



Overbrook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 29, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church
(on the Road)

We are glad you are worshiping with us this morning!

Notes on Today's Service

Leadership:

The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson, Pastor

Rachel Carnahan, Liturgist

Sharon Parker, Parish Care Associate

Anthony M. Carrella, Director of Children and Family Ministry

Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music

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 and Hymns are Available.

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

Following worship today, all are welcome to join us for Fellowship Hour, hosted by Elizabeth Mendoza.

❖ *Stand as you are able*

GATHERING IN

PRELUDE

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel Carnahan

By Tim Graves

Leader: We waited.

People: **And imagined a savior.**

Leader: We imagined power.

People: **One like the world but stronger and on our side.**

Leader: We imagined a king on a white horse wielding a sword.

People: **We got a baby born in a stable among the livestock.**

Leader: We imagined the work done for us through the destruction of our enemies.

People: **We receive a baby who will teach us our calling to seek reconciliation and to love expansively.**

Leader: Praise be to God for the unexpected babe of Bethlehem.

All: **Praise to the wisdom of love. Amen!**

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

THE FIRST NOWELL

The First Nowell

WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE (*unison*)

Psalms 51:10-11

Make in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

EMBRACING GOD'S GRACE

❖ GLORIA PATRI

HYMN No. 581

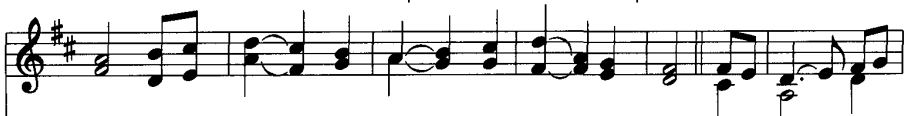
Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen, amen.



1. The first Now - ell the an - gel did say, was to cer - tain poor
2. For all to see there was a star shin - ing in the
3. And by the light of that same star the wise men
4. Then let us all with one ac - cord sing prais - es



shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keep - ing their
east, be - yond them far, and to the earth it gave great
came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their in -
to our heav - en - ly Lord who hath made heaven and earth of



sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night. Now - ell, Now -
tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
naught, and with His blood hu - man - kind hath bought.



ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, born is the King of Is - ra - el.



The service continues on the previous page.
HEARING THE WORD
through SONG and SCRIPTURE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

John 1:1-14

Rachel Carnahan

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

WONDERFUL CHILD

Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child

SECOND READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

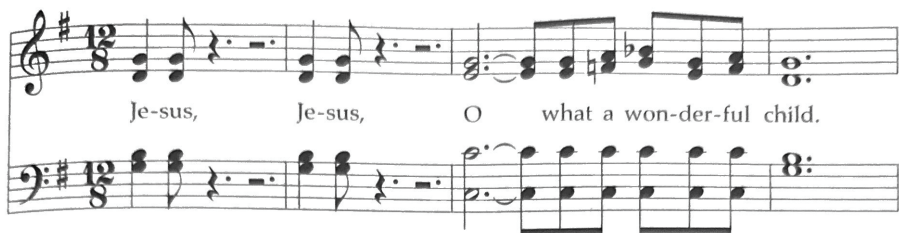
Adam Hearlson

❖ HYMN (*two pages forward*)

GLORIA

Angels We Have Heard on High

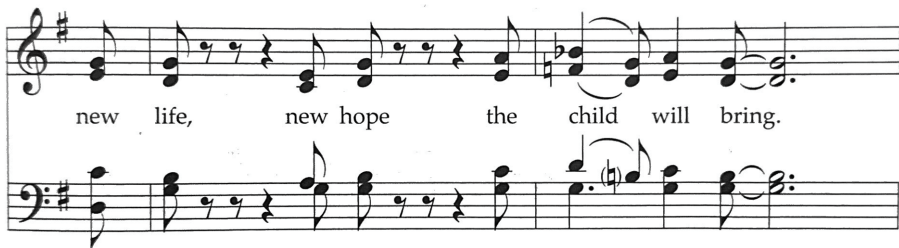




Je-sus, Je-sus, O what a won-der-ful child.



Je-sus, Je-sus, so ho-ly, meek and mild;



new life, new hope the child will bring.



Lis-ten to the an-gels sing: "Glo-ry,



glo-ry, glo-ry!" Let the heav-ens ring."

Specific sources for the words and the music of this piece from the African American heritage remain uncertain. The predictable rhymes suggest that, like "Jesus, the Light of the World" (see no. 127), it may have originated as a reflection on an existing Christmas carol.

The service continues on the previous page.

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains:
 What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Glo - - - - - ri - a,

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - - - - -


- - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

The service continues on the next page.

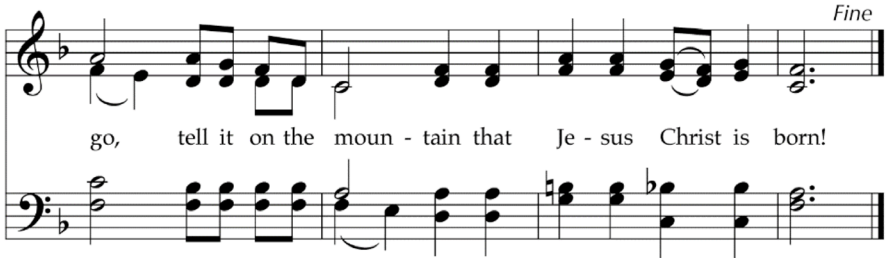
❖ HYMN No. 136 (*below*)

GO TELL IT

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

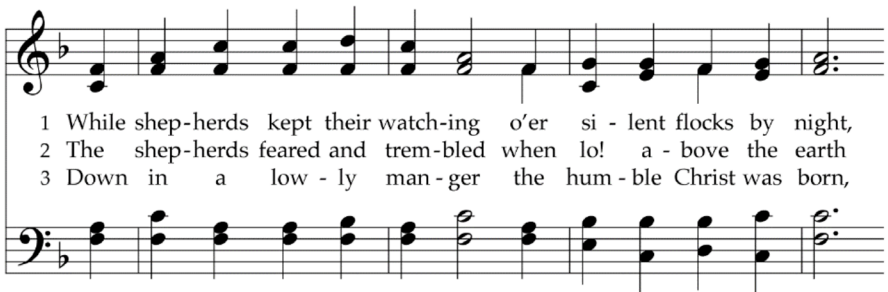
Refrain 


Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

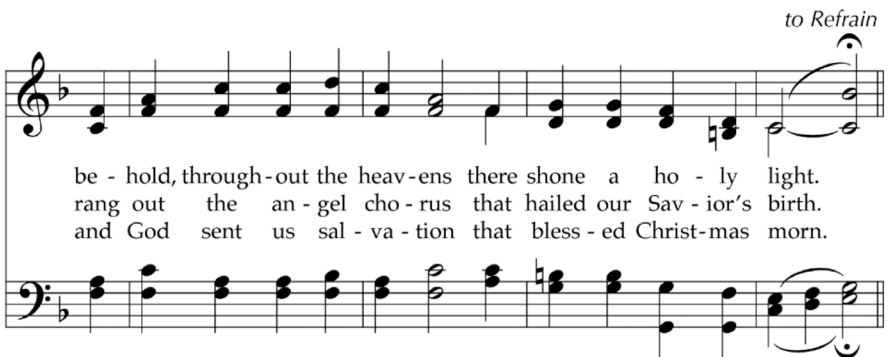


go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

Fine



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

to Refrain

READING

A Christmas Hymn
by Richard Wilbur

Adam Hearlson

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

IRBY

Once in Royal David's City

❖ THE 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

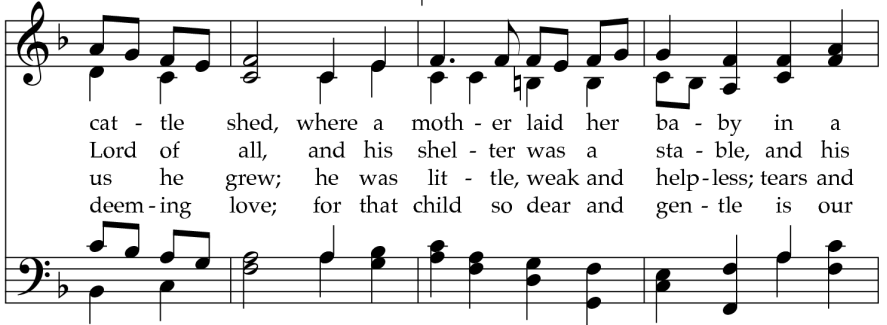
Adam Hearlson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

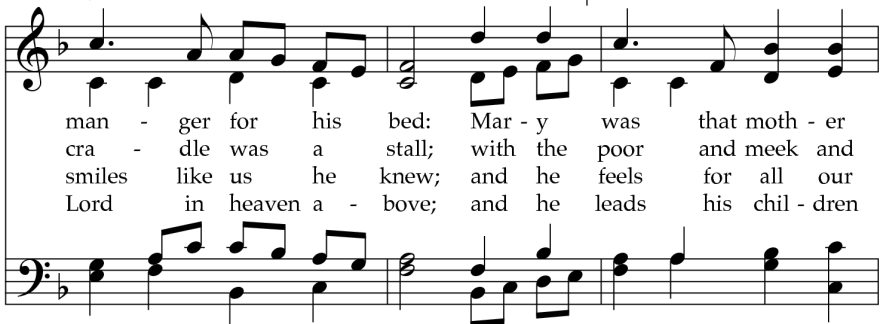
Adam Hearlson



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
 3 Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day like
 4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re -



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 us he grew; he was lit - tle, weak and help - less; tears and
 deem - ing love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and meek and
 smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our
 Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren



mild; Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.

Like "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (see no. 20), this popular Christmas hymn was written by an Irish poet to illustrate for children the various articles of the Apostles' Creed. It is not known which of several English villages the composer had in mind when naming this tune.

The service continues on the previous page.

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

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

❖ DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDDTH

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

Rachel Carnahan

Loving God, the light breaks forth and the shadows of night retreat. Bless these gifts that they might be light the world needs to see your arrival. May they bring glory to a world in need. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

STAR IN THE EAST

There's a Star in the East

1 There's a star in the east on Christ-mas morn. Rise up, shep-herd, and
 2 If you take good heed to the an - gel's words, rise up, shep-herd, and

fol - low. It will lead to the place where the Christ was born.
 fol - low. You'll for - get your flocks; you'll for - get your herds.

Refrain

Rise up, shep-herd, and fol - low. Fol - low, fol - low;

rise up, shep-herd, and fol - low. Fol - low the star of

Beth - le - hem. Rise up, shep-herd, and fol - low.

This African American spiritual, cast in a characteristic call-and-response style, provides a reminder that the good news of the Incarnation should lead Christians not only to awe and adoration but also to living and acting in ways that make God's purposes known to others.

POSTLUDE

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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

“Look Here!”: Stained-Glass Pictures Wanted. The Stained Glass Committee is looking to gather any pictures you may have of the windows that were in the Sanctuary. We know that some of you may have taken them in moments of awe or distraction; they will be of great use to us and our partners at Pittsburgh Stained Glass Studios. Please send them to stainedglass@overbrookpresb.org.

No Centering Prayer or Bible Study—Wednesday, January 1, 2025. These opportunities will resume on Wednesday, January 8.

Inquirer Class—January 12 and 19, 9:30 A.M. The Welcoming Committee and Adam would like to announce that our next set of Inquirer Classes will be held next month. Childcare will be available on request. Contact Elizabeth Mendoza (welcoming@overbrookpresb.org) for more information.

Fellowship Hour Hosts Needed for 2025. If you would like to host but think you need a hand, if you are able to help set up and clean up but need assistance with food, or if you need supplies, CLC can help! (Note that the coffee service is a separate ministry.) Please scan the QR code to sign up. If you would like more information or have any questions about this ministry, feel free to reach out to clc@overbrookpresb.org.



Chancel Flowers. Please consider donating the Sunday morning chancel flowers in honor/memory of a loved or simply in a celebration of or thanksgiving for the many blessings we receive every day. The cost of the flowers is **\$60.00**, but you may contribute what you wish. To sign up, follow the link to the sign-up genius: <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.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa (manager@overbrookpresb.org) or Carol (carol@overbrookpresb.org).

MISSION & OUTREACH

Life Center of Eastern Delaware County Meal—Tuesday, December 31. Under the guidance of Nancy Gilhool, we will prepare dinner for the residents of the Life Center of Eastern Delaware County. If you can shop, chop, stir, open a can, or perform any other culinary activity, you are needed! Stay tuned for where and when; please contact Nancy Gilhool (gilhoolfam@verizon.net) to let her know of your interest.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Year-End Donations. As we approach the end of 2024, we encourage anyone who wishes to complete their 2024 pledge or make a year-end contribution to do so. Please note that all donations must be postmarked by December 31, 2024, to be eligible for a 2024 tax deduction.

2025 Pledge. If you have not yet submitted your pledge card for 2025, you may still do so. Pledge cards can be added to the offering plate during offertory or made online. Anyone that still would like to pledge can do so electronically by following this link: <https://onrealm.org/overbrookpresb/AddPledge/2025pledge>

Offset your Apportionment. Each year, our church makes a significant financial contribution to the Presbytery and the PC(USA), helping to support their vital work and mission. We contribute \$32 per member, totaling nearly \$12,000 annually. We are inviting members of our congregation to consider offsetting their share with a \$32 donation. Your contribution will not only sustain the important mission of the Presbytery but also help reduce the financial burden on our church. To contribute, please scan the QR code.



YOUTH MINISTRY

Next Monthly Youth Group—Friday, January 10, 2025, 5:30 to 8:00 P.M. Our 6th-12th graders will gather over food, games, movies, and conversation in the basement of Overbrook Presbyterian Church. All those 18+ will require clearances. Contact Suchita Fiorillo (youth@overbrookpresb.org) if you have any questions.

Volunteer Opportunity: Sunday School Teachers Needed! We are looking for dedicated and compassionate volunteers to teach Sunday School for our middle- and high-school students. This is an exciting opportunity to make a lasting impact on young lives by helping them grow in their faith and navigate life's challenges. Please note that all volunteers must have their clearances completed. If you're ready to invest in the spiritual development of our students, scan the QR code to the right. Feel free to reach out to Corinna Bowser (corinnabowser@gmail.com) with any questions.



Prayer List

- Prayers of consolation and compassion for Jeff and Janet Bowker following the death of their beloved daughter Kim.
- Prayers of consolation and comfort for Gloria Brabham and her family following the recent death of her mother.
- Prayers for healing mercies for James Robbins, brother of Leonard Robbins, who is under medical care following an accident.
- Prayers for restoration of health for Gwen Anthony, following surgery to treat lung cancer.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Joe Blair as he remains under medical care.
- Prayers for restoration of health for Mary Lou Ryce, as she remains under cardiac care.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Lillian Carnahan, mother of Rachel, and she transitions to assisted living at Simpson House.
- Prayers for restoration of health for Nancy, Cindi Landmesser's aunt, who is facing in-going medical challenges.
- Prayers for Janie Martin's cousin, Maureen Cook, who is undergoing medical care for pancreatic cancer.
- Prayers for comfort and peace for Mary Scott as she receives home hospice care.
Prayers for compassionate care and comfort for Jim Mc Daniel's mother, Doris McDaniel, who is receiving hospice care.
- Prayers for healing and comfort for Holly, Christine, and Connie, friends of Margaret Young.
- Prayers for all who are facing health concerns, especially Jane Bevan, Bob Bevan, Scott Long, Gwen Harden, Ed Harvey, Milton Stokes, Valerie Craig, Joan Moylan, Jim Moylan, Dela Geraldo, Susan Leach, and Natalie DeShields.
- Prayers of gratitude for the faith communities that continue to sustain Overbrook during our time of relocation.
- Prayers for vision, wisdom, and stamina for all who are leading and supporting the revitalization and restoration efforts of Overbrook.

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 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Herb Brabham**	Elizabeth Cosgriff**	Artia Benjamin
Elizabeth Mendoza**	Bob Harden, Jr.**	Joseph Blair
Brian Taussig-Lux	Linda Huff-Paul**	Keedra Carroll**
Christoph Von Andreae	Corinna Bowser	Solomon Hunter**
Mimi Winkler	Cheryl Davis	Nathalie May**

OPC DEACONS:

Bill Baker, Moderator, Board of Deacons

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; Mary Lou Ryce, Secretary

* indicates one-year term; ** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Gloria Brabham	Dela Geraldo	Denise Stewart
Nancy Gilhool**	Sharon Elwell	Miriam Harden**
Mike Rottinger	Bill Baker**	Hannah Lazo*
Mary Lou Ryce**	Bob Kaercher**	Leah Mayne**
Sabrina Johnson	Philip Brown	Jason Sheau**

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; Syrena Torres, 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.”
