



Overbrook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship Service
July 26, 2026
10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church
We are glad you are worshiping with us this morning!

Notes on Today's Service

Leadership:

The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson, Pastor

Wanda Harris-Cooper, Pastor of Care and Youth Ministry

Raelyn Harman, Liturgist

Anthony M. Carrella, Director of Children and Family Ministry

Dr. Stanley Orr, guest organist

Iris Fairfax, soprano

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 are Available.

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

Following worship today, please join us for Fellowship Hour.
All are welcome!

Ways to Give:

Text "GIVEOPC" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply. You may also scan the QR code for giving options.

GIVING



❖=Stand as you are able

GATHERING IN

PRELUDE

❖CALL TO WORSHIP

Raelyn Harman

Leader: Come, people of God, to the place where night gives way to morning.

People: We come carrying our questions, our fears,
and our longing for blessing.

Leader: Come, for the Holy One meets us in honest struggle
and refuses to let us go.

People: We come to wrestle, to cling, to be changed,
and to receive the grace of God.

Leader: The sun rises on all who seek the face of God.

People: Let us worship the God who blesses us, names us,
and sends us forward in faith.

❖HYMN (*on next page*)

NETTLETON

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

WELCOME

Adam Hearlson

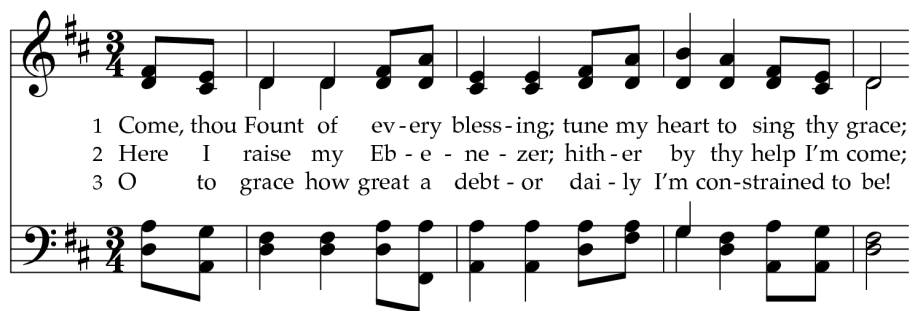
PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE (*unison*)

Raelyn Harman

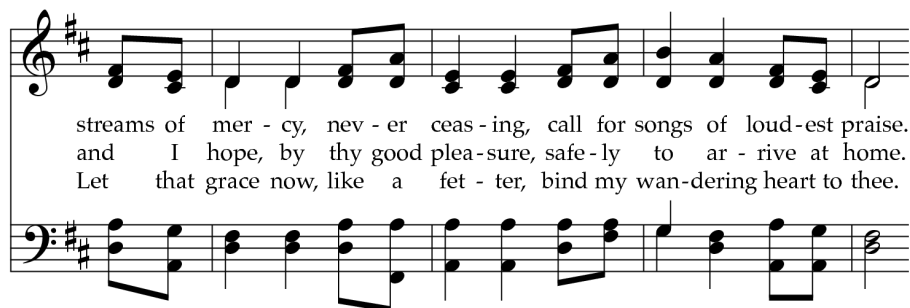
Merciful God, we confess that we often wrestle against you instead of clinging to you. We try to manage our fears, control our futures, and secure our own blessings. We carry old wounds and old patterns, yet resist the change your grace would bring. Forgive us for the ways we have deceived ourselves and others, for the times we have run from reconciliation, and for the moments we have trusted our strength more than your mercy. Meet us in the night of our struggle. Hold us until the dawn. Rename us by your love, bless us by your grace, and send us forward as people made new. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

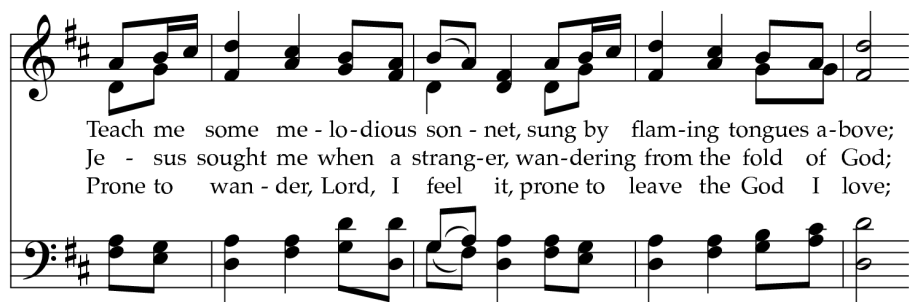
EMBRACING GOD'S GRACE



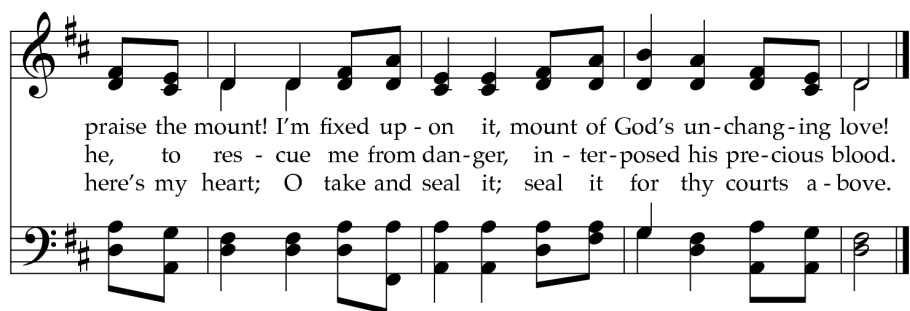
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The service continues on the previous page.

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

Psalm 17:1-7, 15

Raelyn Harman

If you would like to follow along with today's Scripture readings, Bibles are available at the back of Fellowship Hall. Kindly return them to the cart following worship.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

BIBLICAL STORYTELLING

Anthony Carrella

(Following the storytelling, children may return to their pews or proceed to the Prayerground. The nursery is also open for childcare.)

SOLO

Felix Mendelssohn,
arr. Max Spicker

Hear My Prayer
Iris Fairfax, soprano

Hear my prayer, O God, incline Thine ear!
Thy self from my petition do not hide!
Take heed to me!

Hear how in prayer I mourn to Thee!
Without Thee all is dark, I have no guide;

My heart is surely pained within my breast,
My soul with deathly terror is oppressed,
Trembling and fearfulness upon me fall,
With horror overwhelmed, Lord, hear me call!

O, for the wings of a dove!
Far away would I rove!
In the wilderness build me a nest,
And remain there forever at rest.

William Bartholomew (1793-1867)

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 32:22-31

Adam Hearlson

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Adam Hearlson

“Take Me to the River”

❖ HYMN

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

Take Me to the Water



1 Take me to the wa - ter. Take me to the wa -
2 I love Je - sus. I love Je -
3 He's my Sav - ior. He's my Sav -
4 Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu -



ter. Take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.
sus. I love Je - sus, yes, I do.
ior. He's my Sav - ior, yes, he is.
jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah to be bap - tized.

❖ 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 Earlson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Adam Earlson

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Adam Earlson

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

arr. Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

At the River

Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angels' feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God.
Yes we'll gather by the river,
the beautiful, beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river
That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.
Yes we'll gather by the river...

Robert Lowry (1826-1899)

❖ 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

Raelyn Harman

Gracious God, receive these gifts and the lives they represent. You meet us in our struggle, bless us with mercy, and send us forward changed by your grace. Use what we offer to bring healing, reconciliation, and hope to your world. Teach us to give not from fear or pride, but from gratitude for the blessing we have received. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

AR HYD Y NOS

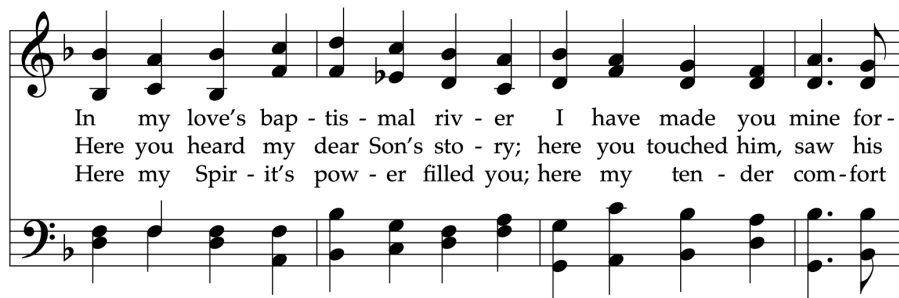
Go, My Children, with My Blessing



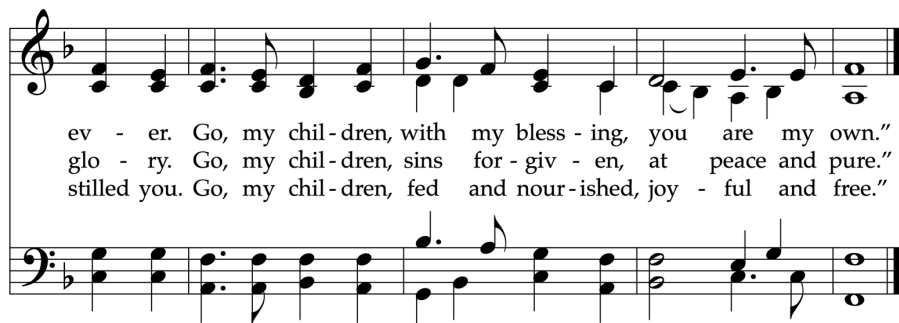
1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

❖BENEDICTION

Adam Hearlson

❖CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

HYMN No. 541, vs. 1

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE

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

Sunday, July 26	<u>10:30 A.M.</u> – Worship Service 11:45 A.M. – Fellowship Hour
Tuesday, July 28	7:30 A.M. – Morning Prayer (online)
Wednesday, July 29	9:30 A.M. – Centering Prayer (home of Janie Martin)
Sunday, August 2	<u>10:30 A.M.</u> – Worship Service 11:45 A.M. – Fellowship Hour

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Office Entrance Closed—starting Monday, July 27. This week, construction will begin on the permanent ramp and walkway to the office entrance. Due to the construction, the door and walkway to the office will be closed. We will use the playground door for entry until the project is complete. Should anyone need an accessible entrance for Sunday services, the ramp on the Lancaster Avenue side of the building by the women's restroom will be available; you can reach that ramp via the path in the playground. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience as we continue to improve and rebuild.

Important Notice: Men's Restroom. The men's restroom on the main floor is currently out of service for the foreseeable future due to construction. Alternative restroom facilities are available in the church office and downstairs near the playground entrance, located just outside the Sunday School classrooms. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Centering Prayer—Every Wednesday, 9:30 A.M. Join us for this midweek program, which will take place at the home of Janie Martin, 435 Parkview Dr., Wynnewood.

Bible Study: On Hiatus. This weekly meeting will resume in August.

Chancel Flowers—Donations needed. Please consider donating the Sunday morning chancel flowers in honor or memory of a loved one or simply in a celebration or thanksgiving for the many blessings we receive. The cost is **\$60.00**, but you may contribute what you wish. To sign up, follow this link: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8ecsur>. There are three ways to pay for the flowers:

1. Log onto Realm: <https://onrealm.org/overbrookpresb/give/flowers>
2. Text “GIVEOPC FLOWERS \$60.00” to 73256 to give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply.
3. Mail a check to the church office, Attn: Carol. Please indicate “Chancel Flowers” in the memo of the check.

Each Sunday, the chancel flowers are delivered by the deacons to OPC members.

Fellowship Hour—Volunteers and Donations Needed. Every week after worship, we gather as share something to eat and drink, welcome new people, and check in with friends. For many at Overbrook, this time feels like an extension of worship. As we transition home, we will adapt a few of our traditions while the building remains under construction. Since the kitchen will be in renovation, there will be no cooking space, refrigerator space, or running water for dishes. Each week, we will need a Fellowship Coordinator and donations from OPC members and friends:

SIGN UP



- **Fellowship Hour Coordinator.** A coordinator greets and receives donations for the sharing table, sets up the donations, and organizes cleanup after Fellowship Hour.
- **Sharing Table Donations.** The Fellowship Hour table will welcome any assorted finger food contributions each Sunday. Please keep the treats simple—nothing that requires utensils or refrigeration. We will reserve a space to label foods that are vegan, nut-free or gluten-free.

To sign up, scan the QR code above. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Artia Benjamin** and the Congregational Life Committee (clc@overbrookpresb.org)

FINANCE

What is Apportionment? Apportionment is OPC’s annual contribution to the Greater Presbytery of Mid-Atlantic USA,

GIVE



helping support the ministry and mission of our wider Presbyterian church family. This shared contribution is based on church membership and allows congregations to work together in ministry, accountability, and outreach. Our apportionment is calculated at **\$37.00 per official member on our church roll**. For Overbrook, the annual apportionment totals approximately \$14,400 each year. If you would like to help support this important commitment, and contribute even a portion of that \$37.00, it would ease a significant burden from our general operating budget. You may contribute by check, please write “apportionment” in the memo line of your check, by scanning the QR Code. Please reach out to the Finance Committee, finance@overbrookpresb.org, with any questions.



DEACONS

Transportation Assistance. If you face challenges in getting to Overbrook for services or challenges in transport for other important needs, or if you know someone in our extended church family who does, we encourage you to speak to one of the Deacons. We are working to improve our transportation ministry, and we may be able to help. Email deacons@overbrookpresb.org for additional information.

Immigration-Related Support. If you or anyone in your circle of family or friends is facing immigration-related challenges, OPC would like to help. Please consider contacting one of the deacons or pastoral staff. We may be able to assist with daily needs or connect you with outside experts if necessary. We promise all requests will be kept confidential. A list of deacons is available on the back page of the bulletin.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Volunteers Needed for WePAC—Sunday, August 23. Can you help? Volunteers at the Please Touch Museum are needed to support event activities, assist families with navigation, and contribute to a welcoming environment for hundreds of families and caregivers. If you are interested, please contact Janet Bowker (jabowker1001@gmail.com) to learn how you can sign up.

RETIRED PERSONS' MINISTRY

Camp RPM: A Special Invitation! The Retired Persons' Ministry of Overbrook (RPM) warmly invites the "seasoned believers" of St. Thomas and Overbrook to join them for **Camp RPM**, a series of summer field trips which highlight the history of the surrounding area. Due to the ongoing construction at OPC, the scope of the program and gathering spaces for Camp RPM have been adjusted. The following information reflects those recently required changes:

Since we are unable to use the OPC Conference Room at this time, all Overbrook/St. Thomas area folks are asked to meet in the **OPC parking lot** for carpooling and a morning blessing. If you live closer to the destination of the day, please feel free to drive directly to that site.

Responses are essential to ensure transportation and lunches for all. Each day trip is faith-based and offers opportunities for good-spirited adventure, fellowship... *and a picnic lunch*. There is no cost to participate in this special ministry. RSVP to **Sharon Parker** if you would like to participate, if you need transportation, or if you are able to provide transportation for a non-driver (sparker614@gmail.com; 610-742-8415). Each "adventure" will conclude by 1:00 P.M. The July adventures can be enjoyed regardless of the weather; these are rain-or-shine events. Our next outing is as follows:

- **Tuesday, July 28, 9:15 A.M.** We will take a 10:00 A.M. Tour of **The Historic Old Mill** in Rose Valley and the **Great Minquas Path** (9 Mill Lane, Rose Valley, PA, accessible from Rose Valley Road). RSVP to Sharon by **Sunday, July 26**.

Come and explore the rich history of our area, and stay tuned: there are two more adventures planned for August!

PRAYER LIST

- Prayers for Jerry Naimoli, Lisa Faso's uncle, who was just diagnosed with ALS.
- Prayers of support for Bette and Ron Homer, facing challenging times.
- Prayers for strength for Hudson Cosgrove, Karen Lord-Hurwitz's great grandson in Florida, who was born premature.
- Prayers for comfort and healing for Andrea Gosfield in her recovery from hernia surgery.
- Prayers for guidance and comfort for Scott Long, who is in search of a new home near public transit and is also facing health challenges.
- Prayers for Capitola Cooper, mother-in-law of Wanda Harris-Copper, for restoration of health of heart issues.
- Prayers of support and healing for Elizabeth Mendoza as she faces newly diagnosed breast cancer.
- Prayers of comfort and support for Peggy Boatwright and her family as they mourn the loss of Peggy's brother, Charles Lewis.
- Prayers of comfort and support for all those mourning the loss of Robert Marshall, brother of Calvin Marshall.
- Prayers for strength and healing for Ed Harvey as he is facing some medical/dental issues.
- Prayers for strength and healing for Susan Leach, Becky Lazo's mom, as she continues her health recovery.
- Prayers for successful treatment and recovery of Kari McDevitt, friend of the Lazo's, as she faces her ninth cancer diagnosis.
- Prayers for peace and restoration in the Middle East, and that the hearts of world leaders are turned away from violence.
- Prayers of support for those embarking on new ventures and for all undergoing the uncertainty of transitions.
- Prayers for dignity, stability, and comfort for all those navigating changes in government assistance programs.
- Prayers for all who are facing health concerns, especially Roz Benton, Peggy Boatwright, Gary Fairfax, Brian Henderson, Gwen Anthony, Gail Kaercher, Vince Gilhool, Gwen Harden, Bette Homer, Beth Leach, Valerie Craig, Patricia MacCausland, Joan Moylan, Jim Moylan, Davorka Sabljak, Carolyn Summers, Nathan Tullio and Natalie DeShields.

Please contact Jill Van Rawley (deacons@overbrookpresb.org) or Adam Hearlson (adam@overbrookpresb.org) to add names to the prayer list.

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OPC SESSION MEMBERS:

Adam Hearlson, Moderator, Stephanie Morris, Treasurer

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2026

Artia Benjamin

Joseph Blair

Keedra Carroll**

Solomon Hunter**

Nathalie May**

Class of 2027

Brian Burke

Karen Testa

Brian Taussig-Lux**

Christoph Von Andreae**

Mimi Winkler**

Class of 2028

Shanae Bryan

Corinna Bowser**

Cheryl Davis **

Claire Fay

Janie Martin

OPC DEACONS:

Margene Biedermann and Denise Stewart, Co-Moderators, Board of Deacons

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; Zee Ann Mason, Secretary

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2026

Denise Stewart

Miriam Harden**

Leah Mayne**

Jason Sheau**

Class of 2027

Margene Biedermann

Mads Piatt Cosgriff

Zee Ann Mason

Mike Rottinger **

Class of 2028

Chris Bryan

Laurie Geers

Karen Lord-Hurwitz

Scott Long

Sharon Elwell**

Jill Van Rawley

Joanne Roman

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6376 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151

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

www.overbrookpresb.org

The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson - *Pastor*

The Rev. David McMillan - *Pastor Emeritus*

Wanda Harris-Cooper - *Pastor of Care and Youth Ministry*

Dr. Christopher Gage - *Director of Music*

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

Artia Benjamin and Suchita Fiorillo - *Co-Directors of Youth Ministry*

Lisa Faso - *Office Manager*

Carol Rozmiarek - *Financial Secretary and Director of Programming*

Leonard Robbins - *Church Custodian*

The Overbrook Quartet:

Iris Fairfax, *soprano*; Syrena Torres, *alto*;

Toffer Mihalka, *tenor*

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