continuing with health issues
- ◆ Jane Bevan continuing health issues
- ◆ Ellen Burr ongoing health issues

Please contact Pastors Bruce or Carolyn to add names or concerns to this list. Bruce and Carolyn can be reached by email, cell phone, or by leaving a message in the Church Office, or by speaking with one of them in person.

☛Please Remember to Sign the Prayer Cards: These cards are located on the raised table in the Wistar Morris Room. We ask all church members and friends to please sign these cards before or after worship each Sunday. "You were remembered this Sunday in the prayers of the people of the Overbrook Church in Philadelphia" is the message found on prayer cards. Please contact our pastors or church office if you would like us to send a prayer card to someone.

☛Pastoral Care & Feedback Welcome: We are grateful to people who let us know about pastoral needs in our church and community. We welcome visiting people in their homes, at work, in the hospital and at the church. We welcome the opportunity to bring home communion to anyone who would like to receive the sacrament. Please contact us by email: pastors@overbrookpresb.org, bruce@overbrookpresb.org or carolyn@overbrookpresb.org or call us (Office: 215-877-2744 or Bruce's Cell: 302-528-1796 or Carolyn's Cell: 302-528-1797) if you, or someone you know, would like a visit from an Overbrook pastor. Your ideas, feedback and prayers help us all serve better together. Please see our contact information above so we can have a conversation with you. Thank you. Pastors Bruce & Carolyn Gillette.

The Christmas Story in the Gospel of Luke

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. Luke 2:1-20 NRSV

Thank you, God, for sending your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, into the world. We need the hope, peace, love and joy that he brings. Amen.

Looking Ahead into January 2018 at OPC:

- ◆Sun. January 7th – Art Tour at Philadelphia Art Museum
- ◆Mon. January 15th – Martin Luther King Day of Service
- ◆Sun. January 21st – Feed My Starving Children Kickoff Coffee Hour
- ◆Wed. January 24th – We Care Wednesday @ Panera Bread Wynnewood
- ◆Sun. January 28th – Prepare Life Center Meal
- ◆Tues. January 30th – Deliver Life Center Meal

Martin Luther King Day of Service: January 15, 2017

All are invited to participate in a morning of service activities in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. On January 15, from 9:00-11:30 PM, Fellowship Hall, the Wistar Morris Room, the Chapel and the Kitchen will be filled with opportunities for our OPC hands to do God's work. There will be activities appropriate for all ages and skill levels. A sign up in the Wistar Morris Room will be posted soon.

WE CARE WEDNESDAYS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Can you imagine enjoying dinner out and at the same time providing a meal for a hungry child at no extra cost?! This year, the Overbrook Presbyterian Church community can enjoy a weekly meal out and contribute to one of the Church's most vital ministries – Feed My Starving Children. So get ready, mark your calendars for the third Wednesday of the month, January through April. The first “We Care Wednesday” is January 24th 2018 at the Panera Bread in Wynnewood Shopping Center on Lancaster Pike. Please join us. Flyers and more information will be coming soon!

2018 JANUARY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

OPC Session Members/Committee Members:

Sara Davis, *Clerk of Session*, *Pastors Bruce & Carolyn Gillette*, *Moderators*

Jeff Bowker, *Co-Chair-Property*, Rachel Carnahan, *Chair-Worship/Music*, Edelene Carroll, *Chair-Personnel*, Raelyn Harman, *Chair-Congregational Life*, Ron Homer, *Chair-New Members*, Anil “Bob” Kothari, *Chair-Finance*, Deborah Rottinger, Jane Rozmiarek, Kate Shackelford-*Treasurer*, Aimerie Scherluebbe, *Chair, Mission & Outreach*, Will Schick, *Chair-Stewardship*, Jason Sheau, *Chair-Christian Education*, Sean Whalen, *President, Board of Trustees*, Eileen Wiggins, and Karen Wong.

OPC Deacons:

Mike Rottinger, *Moderator-Board of Deacons*

Artia Benjamin, Brad Biedermann, Suchita Fiorillo, Angie Goodall, Terri Hunter, Sabrina Johnson, Larry McGhee, Stephanie Morris, Elienne Paul, Mike Rottinger, Davorika Sabljak, Nickie Stokes, Nicole Stokes-Robinson, Carol Tulba, and Ellen Valudes.

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6376 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151

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

www.overbrookpresb.org

The Revs. Bruce and Carolyn Gillette - *Co-Pastors*

The Rev. David McMillan - *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. Christopher Gage - *Director of Music*

Lisa Faso - *Office Manager*

Carol Rozmiarek-*Financial Secretary*

Leonard Robbins - *Church Custodian*

Every Church Member - *Minister*

The Overbrook Quartet

Iris Fairfax-*Soprano*, Lois Randel-*Mezzo-Soprano*,

Toffer Mihalka-*Tenor*, Matthew Lulofs-*Bass*