



Overbrook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship Service
March 1, 2026
11:00 A.M.

Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church
We are glad you are worshipping 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
Mary Ann Blair, Liturgist
Anthony M. Carrella, Director of Children and Family Ministries
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music
The Overbrook Choir
Toffer Mihalka, tenor

Communion Servers:

Brian Taussig-Lux
Herb Brabham
Solomon Hunter
Elizabeth Mendoza

Today's chancel flowers are given by Rachel Carnahan in honor and memory of all those killed and traumatized by actions of our government.
May God be with them and their families.

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.

Following worship today, please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Wistar Room.

❖ *Stand as you are able*

GATHERING IN

PRELUDE

INTROIT

I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes

Ann Ker
(1937-2018)

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

From Boethius (c. 480-524)

Mary Ann Blair

Leader: O Father, give my spirit power to climb

People: To the fountain of all light, and be purified

Leader: Break through all the mists of earth,

People: the weight of clay,

Leader: Shine forth in splendour, you who are calm weather,

People: And quiet resting place for faithful souls.

Leader: You carry us, and you go before;

All: You are the journey and the journey's end

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RATHBUN

WELCOME

Adam Hearlson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE (*unison*)

From Walter Brueggemann

Mary Ann Blair

In this season of Lent, O God, unsettle us.

Increase in us that sense of gnawing that arises

from the incongruity between our lives and

the life to which you call us, and

transform us in newness. Amen.

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
 5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the cross for -
 love up - on my way, from the cross the ra - diance
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that knows no
 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred

sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
 sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

Like Isaac Watts's "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (nos. 223, 224), this hymn is a reflection on Galatians 6:14, but this text is more abstract and devotes no attention to the person hanging on the cross. The tune is named for a soloist in the composer's Connecticut choir.

The service continues on the previous page.

KYRIE ELEISON

Healey Willan

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up-on us.

SILENT CONFESSION

EMBRACING GOD'S GRACE

AMEN (*seated*)

HYMN No. 574

A - men, a - men, a - men.

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 121

Mary Ann Blair

If you would like to follow along with today's Scripture reading, 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, older children [ages 10-11] are encouraged to gather together downstairs for monthly fellowship and prayer circle.

Younger children may return to their pews or proceed to the Prayerground. The nursery is also open for childcare.)

SOLO

John W. Bischoff
(1850-1909)

If God So Clothe the Grass
Toffer Mihalka, tenor

Is not the life more than meat,
and the body than raiment?
Behold the fowls of the air:
for they sow not, neither do they reap,
nor gather into barns;
yet your heavenly Father feedeth them.

Consider the lilies of the field,
how they grow; they toil not,
they toil not, neither do they spin.

And yet I say unto you,
That even Solomon in all his glory
was not arrayed like one of these.

If God so clothe the grass of the field,
shall he not much more clothe you,
O ye of little faith?

From Matthew 6:25-29

NEW TESTAMENT
One: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Matthew 4:1-11

Adam Hearlson

SERMON

“High on Top”

Adam Hearlson

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

ANGELS OF HEALING

When We Are Tested

Capo 2: (Dm) (Am) (Dm) (Am)

Em Bm Em Bm

1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
 2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
 3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
 4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,

(Em) (B7) (Em) (Dsus) (D)
 F#m C#7 F#m Esus E

fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
 plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
 trad - ing the truth for the power to con - trol,
 sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,

(G) (D) (Em7) (F)
 A E F#m7 G

nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
 lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
 teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
 Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,

(Am6) (C) (Dm) (Am) (E)
 Bm6 D Em Bm F#

food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
 trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
 seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
 an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Although the Temptation of Christ is mentioned in all three synoptic gospels (Matthew 4:1–11/Mark 1:12–13/ Luke 4:1–13), this hymn is based on the Lukan version. It is notable that each stanza begins “when,” not “if”; temptation is not an optional feature of the spiritual life.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

LIFE AT THE CROSSROADS

Wanda Harris-Cooper

SHARING OF PEACE

Wanda Harris-Cooper

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

Felice Anerio

Christus factus est

(c. 1560-1614)

The Overbrook Choir

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens
usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.

Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum

et dedit illi nomen,

quod est super omne nomen.

Christ became obedient for us
even unto death, death on the cross.

Therefore God exalted him

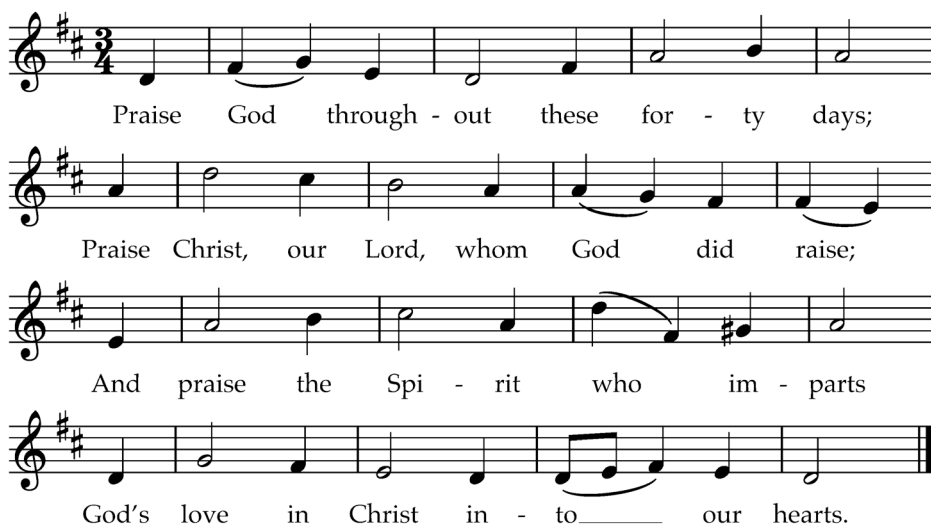
and gave him a name

which is above all names.

Philippians 2:8-9

❖ DOXOLOGY

ROCKINGHAM



Praise God through - out these for - ty days;
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;
And praise the Spi - rit who im - parts
God's love in Christ in - to our hearts.

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Mary Ann Blair

God of the waters,
receive these gifts we offer today.
Let your Spirit work through what we give,
carrying your love into a world in need.
May those who pass through deep waters
find hope in the generosity of this place. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Adam Hearlson

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

SANCTUS (*on next page*)

HYMN No. 595



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, _____



God of power and might, _____



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -



- san - na in the high - est. _____



Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's name. Ho -



- san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's name. Ho -



- san - na in the high - est. _____

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Wanda Harris-Cooper

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Adam Hearlson

FORETASTE OF THE HEAVENLY BANQUET

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE (*unison*)
Gracious God,
may we who have received this sacrament
live in the unity of your Holy Spirit,
that we may show forth your gifts to all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

❖ BENEDICTION

Adam Hearlson

CHORAL RESPONSE

Draw nigh to God

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

POSTLUDE

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

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

Music Spotlight: Anthem at the Offering



Felice Anerio was an Italian composer of the late Renaissance; his music is modeled after that of Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, whom he replaced as official composer to the papal choir. Today's setting of "Christus factus est" is fascinating right from the start: the altos enter higher than the sopranos and immediately create a dissonant harmony, not resolving until several beats later. Shortly thereafter, the occurrences of "mortem" ("death") coincide with unusual chords. Throughout the piece, listen for the rapid shifts in texture: the number of voices singing, as well as how they interact, changes frequently.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

When available, QR codes to sign up or RSVP are located to the right of announcements.

From the Deacons: 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.

Lenten Supper—Every Wednesday, 6:00 P.M. Each Wednesday in Lent, we will gather in the **Wistar Morris Room** for an evening soup supper and discussion. This year, we will hear from members of the community as they share their stories about experiencing God. Scan the QR code to sign up to bring soup, bread or salad.

SIGN UP



Summer Silent Retreat: Interest Form Now Open—July 2026.

God invites you into silence, into deep listening, and into the Presence and action of the Spirit moving within you. This summer, we hope to offer a day or two of contemplative retreat here in our community. If your soul stirs at this invitation, please fill out the interest form; there is no commitment or cost to attend this retreat.

SIGN UP



If you have children and would like to attend, please indicate so, as a critical mass of parents will allow us to provide childcare. Scan the QR code or directly contact **Anthony Carrella** (anthony@overbrookpresb.org). Anthony recently completed training and certification in contemplative group and retreat leadership through the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation. 30 people have already signed up—add your name today!

Centering Prayer and Bible Study. Join us for these two midweek programs, which take place in the OPC Conference Room. Centering Prayer begins at 9:30 A.M., and Bible Study begins at 10:30 A.M.

“Cooking in Community: A Bountiful Serving of Care”—Friday, March 6. 9:30 A.M to 12:00 P.M. *Cooking in Community* is a monthly opportunity to cook for those in need while enjoying the fellowship of good-spirited, spatula wielding friends. We will gather at **Christ’s Community Church in Drexel Hill** to prepare meals for the residents of the Life Center of Delaware County. All supplies and ingredients are provided, as well as an abundance of fellowship and snacks. To request more information, or to volunteer, please contact **Sharon Parker** (sparker614@gmail.com).

Chancel Flowers—Donations needed. Please consider donating the Sunday morning chancel flowers in honor/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/2p8secsur>. 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. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa (manager@overbrookpresb.org) or Carol (carol@overbrookpresb.org).

Fellowship Hour—Volunteers and Donations Needed. Every week after worship, we gather as a community to share something to eat and drink, welcome new people and check in with friends. For many at Overbrook Church, this fellowship time feels like an extension of our worship. As we transition home, we will be adapting a few of our traditions while the building remains under construction. The kitchen will be in renovation for the next several months, so 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.** Please consider bringing something to share. 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 on this page. We hope that this will be an opportunity for all to participate in our shared Fellowship experience while we adapt to the restrictions of being under construction.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Artia Benjamin** and the Congregational Life Committee (clc@overbrookpresb.org).

RETIRED PERSON'S MINISTRY

RPM Plus: “Friday the 13th: Winged Creatures, Superstitions, and Conspiracy Theories”—Friday, March 13, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Leave your ladders and broken mirrors at home; BYO good humor and inquisitive spirit! RPM will explore the history and culture of superstition, as well as its impact on language, faith, and social practice. Please join us in the **Undercroft** of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas for healthy morning snacks, really good coffee, and a lively discussion.

RPM Café: “Speaking Up, Speaking Out: Activism for All Ages”—Friday, March 27, 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. All are welcome to join us in **Anderson Hall (upper level)** of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas for good-spirited fellowship and the (now) legendary RPM lunch buffet. The menu for the day will include a selection of homemade soups, salads, fresh fruit, beverages, and desserts. Following the meal, participants will engage in a time of community learning, envisioning, and considering “good trouble.” Our guest panel of presenters will provide an abundance of inspiration for servant leadership, community activism, and discipleship. Guests are warmly welcomed!

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Books through Bars—Saturday, March 7, 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Please consider donating your Saturday afternoon to work at Books Through Bars. Our OPC volunteers will choose books, write packing slips, and wrap packages of books to be shipped to those incarcerated. We will meet at 1:00 P.M. to carpool from the OPC parking lot. If you would like to learn more, contact Janet Bowker (jabowker1001@gmail.com).

“Souls Shot” Exhibit—Thursday, March 12, 6:45 P.M. Overbrook is invited to the opening reception for the “Souls Shot” Portrait Project at Congregation Beth Am Israel. OPC is a co-sponsor of the exhibit, which runs at Beth Am Israel from March 9 through April 9.

Norristown Hospitality Center—Monday, March 16. Our meal service to the continues as our partners in ministry look for a new home. Please hold the Hospitality Center and Sunanda Brown in prayer as they continue their search. In the meantime, you can sign up to donate a portion of the breakfast menu.

SIGN UP



Dinner at the Life Center of Eastern Delaware County—Tuesday, March 31. Overbrook Presbyterian provides dinner to the residents of the Life Center on the fifth Tuesday of the month. The menu will be prepared by the Retired Person’s Ministry and served by YOU and some helpers. We are looking for that special someone who is willing to help organize the meal (plan menu; shop ingredients) and others to serve dinner. Please contact Janet Bowker (jabowker1001@gmail.com) if you can be that someone.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Choir—Today after worship. Youth are welcome to grab a snack in fellowship hour, then head downstairs in the temporary choir room on the lower level.

First Fridays Monthly Youth Group—Friday, March 6, 5:30 to 8:00 P.M. If you’re in grades 6-12, join us at OPC for some fun, food, and fellowship. We will play games, prepare for our work in Kensington, and discuss “Faith vs. Luck: What does the Bible have to say about luck?” Enter through the playground door and head downstairs for the fun. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and RSVP to youth@overbrookpresb.org by this afternoon so we can plan the dinner.

YOUTH MINISTRY
(CONTINUED)

The Kensington Project—Sunday, March 8, 10:00 A.M. We will gather at OPC next Sunday and head to Kensington. If you would like more information or would like to attend, please contact Becky Lazo at 443-745-3178 or rebeccalazo@hotmail.com or Suchita Fiorillo at 215-450-5356 or youth@overbrookpresb.org.

Youth Informational/Consent Form. If you have a child in grades 6-12, please take a few minutes to fill out our new and improved informational/consent forms so we can continue to ensure a safe, supportive, and fun environment for our families. If you have any questions, please contact us at youth@overbrookpresb.org.

SCAN HERE



CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Older Kids (ages 10–12) Sunday School—Today. Our monthly First Sunday gathering for 10-, 11-, and 12-year-olds today in the OPC basement! Join us for donuts, fellowship, a creative project, and prayer. If your child plans to join, let Anthony or Molly know.

Contemplative Dinner Church—Tuesday, March 17, 5:30 P.M. Join us for our monthly gathering, which falls this time on St. Patrick's Day! We'll share a meal together, then adults will explore spiritual poetry led by Molly Burke (rescheduled from January and February) followed by Centering Prayer. Childcare will be provided, and all are welcome. RSVP to Anthony or Molly.

CFM Quarterly Committee Meeting—Wednesday, March 25, 6:15 P.M. We will gather for Centering Prayer before beginning our meeting on Zoom.

Holy Week Lectio Divina & Centering Prayer—Tuesday, March 31, 6:30 to 7:00 P.M. Join us for this special Holy Week program of prayer and contemplation.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Choir Rehearsals—Thursday Evenings. All are welcome to participate in the music ministry here at Overbrook in a variety of ways.

The **Overbrook Choir** meets every Thursday from 7:30 to 9:00 P.M. on the **lower level of OPC** and sings every Sunday during worship. Feel free to join us regardless of past experience!

The **Overbrook Westminster Handbell Choir** meets for several Thursdays in a row before playing in worship. We rehearse on the **lower level of OPC** from 6:30 to 7:15 P.M.

The **Overbrook Gospel Choir** will sing again after Easter. Watch your email for communication when we are closer to the date!

No prior experience is required! For more information, contact **Chris Gage** (music@overbrookpresb.org).

PRAYER LIST

- Prayers of comfort and peace to the family of Jim Stephens, as they mourn his passing.
- Prayers of comfort and peace to the Testa family as they mourn the passing of Karen's father, Brian Testa.
- Prayers for comfort and strength for Samuel Kafi Sarkwah and his family following the loss of his mother Beatrice Oppong.
- Prayers of healing and comfort for the Tullio family as they navigate the recent cancer diagnosis of their son Nathan, friend and classmate of Eamon Hearlson and former student of Beth Brawley.
- Prayers for Charla Scott, sister of Patti Scott, who is currently recovering from a broken hip and for Patti as she will be the caretaker for her sister during this time of recovery.
- Prayers for healing and resilience for Elizabeth McMillan following a fall.
- Prayers for Peggy Boatwright as she recovers from a medical issue.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Becky Lazo as she recovers from a fractured ankle.
- Prayers of healing and peace for Amanda Scherbenske in the wake of a hand injury.
- Prayers of healing and comfort for David Geers, brother of Laurie Gears, as he faces some medical challenges.
- Prayers of healing for Carolyn Summers, mother of Iris Fairfax, who has recently been diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Prayers for dignity, stability, and comfort for all those navigating changes in government assistance programs.
- Prayers for healing and restoration of strength for Alyce Marsh as she recovers from a recent surgery.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Beth Brawley's mom, Patricia, as she faces health challenges.
- Prayers for all who are facing health concerns, especially Brian Henderson, Gwen Anthony, Gail Kaercher, Vince Gilhool, Gwen Harden, Ed Harvey, Bette Homer, Valerie Craig, Joan Moylan, Jim Moylan, Davorka Sabljak and Natalie DeShields.

Please contact Mads at (deacons@overbrookpresb.org) or Adam Hearlson (adam@overbrookpresb.org) to add names to the prayer list.

OPC SESSION MEMBERS:

Adam Hearlson, Moderator, Stephanie Morris, Treasurer

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Artia Benjamin	Brian Burke	Shanae Bryan
Joseph Blair	Karen Testa	Corinna Bowser**
Keedra Carroll**	Brian Taussig-Lux**	Cheryl Davis **
Solomon Hunter**	Christoph Von Andreae**	Claire Fay
Nathalie May**	Mimi Winkler**	Janie Martin

OPC DEACONS:

Mads Piatt Cosgriff and Denise Stewart, Co-Moderators, Board of Deacons

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; Zee Ann Mason, Secretary

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Denise Stewart	Margene Biedermann	Chris Bryan
Miriam Harden**	Mads Piatt Cosgriff	Laurie Geers
Leah Mayne**	Zee Ann Mason	Karen Lord-Hurwitz
Jason Sheau**	Mike Rottinger **	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*; Matthew Zimnoch, *bass* (guest)

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