
Overbrook Presbyterian Church



Marc Chagall, *Deborah under the Date Tree*, Stained Glass.

Worship Service
November 19, 2023
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. Dr. Adam Hearlson, Pastor

Ron Homer, Liturgist

Sharon Parker, Parish Care Associate

Anthony Carrella, Biblical Storyteller

Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music

The Overbrook Choir

The Overbrook Westminster Handbell Choir

Today's chancel flowers are given to the glory of God.

Childcare is available during the worship service. Worship is for all ages, but excellent childcare is provided in our nursery should you wish to use it.

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 Fellowship Hour in the Wistar Morris Room hosted by Elizabeth Mendoza on behalf of the Welcoming Committee.

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

Prelude for Thanksgiving

William C. Steere
(1880-1960)

INTROIT

O give thanks unto the Lord

Donald Cashmore
(1900-1975)

❖CALL TO WORSHIP

Ron Homer

Leader: O God, you summon the day to dawn;
you teach the morning to waken the earth.

People: Great is your name, Great is your love.

Leader: For you the valleys will sing for joy;
the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

People: Great is your name, Great is your love.

Leader: To you the monarchs of earth shall bow;
the poor and the persecuted shall shout for joy:

People: Great is your name, Great is your love.

Leader: Your love and justice shall last forever,
fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.

All: Great is your name, Great is your love.

❖HYMN No. 755

WEISSE FLAGGEN

Alleluia! Laud and Blessing

WELCOME

Adam Hearlson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE

Ron Homer

Methodist Prayer, Aotearoa

Forgive us when we forget to praise you,
When we turn your love into legalism,
Your freedom into bondage
Your promises and gifts into demands and duties.

Forgive us when we forget that we are your people, and we make the church an exclusive club;
Forgive us when we forget that Jesus is our friend, and we lock him up in rules and customs, words and structures. Forgive us, merciful God.

Bless the Lord



Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is with-

Fine



-in me, Bless His ho - ly name.



He has done great things, He has done great things,

D.C. al Fine



He has done great things, Bless His ho - ly name!

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Pew Bible, p. 197

The Word of the Lord.

Ron Homer

Thanks be to God.

BIBLICAL STORYTELLING

Anthony Carrella

*(Following the storytelling, learners in Pre-K through Grade 5
are encouraged to recess to Sunday School.)*

ANTHEM

arr. Michael Ryan

With Peals of Thanks and Praise

The Overbrook Westminster Handbell Choir

OLD TESTAMENT

Judges 4:1-11

Pew Bible, p. 210

The Word of the Lord.

Adam Hearlson

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Shapes and Sizes”

Adam Hearlson

*(Following the sermon, youth Grades 6-12
are encouraged to recess for Sunday School.)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Raelyn Harman

*Chris Bryan Anne Conroy
Shanae Bryan Cindi Landmesser
Yvonne Clark Glynn McCann
 Michele Whipple*

❖ HYMN No. 764

PELAS DORES DESTE MUNDO

For the Troubles and the Suffering

sung twice:

first time—Overbrook Quartet only (seated)

second time—choir and congregation (standing)

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adam Hearlson

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 Hearlson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharon Parker

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

Sharon Parker

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Adam Hearlson

(The offering plate is beneath the lectern for your use during or after the service.)

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

Felix Mendelssohn

“How lovely are the Messengers” from *St. Paul* (1809-1847)
The Overbrook Choir

How lovely are the Messengers
that preach us the gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth
the sound of their words;
throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

Julius Schubring (1806-1889)

❖ DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 605



Praise to God the Fa - ther; praise to God the Son;



praise to God the Spir - it; praise to the Three-in - One.



Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high._____



Praise to God Al - might - y; praise to the Ho - ly one.

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Ron Homer

God, may these gifts arrive when they are most needed. May they show up and be full of a grace that comes only from you. Amen

SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN No. 772

TRURO

Live into Hope

❖ BENEDICTION

Adam Hearlson

❖ CHORAL RESPONSE

Hear Thou Our Prayer

Eleanor Daley
(b. 1955)

POSTLUDE

Percy Fletcher
(1879-1932)

Festival March on “St. George”
 (“Come, ye thankful people, come”)

*Please depart quietly for those who wish to listen to the postlude.
If you have a child or children who attended Sunday School,
you may meet them in the Chapel.*

Music Spotlight: Handbell Anthem

Today’s anthem, *Peals of Thanks and Praise*, features three well-known hymn tunes: “Now Thank We All Our God,” “Morning Has Broken,” “We Gather Together.” They are presented in succession, and the introductory material returns at the conclusion of the work. Listen for how the familiar melodies combine with the cascading accompanimental lines to create an atmosphere of joy.

THIS WEEK AT OPC: 11/19-11/26

Sun	19	9:15 A.M. Adult Forum	Chapel
		10:30 A.M. Worship	Sanctuary
		10:45 A.M. Children’s Sunday School	SS Rooms
		11:15 A.M. Youth Sunday School	Adam’s Office
		11:45 A.M. Fellowship Hour	Wistar Morris
		12:00 P.M. Prayerground Orientation	Sanctuary
		12:00 P.M. Reflection on Civil Rights Trip	Chapel
		12:30 P.M. CFM Quarterly Meeting	Williamson Rm
Mon	20	9:00 A.M. Norristown Hospitality Delivery	Norristown
Tue	21	7:30 A.M. Tuesday Morning Prayer Group	Online
Wed	22	9:30 A.M. Centering Prayer	Sanctuary
Sun	26	9:15 A.M. Adult Forum	Chapel
		10:30 A.M. Worship	Sanctuary
		10:45 A.M. Children’s Sunday School	SS Rooms
		11:15 A.M. Youth Sunday School	Adam’s Office
		11:45 A.M. Fellowship Hour	Wistar Morris
		12:00 P.M. Mission and Outreach Committee	Chapel
		5:00 P.M. Youth Gathering	Youth Rm

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Today we welcome seven new members to our OPC Family. OPC is blessed and grateful that these individuals have chosen to become part of our church family here at the Crossroads. To learn more about our newest members, see page 12 of the bulletin. Please extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Chris Bryan	Anne Conroy
Shanae Bryan	Cindi Landmesser
Yvonne Clark	Glynn McCann
Michele Whipple	

Reflections on the Civil Rights Trip—today at noon. Following Fellowship Hour, all are invited to hear the reflections of those who participated in the recent Civil Rights Trip to Alabama. Join us in the Chapel as participants share personal stories and photos of this extraordinary trip.

2024 Pledges—It's not too late! For an online pledge, you can scan the QR code. If you would like a physical pledge card, please contact Carol Rozmiarek (carol@overbrookpresb.org).



Adult Forum—Sundays, 9:15 to 10:15 A.M. Next week, Marc Alfonce will lead Adult Forum.

Centering Prayer—9:30 A.M. Each week, the devotional practice of Centering Prayer will be offered in the Sanctuary. Centering Prayer allows us an opportunity to enhance our spiritual life. As we gather, there will also be a time for response to intercessory prayer requests. Additional information regarding Centering Prayer may be found on the reading table outside the Chapel.

No Bible Study or Retired Persons Ministry (RPM). Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, both of these events will resume next week.

29th Annual Messiah Sing—Sunday, December 3, 3:00 P.M. Join us for a beloved Advent tradition at Overbrook! This unique performance of Handel's *Messiah* will feature members of the Overbrook Quartet singing the arias, with the audience—this means you!—filling the Sanctuary with music for the choruses. Don't have a score? Don't worry—we will have plenty available. Don't want to sing? No problem—just come and enjoy the music! A free-will offering will be taken with a reception to follow. If you are interested in volunteering to usher or to help prepare the reception, contact **Chris Gage** (music@overbrookpresb.org).

Kensington Project—donations still being accepted. Thank you for your prayers and support! With the colder weather we will continue to accept donations of blankets, sleeping bags, coats, hats, gloves, and warm clothing during Fellowship Hour every Sunday.

CFM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayerground Orientation for Children and Families—today, 12:00 to 12:20 P.M. Come join Anthony, Molly, Judy and members of the CFM Committee for a brief, up-close orientation of OPC's new Prayerground. Children and caregivers will learn how to use this space, and how it can support your family during worship. Stop by the Sanctuary and join the conversation! If you have any questions, email cfm@overbrookpresb.org.

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Gathering—Sunday, November 26, 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. Middle and high school youth are invited to come and hang out next Sunday evening in the Youth Room. We'll play games, laugh, eat (of course!), and enjoy some time together. To register, scan the QR code to the right. Dinner will be provided. If you have ideas or a specific request about what to do, contact Becky Lazo (443-745-3178).



WELCOMING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

OPC is blessed and grateful that these individuals have chosen to become part of our church family here at the Crossroads. We would like to introduce them to everyone:



Chris and Shanae Bryan

Chris and Shanae Bryan live in Overbrook Farms with their 2 daughters, Light and Sage. Chris and Shanae both work in the education field and met in a teacher training program. They got married and moved to Overbrook in 2020 and enjoy sharing time with friends and family, moving their bodies physically, and learning new skills. They were drawn to Overbrook by the

welcoming community, progressive outlook, and diverse parishioners. They enjoy getting to know the community and look forward to building deeper relationships in the years to come.



Yvonne Clark

Yvonne Clark is a resident of Wynnewood and was drawn to Overbrook Presbyterian Church for its inclusive and service-driven mission. She enjoys traveling with her husband, George, and spending time with her two children, Sasha (16) and Tristan (6). She loves making music and playing the piano and is thrilled to sing in the fantastic

OPC Choir. Professionally, Yvonne serves as Vice President, Head of Corporate Compliance, at Spark Therapeutics, a Philadelphia-based gene therapy company.



Anne Conroy

Anne grew up in the Philadelphia area but spent almost 50 years of her adult life in Poughkeepsie, New York, until she and her husband retired to Waverly Heights in Gladwyne. While living in the Mid-Hudson area, she had a long career in urban and economic development and related public policy. She has been a widow for about 5 years. Her

daughter's family lives in Berwyn, and her son lives in Olympia, Washington. As a lifelong Presbyterian, she has served in many roles with the churches she has attended. Anne is particularly interested in mission and outreach and most recently has been deeply involved with refugees and asylum seekers. She loves the energy and passion at Overbrook for worship and serving. She is looking forward to being a part of this vibrant community.



Cindi Landmesser

Cindi lives in the Roxborough section of Philadelphia. She graduated in 2017 from Drexel University with her B.S. in Photography. She is also an avid crocheter (as well as generally crafty), a lover of thrifting and secondhand finds, and an enthusiastic podcast listener. She also loves to spend time with her husband Glynn, cat April, and turtle Bruce.



Glynn McCann

Glynn, originally from Hatboro, Pennsylvania, now lives in Roxborough with his wife Cindi, turtle Bruce, and cat April. Along with an avid interest in songwriting, he holds a passion for science communication, specializing in the paleontology of Mesozoic Eastern North America.



Michele Whipple

Michele lives in Havertown with her 18-year-old daughter, Galina, and their Aussiedoodle, Mishka. She has worked for Main Line Health for 30 years, the last twenty as Manager of Volunteer Services for their Hospice and Palliative Care Program. She is all about helping people, making connections, and finding the common good. Michele enjoys music, good books, walking, traveling, and volunteering in her community; she also serves as Judge of Elections in her local polling precinct. She was immediately struck by how warm and genuinely welcoming the entire congregation at OPC is. The diversity, inclusiveness, and relatable sermons sealed the deal for both her and her daughter (and if you have a teenager engaged in going to church, this is the right place!). She is looking forward to growing in faith and becoming an active member of OPC's congregation.

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Committee Name	Monthly or Next Meeting	Chair or Co-Chairs
Worship and Music worship@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	TBD
Deacons deacons@overbrookpresb.org	Sun. 11/12, 12:00 P.M.	Bill Baker
Mission and Outreach mission@overbrookpresb.org	4 th Sunday, 12:15 P.M.	Jeff Bowker
Finance finance@overbrookpresb.org	1 st Tuesday, 7:00 P.M.*	Lainie Blodgett
Children and Family (CFM) cfm@overbrookpresb.org	Sun. 11/19, 12:00 P.M.	Molly Andrews Burke
Personnel personnel@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Elizabeth Cosgriff
Property property@overbrookpresb.org	Wed. 11/29 7:00 P.M.*	Bill Baker, Ted Dillon, and Jeff Bowker
Stewardship stewardship@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Keedra Carroll and Will Schick
Congregational Life clc@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Artia Benjamin
Welcoming welcoming@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Elizabeth Mendoza
Youth and Family pastor@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Adam Hearlson

An asterisk (*) indicates that the committee meets virtually.

For more information about any of the committees,
please contact the chair or co-chairs using the email address above.

Prayer List

- Prayers of comfort and peace for all who mourn the passing of Winnie Carver, especially her husband Don Carver and children.
- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health for John Shackelford, brother of Kate, who will begin radiation therapy this week.
- Prayers of comfort and peace for Becky Lazo's Uncle Russ, as he enters hospice care.
- Prayers for restoration of health for Danielle Long's mother, Judy, as she recovers from a car accident.
- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health of Colleen Granata, mother of Brad Biedermann.
- Prayers for compassionate care, comfort, and peace for Jacqueline Cole, sister of Lois Davis.
- Prayers for all who are facing health challenges, especially Caroline Skinner, Sonya Smith, Gwen Harden, Luis Wong, Ed Harvey, Aqueelah Folwell, Stephanie Stokes, Milton Stokes, Natalie DeShields, Bill Long, and Jean Long.
- Prayers for those who are experiencing grief, pain, and uncertainty in their lives.

Please contact Bill Baker (wbaklava@aol.com) or Sharon Parker (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) to add names to the prayer list.

OPC SESSION MEMBERS:

Adam Hearlson, Moderator

Raelyn Harman, Clerk of Session; Stephanie Morris, Treasurer

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Keedra Carroll	Herb Brabham**	Elizabeth Cosgriff**
Andrea Gosfield	Elizabeth Mendoza**	Bob Harden, Jr.**
Solomon Hunter	Brian Taussig-Lux	Linda Huff-Paul**
Becky Lazo**	Christoph Von Andreae	Corinna Bowser
Nathalie May	Mimi Winkler	Cheryl Davis

OPC DEACONS:

Bill Baker, Moderator, Board of Deacons

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; Mary Lou Ryce, Secretary

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Peju Adebajo**	Gloria Brabham	Dela Geraldo
Miriam Harden	Nancy Gilhool**	Gretchen Boger
Ginny Leagans	Mike Rottinger	Bill Baker**
Leah Mayne	Mary Lou Ryce**	Bob Kaercher**
Jason Sheau	Will Schick	Philip Brown

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

Dr. Christopher Gage - Director of Music

Anthony M. Carrella - Director of Children and Family Ministry

Sharon Parker - Parish Care Associate

Lisa Faso - Office Manager

Carol Rozmiarek - Financial Secretary

Leonard Robbins - Church Custodian

The Overbrook Quartet:

Iris Fairfax, soprano; Allison Chang, alto;

Toffer Mihalka, tenor; Matthew Lulofs, bass

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

755 Alleluia! Laud and Blessing

(Psalms 111 and 112)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Laud and bless - ing to our God, whose Word is sure;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! God sus - tains us; match - less are the gifts we share;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Ho - ly Par - ent, all your chil - dren now re - claim;



by whose grace we find re - demp - tion, in whose love we live se - cure.
 light in dark - ness, hope in con - flict, an - swers to our deep - est prayer.
 may our lives re - flect your jus - tice, heirs to your most sa - cred name.



Righ - teous - ness and rich com - pas - sion shall at - tend us all our days;
 Ours to give as we are giv - en: arms to lift when oth - ers fall;
 Fill our hearts with un - der - stand - ing, brace our weak - ness by your might;



may God's prom - ise to be faith - ful ech - o through our songs of praise!
 im - ag - es of God's great good - ness, faith - ful ser - vants to God's call.
 awe - some hon - or, born in wis - dom; your great glo - ry, our de - light!



Psalms 111 and 112 are appropriately brought together in this paraphrase. Both form acrostics: each poetic line begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet in order. In addition, both psalms begin with "hallelujah," and they share much vocabulary as well as a theme of praise.

764 For the Troubles and the Sufferings

Pelas dores deste mundo



1 For the trou - bles and the suf - ferings of the world,
 2 Lend an ear to the ris - ing cry for help
 1 *Pe - las do - res des - te mun - do, ó Se - nhor,*
 2 *Teus ou - vi - dos se in - cli - nem ao cla - mor*



God, we call up - on your mer - cy: the
 from op - pressed and hope - less peo - ple: Come!
im - plo - ra - mos pi - e - da - de. A
des - sa gen - te o - pri - mi - da. A -



whole cre - a - tion's la - bor - ing in pain!
 Has - ten your sal - va - tion, heal - ing love!
um só tem - po ge - me a cri - a - ção.
pres - sa - te com tu - a sal - va - ção.



We pray for peace, the bless - ed peace that
 We pray for power, the power that will sus -
A tu - a pax, ben - di - ta e ir - ma -
O teu po - der sus - ten - te o tes - te -



comes from mak - ing jus - tice, to cov - er and em -
 tain your peo - ple's wit - ness: un - til your King - dom
na - da co'a jus - ti - ça a - bra - ceo mun - do in -
mu - nho do teu po - vo. Teu Rei - no ve - nha a

This Brazilian hymn was prominently used at the 9th Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in 2006, for which the theme was "God, in Your Grace, Transform the World." The image of creation being in labor until God's will is done echoes Romans 8:19-23.

1 Em Em A9 2 Em7 A7 D

brace us. Have mer - cy, Lord! come, Ky - ri - e - e - le - i - son!
 tei - ro. Tem com - pai - xão! nos! Ky - ri - e - e - le - i - son!

May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

Song of Hope / Canto de esperanza

G Am D7

May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
 ¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en

G

lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
 cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -

Am D7 G

on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
 nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.

G Am D7 G

Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
 O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.

G Am D7 G

work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
 Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.

Live into Hope

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

This text on Luke 4:16-20, the author's first, was written for the United Presbyterian Women's National Meeting in July 1976 because the team planning worship could not find a suitable hymn on that passage. She wrote the words with this vigorous 18th-century tune in mind.