
Overbrook Presbyterian Church



Worship Service
Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018
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. Raymond Bonwell
Lay Leader: Bob Harden; Acolyte: Marisa Phan
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music
Toffer Mihalka, tenor
The Overbrook Choir

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God
by Nickie Stokes in loving memory of Madelon Codgill.

Childcare is available during the worship service. Worship is for all ages, but should your infant or preschooler become restless during worship, excellent childcare is provided in our nursery.

Worship Kits for Children
are available at the front entrance to the Sanctuary.

Large Print Bulletins and Hymns are Available.
Please speak to one of the ushers if you have special needs.

Ushers:

Phil Sheau, Tyrone Frisby, Ron Homer, Jane Krumrine, Jim McDaniel,
Carol Tulba and Sean Whalen

Opener/Closer:
Bob Kaercher

Deacons Delivering Flowers:
Stephanie Morris and Suchita Fiorillo

Following worship today, please join us for refreshments
in the Wistar Morris Room. We would like to thank Mary Scott for
today's coffee hour. All are welcome!

*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 Johann Pachelbel
Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele (1653-1706)

INTROIT Eleanor Daley
Prepare ye the way of the Lord (b. 1955)

❖ **CALL TO WORSHIP** *-from Luke 1*

One: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

Many: **For the Lord has looked favorably on his people and
redeemed us.**

One: The Lord has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of the
Lord's servant David,

Many: **Thus the Lord has shown the mercy promised to our
ancestors, and has remembered the Lord's holy covenant,**

All: **By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us.**

❖ **HYMN No. 96** WINCHESTER NEW
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

GREETING *The Rev. Raymond Bonwell*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT

CANDLE *The Hunter Family*

RESPONSE: Hymn No. 88 VENI EMMANUEL
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
(Verses 3 and 4)

SERMON

The Rev. Raymond Bonwell

“Construction Ahead”

(Following the Sermon, students in Grades 3-12 will depart for Sunday School.)

❖ HYMN No. 87

FREU DICH SEHR, O MEINE SEELE

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH- (*Westminster Shorter Catechism 7.090*)

Q. 90. How is the Word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

A. That the Word may become effectual to salvation we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation, and prayer; receive it with faith and love; lay it up in our hearts; and practice it in our lives.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

The Rev. Raymond Bonwell

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER-*Debts/Debtors*

Page 35, *Glory to God Hymnal*

SHARING OF PEACE (*“The peace of Christ be with you,” “And also with you”*)

OFFERING

J. S. Bach

“Nun mögt ihr stolzen Feinde schrecken”
from *Weihnachtsoratorium (Christmas Oratorio)*

(1685-1750)

Toffer Mihalka, tenor

Nun mögt ihr stolzen Feinde schrecken;
Was könnt ihr mir für Furcht erwecken?
Mein Schatz, mein Hort ist hier bei mir.
Ihr mögt euch noch so grimmig stellen,
Droht nur, mich ganz und gar zu fällen,
Doch seht! mein Heiland wohnt hier.

Now, arrogant enemies, you may tremble;
What sort of fear can you arouse in me?
My treasure, my refuge is here with me.
You may still appear so fierce,
Threatening to defeat me once and for all,
Yet see! My Savior lives here

❖ DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

❖ HYMN No. 106

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Prepare the Way, O Zion

❖ BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH

❖ CHORAL RESPONSE

George Thalben-Ball

Bless the Lord, O my soul

(1896-1987)

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

POSTLUDE

Georg Böhm

Excerpt from *Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele*

(1661-1733)



This Week at Overbrook Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 9	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour
	12:00 p.m.	Deacons Meeting
Monday, December 10	5:15 p.m.	Junior Choir-Choir Room
Tuesday, December 11	7:00 p.m.	Session Meeting-Chapel
Wednesday, December 12	10:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
Thursday, December 13	6:15 p.m.	Handbell Choir-Bell Room (2 nd fl.)
	7:30 p.m.	Overbrook Choir-Choir Room
Sunday, December 16	9:15 a.m.	Adult Forum
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:30 a.m.	Congregational Meeting followed by Coffee Hour
	12:00 p.m.	Christian Education Committee

The cover artwork is a fifteenth-century painting of John the Baptist; it appears on the Altar of Saint Catherine in the Church of Saints John and Martin, located in Schwabach, Germany. He is shown carrying a lamb, symbolic of the sacrificial life of Jesus (in John 1:29, he exclaims, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world).

☞ Looking Ahead: Adult Christian Education

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study – Jonah! (Chapter 3, the good stuff.) More than 20 people have participated as we reflect upon this story that is so much more than "a whale of a tale." And you can too! Jonah will conclude on Dec. 19.

Sunday, Dec. 16, 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum – Why do Presbyterians hold Congregational Meetings? [Hint: we have one after worship on Dec. 16!]

☞ Looking Ahead: OPC Happenings

Today, December 9

Each year, Mission and Outreach Committee sponsors a giving project in gratitude for God's gifts. This year we offer the opportunity for you to help children transitioning into or out of foster care from the Village. Each of these children could greatly benefit from having a Comfort Case containing necessary and helpful items such as toiletries, blankets, journals, stuffed animals, and gift cards, plus space for their own personal items. Mission and Outreach has purchased large, light, attractive duffle-like bags to serve as Comfort Cases, and we need your help to finish filling them. They will be available today at Coffee Hour, with more instructions provided. Please contact Nancy Gilhool with any questions.

Tuesday, December 11:

Session Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Session meetings are open to observers. If you would like to attend a Tuesday Session meeting as an observer, please RSVP ahead of time to the Clerk of Session at skdavis@verizon.net. Meetings generally last two to two-and-a-half hours. If a confidential matter should arise, the Session may elect to go into executive session, and all observers would be asked to leave.—Sara Davis, Clerk of Session

Sunday, December 16

Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. Join us next Sunday to hear the Word from Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Luke 3:7-18. The sermon title is “Shout, Shout, Let It All Out!”

Special Congregational Meeting, immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting will be to receive the report of the Nominating Committee posting their slate of nominees for Elder, Deacon and the At-Large Members of the 2019 Nominating Committee. Since it is a Special Congregational Meeting, no other business may be conducted except the business at hand.

Sunday, December 30

Pre-College (11th and 12th grade) and College Students’ Lunch and Conversation, 12:30 pm. If you are home for winter break, come and meet up with other students—some already in college, some just finishing their first semester, some preparing to make the decision to go or not to go, and some who have recently finished college. Share your stories or just enjoy the lunch. Check our church website, <http://www.overbrookpresb.org/>, for more information. If you can attend, please let Artia Benjamin know by text at 215-266-8758 or by email at newlife5125@gmail.com. We are looking forward to seeing you.

☞ Looking Ahead: OPC Youth Happenings

Hanging of the Greens—December 22, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. All youth and friends are encouraged to participate in the Hanging of the Greens... *and more*. During this time, we'll also be helping with the Christmas Pageant costumes and scenery. Lunch will be provided.

Christmas Caroling at Simpson House—December 22, 1:30 p.m. All ages are invited to join in the Christmas Caroling. Yes... once again, we'll have great spirit and festive hats! (Drivers are needed for the caroling.)

Christmas Eve Family Service—December 24, 5:00 p.m. Youth leadership will be needed for worship... as ushers, artists, pageant participants, and readers. Please contact Sharon Parker if you are available to serve on Christmas Eve. If you would like to participate musically, you may contact Chris Gage.



Coffee Hour Hosts are needed for the following Sundays in December: the 23rd and the 30th. Instructions for this easily accomplished, highly valued ministry are available on the OPC web site and in the church kitchen (on the microwave). For more information, please contact Raelyn Harman at 610-331-8972 or Artia Benjamin. Thank you!



Just a reminder: The Christmas poinsettia sign-up sheet is now in the Wistar Morris Room. You can sign up anytime for your Christmas plant donation. Pay what you wish; monies can be dropped off at or mailed to the Church Office.

PNC Committee Process Update: The Overbrook Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) has started its work. Throughout October and November, the PNC met with the Presbytery and updated Overbrook's pastoral candidate requirements (with the approval of Session). Additionally, the PNC reviewed candidate materials and conducted initial interviews of pastoral candidates provided by the Presbytery. We have evaluated the information gathered during this interviewing process. Currently, we are inviting chosen candidates for second-round interviews. Please pray for us as we continue our charge of evaluating and proposing a pastoral candidate who we believe will faithfully serve the needs of our church family.

Looking Ahead: Advent and Christmas at OPC

Friday, December 21

Service of the Longest Night, 7:00 p.m. The excitement of the holidays can also bring challenges for each of us; the stresses and strains of preparation and celebrations can take their toll. Many people find that they have trouble feeling “in the spirit” because of the loss of a loved one, illness, an unsettling workplace environment, marital discord, or lingering sadness. Recognizing the emotional unevenness of the holidays, we will continue the practice of gathering in worship for The Service of the Longest Night. The service is so named because of its occurrence on the winter solstice, the longest night of the year. At this time of darkness, we will gather in worship, asking God’s blessing on our lives and seeking His loving guidance in our lives. May peace be a gift to all.

Saturday, December 22

Hanging of the Greens, 10:00 a.m.-1 p.m. All are welcome to participate in this annual event and help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas! We’ll be making window sill decorations and pew swags, as well as hanging festive garlands and decorations for the Sanctuary Christmas tree. There will be special craft activities for children in the Chapel, and they will be invited to decorate the tree in the Wistar Morris Room. A chilly day will call for a chili lunch... and warm fellowship for all who participate. For those who would like to continue the festivities, Simpson House welcomes us to come caroling at 1:30 p.m. Please sign up in the Wistar Morris Room.

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve Family Service, Dinner, and Gingerbread House Decorating, 5:00 p.m. This evening is a longtime OPC tradition. After the service, we will serve a simple supper of sandwiches, soup, veggie sticks, and cookies—giving the cooks in your home a much-needed break from the hectic holiday schedule (a free-will offering will be collected). Gingerbread houses will be ready for decorating at 7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be available online and during coffee hour for donations of cookies, soup, veggie tray, set-up and clean-up. Grown OPC “children” come back year after year for the gingerbread house decorating. Any families interested in the Gingerbread House Decorating, please email office@overbrookpresb.org or call the church office (215-877-2744) to reserve a house. Everyone is welcome.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 9:00 p.m. This traditional service presents lessons and carols to celebrate the birth of Christ. The Overbrook Quartet, along with organist Christopher Gage, will present a half-hour of Christmas preludes beginning at 8:30 p.m.

Sermon Notes

Prayer List

- ◆ We pray for Dela Geraldo and her husband, Serge, following the passing of her mother, Lucie Gumedzo.
- ◆ Ernestine Harris, mother in law of Lynn Pompa, is undergoing several cardiac procedures.
- ◆ Dick Williamson is undergoing medical testing.
- ◆ Luis Wong is now in the Salvation Army Rehab center in Roxborough.
- ◆ The Rev. David McMillan is recovering from knee surgery.
- ◆ Terri Carter's is home recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- ◆ Wayne Gage, Chris Gage's father, is recovering from a heart procedure.
- ◆ Jessica Canning, a friend of Eileen Wiggins, is in hospice following brain surgery.
- ◆ We offer prayers of thanksgiving for Christopher, Peggy Boatwright's grandson, who has now returned to his elementary school.
- ◆ John Nathaniel is still recovering from a recent stroke.
- ◆ Ellen Burr is experiencing ongoing medical concerns.

Please contact Mike Rottinger for any pastoral concerns or to add names to the prayer list. Mike can be reached by email (mike.rottinger@comcast.net). You can also leave a message with the Church Office.

OPC COMMITTEES AND CONTACTS

Christian Education	Will Schick: willsch84@yahoo.com Becky Lazo: rebeccalazo@hotmail.com
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OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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www.overbrookpresb.org

The Rev. Raymond Bonwell - *Bridge Pastor*

The Rev. David McMillan - *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. Christopher Gage - *Director of Music*

Sharon Parker - *Director of Christian Education*

Lisa Faso - *Office Manager*

Carol Rozmiarek - *Financial Secretary*

Leonard Robbins - *Church Custodian*

The Overbrook Quartet:

Iris Fairfax, *soprano*; Molly McDonald, *alto*;

Toffer Mihalka, *tenor*; Matthew Lulofs, *bass*

**Overbrook Presbyterian Church
is a welcoming and diverse Christian community
that actively seeks to love and serve God,
each other and the world.**
