Overbrook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship Service
November 8, 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 & Youth
Cindi Landmesser, Liturgist
Anthony Carrella, Director of Children and Family Ministries
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music
The Overbrook Choir
Iris Fairfax, soprano
Colin Comstock, percussion

Today's chancel flowers are given by Laurie Geers
in honor of the OPC Community.

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 Morris room

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
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❖=*Stand as you are able*

GATHERING IN

PRELUDE — CWG

Improvisation on "St. Denio"

INTROIT — Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

Teach me thy way, O Lord

❖CALL TO WORSHIP — *Cindi Landmesser*

Leader: The wisdom of God is radiant and unfading.
It is found by those who seek her.
People: We come seeking wisdom, longing for understanding.
Leader: The prophet calls us to let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
People: We come longing for a world shaped by mercy, justice, and peace.
Leader: Jesus tells us to keep awake, to tend our lamps, and to be ready for the coming of God's kingdom.
**People: We come with hearts both weary and hopeful,
trusting that God's light has not gone out.**
Leader: Come, let us worship the God who is our wisdom, our hope,
and our peace.
All: Let us worship God!
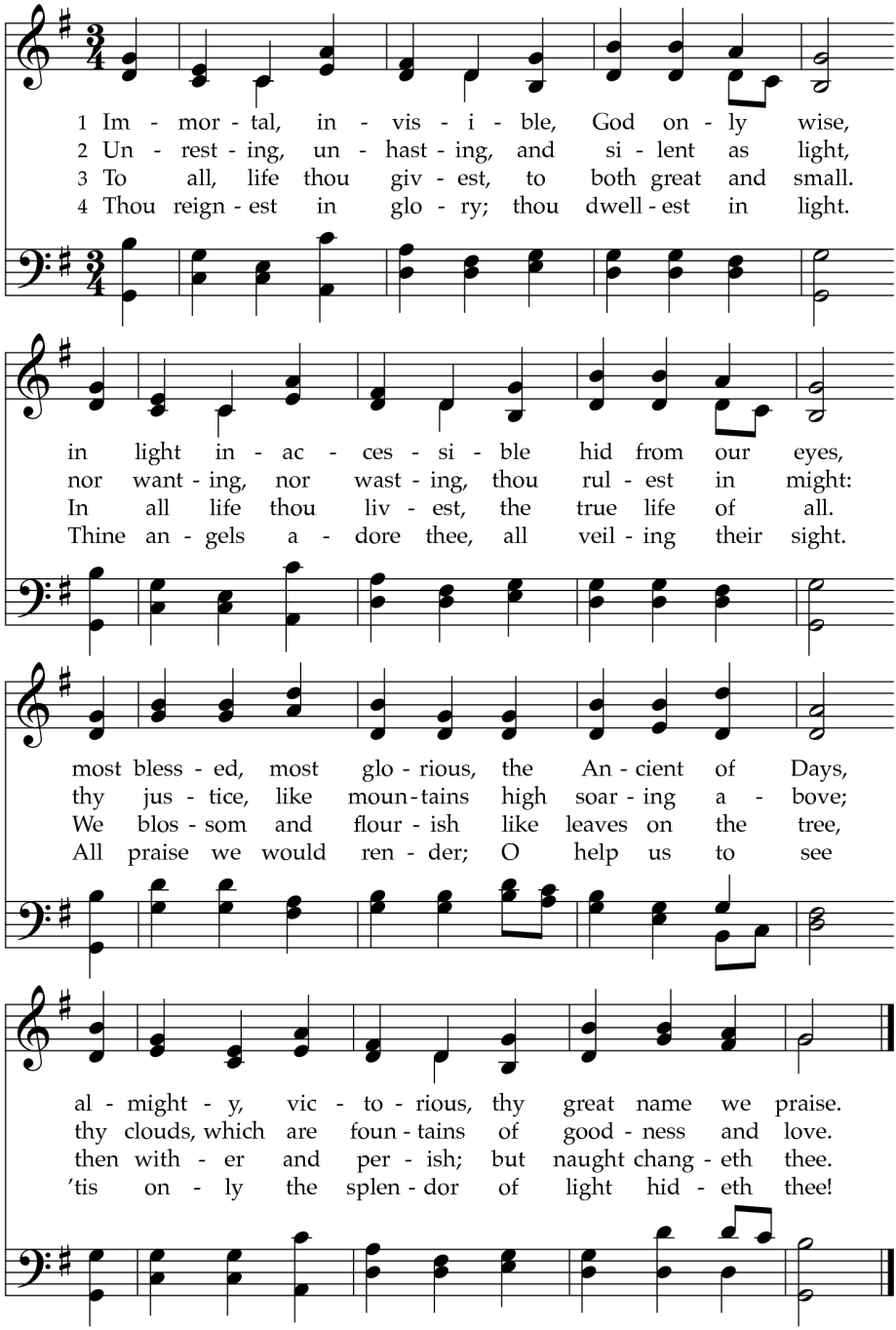
❖HYMN *(on next page)* — ST. DENIO

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

WELCOME — *Adam Hearlson*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE (*unison*) — *Cindi Landmesser*

God of wisdom and mercy, we confess that we are easily swept up in the anger of our age. We are quick to judge and slow to listen, quick to speak and slow to understand. We have mistaken certainty for wisdom and winning for faithfulness. Forgive us when fear narrows our compassion and disagreement becomes contempt. Teach us to seek your wisdom, listen with humility, and pursue the way of mercy and peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen



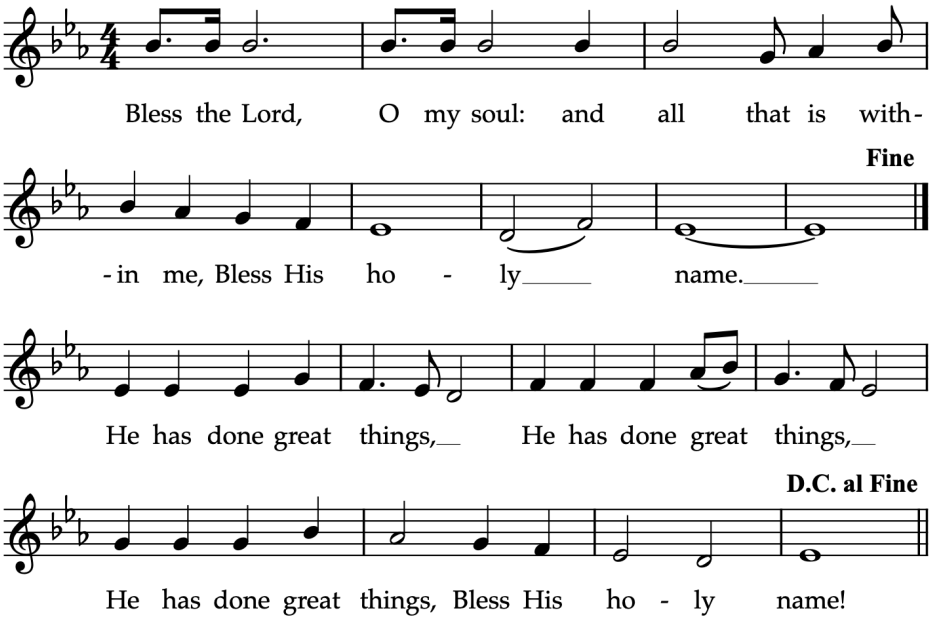
The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

SILENT CONFESSION

EMBRACING GOD'S GRACE

❖SONG OF PRAISE Andraé Crouch

Bless the Lord (1942-2015)



HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 *Cindi Landmesser*

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 biblical storytelling kids ages 3 to 12 may proceed downstairs to Children's Sunday School. Kids are also welcome to stay in worship, at the Prayerground or with their families, and our youngest are welcome in the nursery.)

SOLO — Traditional Irish, arr. William K. Boyd

Be Thou My Vision

Iris Fairfax, soprano

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence, my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord:
Thy my great Father, and I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, or vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High king of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High king of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

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tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905
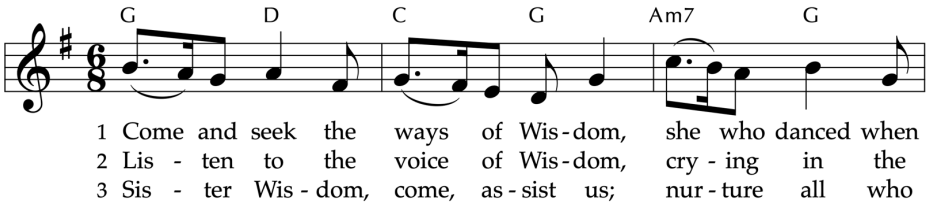
SECOND READING — Matthew 25:1-3 — *Adam Hearlson*

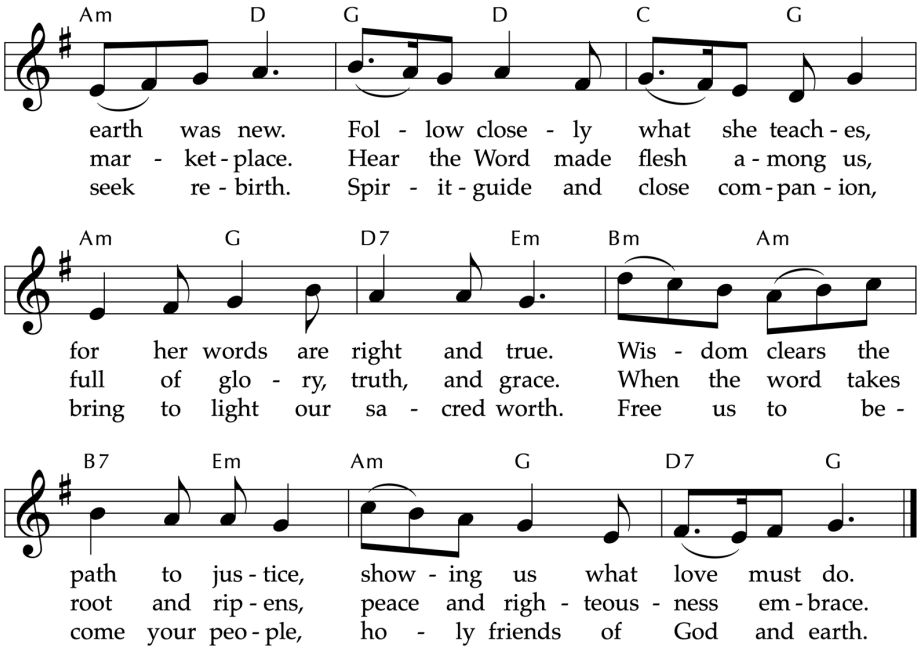
One: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON — "Wisdom in an Angry Age" — *Adam Hearlson*

❖HYMN — MADELEINE

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom





❖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 — *Wanda Harris-Cooper*

REFLECTING ON OUR MISSION — *Nathalie May*

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.

SHARING OF PEACE — *Wanda Harris Cooper*

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

INVITATION TO OFFERING — *Adam Hearlson*

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING — arr. André Thomas (b. 1952)

Keep Your Lamps!
The Overbrook Choir
Colin Comstock, percussion

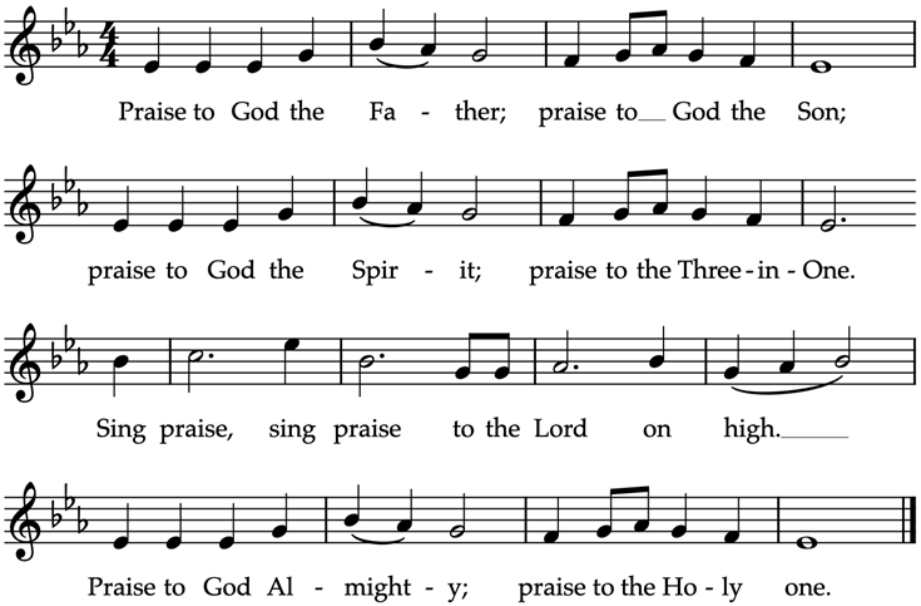
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning...
the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary...
'til your work is done.

Christian, journey soon be over...
the time is drawing nigh.

African-American Spiritual

❖DOXOLOGY HYMN No. 607



PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Cindi Landmesser*

Generous God, receive these gifts and use them to make your love visible in the world. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

❖HYMN *(on next page)* CWM RHONDDA

God of Grace and God of Glory

❖BENEDICTION *Adam Hearlson*
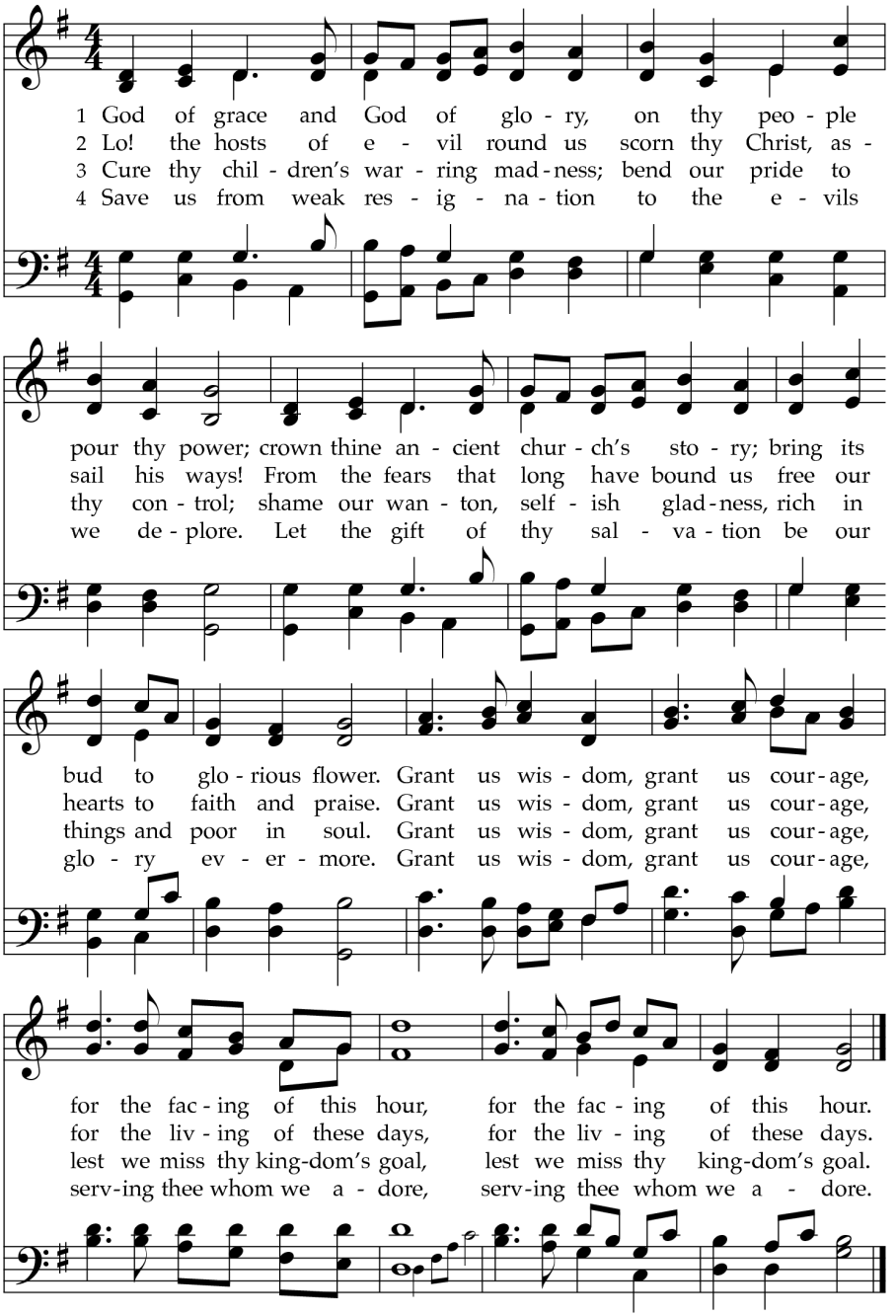
❖CHORAL RESPONSE G. T. Thalben-Ball

As many as are led by the Spirit of God (1896-1987)

POSTLUDE Mark Patterson

God of Grace and God of Glory (b. 1969)

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



This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

HAPPENINGS: WEEK OF NOVEMBER 8–NOVEMBER 15

All events take place at OPC unless otherwise indicated.

Sunday, November 8	**10:30 A.M.** – Worship Service 11:45 A.M. – Fellowship Hour 12:00 P.M. – Junior Choir Rehearsal
Monday, November 9	6:00 P.M. – Drama Ministry
Tuesday, November 10	7:30 A.M. – Morning Prayer (online) 7:00 P.M. – Session Meeting
Wednesday, November 11	9:30 A.M. – Centering Prayer (Janie Martin's) 10:30 A.M. – Bible Study (Janie Martin's)
Thursday, November 12	6:30 P.M. – Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 P.M. – Overbrook Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, November 14	11:00 A.M. – Men's Group
Sunday, November 15	**10:30 A.M.** – Worship Service 11:45 A.M. – Fellowship Hour 12:00 P.M. – Youth Choir Rehearsal

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Christmas Eve Children's Choir Practice—today after worship. We are assembling a special choir to sing at the earlier service on December 24, when the Christmas Eve Pageant takes place. We will meet today after worship (about 15 minutes after the postlude) to do some singing and learn some short songs. From then until Christmas Eve, we will meet **every one to two weeks** after worship to practice. Each meeting will last approximately **30 minutes** and will take place in the nursery on the **lower level** of the church building. If your child is interested but is unable to attend our first meeting, please email **Chris (music@overbrookpresb.org)** so we have an accurate count of participants.

Office Entrance Closed. Construction has begun 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 and Bible Study. These two midweek programs will be held at **the home of Janie Martin, 435 Parkview Drive, Wynnewood**, until construction is complete by the office entrance. Centering Prayer begins at 9:30 A.M. and Bible Study at 10:30 A.M.

Annual Pie Sunday- On Sunday, November 15, Overbrook will bless our annual Stewardship Commitments during worship and then celebrate with pies at Fellowship Hour! We are grateful for all pie contributions and helping hands to slice, plate and clean up. If you're able to assist, please scan the QR code.

VOLUNTEER ↓



Your annual giving sustains this amazing church. Please prayerfully consider your commitment for the coming year and fill out a card with your estimated giving or submit online by scanning the QR code. Thank you!- OPC Stewardship Committee

PLEDGE HERE ↓



Drama Ministry—Monday, November 9, 6:00 P.M. This ministry is led by theater director and actor Phillip Brown, and it is open to all ages. Members may join at any time but must commit to the rehearsals and performances for which they are cast. If you are interested in joining or have questions, please let us know at drama@overbrookpresb.org.

32nd Annual Messiah Sing—Sunday, November 29, 3:00 P.M. This beloved Advent tradition celebrates the anticipation and joy of the season and encourages your participation. Listen to our Overbrook Quartet sing the arias of Handel's *Messiah*, then join with your neighbors in the room to sing the choruses, such as "Hallelujah!" and "Amen." No music? No problem—we will have some for you. Don't want to sing? Come and enjoy this surround-sound experience. This event will take place at **St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 415 E. Athens Ave., Ardmore**.

Teachers' Teammates—Donations accepted. A collection bin is now stationed inside by the playground door during construction. There is a pocket hanging from its front with copies of the Accepted Donation List, or you can scan the QR code to see it.

SCAN HERE ↓

Teachers Teammates are also now collecting unused toner cartridges, which can be turned in for school supplies.

If you have any questions, please contact **Raelyn Harman (610-331-8972 or Raelyn.Harman@TeachersTeammates.org)**. Thank you!

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 needed. We are grateful for all those who volunteer to be a coordinator or donate food in August. If you would like an opportunity to practice hospitality and kindness toward one another or celebrate a special event. Please sign up to be a Fellowship Hour Coordinator by scanning the QR code. We still need your help.

SIGN UP ↓

There are several ways that you can help:

- Set up before worship service between 9:15 and 9:30, including putting table covers and trays on tables for the donated food.
- Clean up after Fellowship Hour. You do not have to break down tables and chairs.
- Take all leftover food that is perishable home with you or give it away to someone.

The church will:

- Provide table covers, trays, plates, cups and utensils.
- Provide gluten-free food to place on the gluten-free table.

- Take care of furniture setup and breakdown.
- Handle trash and recycling.

"*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.*" —*Matthew 25:35*

Thank you for your Fellowship Hour ministry!

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.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sunday Morning Participation Form. We are still looking for some families to fill out this form. It includes the consent to treat a minor, which we need on file for every kid who joins us on Sunday mornings. Thank you for taking a few minutes with it.

REGISTER ↓

Prayerground: Helpers Needed! We are looking for one or two more Prayerground Stewards, people who sit with our youngest worshipers in the during the service and help keep the Prayerground a calm and welcoming place. If you could serve one Sunday a month, please speak with **Judy Williamson** or **Anthony Carrella (**anthony@overbrookpresb.org**)**.

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Sunday—November 29. Every month that has a 5th Sunday is Youth Sunday. If you're in grades 6-12, and you would like to participate in the worship service, we'd love to have you! It's a fun and easy way to participate in our service. Below are the tasks available; in parentheses are the people you would work with. Email youth@overbrookpresb.org to sign up.

- The Liturgist assists with the worship service. (Pastor Adam)
- Ushers hand out bulletins, sometimes direct people before, during, and after service. (Usher or Worship & Music committee member)
- Greeters stand at doors and welcome people; they also assist those who require help. (Deacon)
- Scripture readers read the scripture during service. (Pastor Adam)
- Time with Children Storyteller reads a biblical book to children. (Anthony)
- Time with Children Prayer leads the prayer with children. (Anthony)
- A musician plays an instrument or sings. (Chris)

RETIRED PERSONS' MINISTRY

Please join RPM for our November events, each centered in gratitude and sharing… and each offering abundant, good-spirited fellowship. The Overbrook Area Retired Persons' Ministry (RPM) is a mutual ministry of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas and Overbrook Presbyterian Church. While OPC remains under renovation, all gatherings take place at St. Thomas (corner of Lancaster and Overbrook Avenues) or at Christ Community Church (Drexel Hill). We are deeply grateful for the generous support of our neighboring congregations.

RPM Café—Friday, November 20, 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Living into the belief that every day brings abundant opportunities for thanksgiving, the theme of the November Café is "Friendsgiving: Sharing and Inspiring Gratitude." Please join us in **Anderson Hall at the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas** for good-spirited fellowship, a fine hot lunch buffet, and an inspiring peer-led program. All attendees are encouraged to bring a canned or packaged food item for distribution to our area food banks.

Mission and Outreach

Feed my Starving Children (FMSC) Mobile-Pack—Saturday, November 14, 9:00 to 11:00 A.M. Overbrook has reserved ten spots to participate in a Mobile-Pack at **Haddonfield Presbyterian Church**. FMSC welcomes ages 5 to 100 and has a job for YOU and your family. There will be a sign-up at the Mission table this Sunday and next. You can **contact Becky Lazo (**rebeccalazo@hotmail.com**)** or **Suchita Fiorillo (**suchitafiorillo@gmail.com**)** for more information.

H-Can Donations-The next collection of supplies will be **Sunday, November 15.** Please check over the list and see how you and your family can help another family in need.

Breakfast

- 18-38 oz total; kid-friendly — Cheerios, Frosted Flakes, Corn Flakes
- Shelf-stable milk: 2 quarts shelf-stable milk (liquid or dry) or evaporated milk
- Coffee: 1 jar Instant coffee

Pasta Night

- Dry pasta (spaghetti, macaroni, bowties)
- Pasta sauce or canned tomatoes: 28 oz (no glass jars please)
- Instant mac and cheese (plain orange kind)

Gallo Pinto/Casamiento

- Rice: 6 lbs long-grain, not instant
- Beans: 2-3 lbs black or pinto beans
- Canola/vegetable oil: 40-48 oz
- Bouillon: 1 jar cubes/powder

Family Essentials

- Diapers (sizes 5–7)
- Wipes
- Feminine products

Food Pantry with Pinn Memorial: Volunteers Needed—Mondays and Tuesdays. Sharing food has always been part of our common life and work at Overbrook. Fellowship and solidarity provide both spiritual and physical nourishment. Now, there is a wonderful new opportunity for us to carry this work into sustained service to the community around us. We're asking you to join in!

SIGN UP ↓



Overbrook is partnering with **Pinn Memorial Baptist Church**, a neighboring congregation in our own 19131 area code. Pinn Memorial holds a very successful food bank every Wednesday morning, distributing food to those in need. Overbrook's main contribution at this point will be volunteers to help obtain and prepare the food in fellowship with Pinn members. We are asking those interested to sign up weekly so that the Pinn leaders will know how many helpers to expect. Here are the available days and times:

Mondays, 10:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
(Assisting with sorting and bagging food.)

Tuesdays, 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.
(Cleaning and bagging chicken for the next day's distribution.)

You can sign up for upcoming days using the QR code. We are very excited to work with an experienced and successful program and to share in a vital ministry to meet the needs around us!

Donna Bell and Scott Long
Mission and Outreach Ministry, Food Pantry Coordinators

PRAYER LIST

- Prayers of comfort and restoration of strength for Alexa and Amanada Benjamin's grandmother who is in the hospital.
- Prayers of strength and restoration for Fran Naimoli, Lisa Faso's aunt, who suffered a stroke.
- Prayers for healing and strength for Emma Biedermann as she recovers from surgery.
- Prayers for strength and restoration of health for Ryan Newman, a 13-year-old boy receiving treatment for bone cancer.
- Prayers of comfort and strength for all those mourning the loss of a loved one especially Bette Homer and Bob Bevan.
- Prayers for successful treatment and strength for Deb Talbot's husband, Ralph Snyder, diagnosed with abdominal cancer, and peace for Deb during this difficult time
- Prayers for strength and stamina for all of those who are facing a cancer diagnosis and chemotherapy or radiation treatments, including Elizabeth Mendoza, Sharon Townsend, Fred Saul, Mary Fields, Kari McDevitt, Catherine Bonita and so many others. Please give them peace, Lord.
- Prayers for continued recovery for Deb Rottinger following hip surgery.
- 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, Susan Leach, Beth Leach, Scott Long, Valerie Craig, Patricia MacCausland, Joan Moylan, Jim Moylan, Davorka Sabljak, Carolyn Summers, Nathan Tullio and Natalie DeShields, Beulah Wilson.

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	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:

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

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; **Zee Ann Mason**, Secretary

** indicates second consecutive term, * indicates one year term

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Denise Stewart	Margene Biedermann	Chris Bryan
Miriam Harden**	Zee Ann Mason	Karen Lord-Hurwitz
Leah Mayne**	Mike Rottinger **	Scott Long
Jason Sheau**	Laurie Geers	Sharon Elwell**
Joanne Roman*		Jill Van Rawley

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*
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*; **Jasper McQueen**, *bass*

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