



# Overbrook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 23, 2025 | 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church  
(on the Road)

We are glad you are worshipping with us this morning!

Notes on Today's Service

Leadership:

The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson, Pastor  
Raelyn Harman, Liturgist  
Anthony Carrella, Director of Children and Family Ministry  
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music  
The Overbrook Choir  
Toffer Mihalka, tenor

Today's chancel flowers are given by Margaret Young  
in loving memory of her mother, Eola Valentine Lundeen.

**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 Evelyn Nkwenti in honor of Aura Marshall's baptism.

*Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare for worship,  
and remember to silence all electronic devices before the service*

❖ *Stand as you are able*

## GATHERING IN

### PRELUDE

### INTROIT

I will lift up mine eyes

Ann Ker  
(b. 1938)

### ❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Raelyn Harman

*from Psalm 89:1-4 (NRSV)*

Leader: Beloved of God,

People: **Let us love one another, for love comes from God.**

Leader: Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.  
This is love:

People: **Not that we loved God,**

**but that God loved us and sent Jesus as a sacrifice for our sins.**

Leader: God is love.

People: **Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.**

Leader: Blessed Creator, may your love reign.

All: **May your love gather us today and may your love send us out to  
love the world.**

Leader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;

People: **with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness  
to all generations.**

Leader: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

People: **your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

Leader: You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,

People: **I have sworn to my servant David:**

Leader: 'I will establish your descendants forever,

All: **and build your throne for all generations.'"**

**Praise the Lord!**

### ❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

ST. ANNE

**Our God, Our Help in Ages Past**

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our  
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine  
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing  
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
 bears all our years away;  
 they fly forgotten, as a dream  
 dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past,  
 our hope for years to come,  
 be thou our guard while life shall last,  
 and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

WELCOME

*Adam Hearlson*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE (*unison*)

*Raelyn Harman*

Awesome and compassionate God,  
you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy,  
but we have not loved you.  
You constantly call us, but we do not listen.  
You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbors in need,  
wrapped in our own concerns.  
We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.  
God of grace, as you come to us in mercy,  
we repent in spirit and in truth,  
admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness  
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. 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.

## HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 15:21-28

*Raelyn Harman*

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

# SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Aura Marshall*

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

❖ 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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

WELCOMING AURA TO THE FAMILY OF FAITH

HYMN

JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus Loves Me**

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong.

They are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

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

SOLO

Karen Marroli  
(b. 1975)

We Walk by Faith  
*Toffer Mihalka, tenor*

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We walk by faith and not by sight;  
no gracious words we hear  
from him who spoke as none e'er spoke,  
but we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side,  
nor follow where he trod;  
but in his presence we rejoice  
and cry, "my Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near  
and seek where you are found.

That, when our life of faith is done,  
in realms of clearer light,  
may we behold you as you are,  
with full and endless sight.

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*Henry Alford (1810-1871)*

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

Galatians 5:22-26

*Adam Hearlson*

SERMON

"The Fruit of the Spirit: Faithfulness"  
*(Following the sermon youth in Grades 6-12  
are encouraged to recess for Sunday School.)*

*Adam Hearlson*

❖ HYMN *(on next page)*

SANDON

God of Our Life, through All the Circling Years

1 God of our life, through all the cir-cling years, we trust in thee.  
 2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us a - bide.  
 3 God of the com - ing years, through paths un-known we fol-low thee.

In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.  
 Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land. Be thou our guide.  
 When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone. Our ref-uge be.

With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the veil,  
 With thee to bless, the dark - ness shines as light,  
 Be thou for us in life our dai - ly bread,

we own thy mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.  
 and faith's fair vi - sion chang - es in - to sight.  
 our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

This text was created for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by its pastor. He wrote these words especially for this tune, originally composed for John Henry Newman's text "Lead, Kindly Light."



## ❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

### *Theological Declaration of Barmen*

“Let us, however, speak the truth in love, and in every respect grow into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body is joined together.”  
Eph. 4:15-16

The Christian Church is the community of brethren in which, in Word and Sacrament, through the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ acts in the present as Lord. With both its faith and its obedience, with both its message and its order, it has to testify in the midst of the sinful world, as the Church of pardoned sinners, that it belongs to him alone and lives and may live by his comfort and under his direction alone, in expectation of his appearing.

We reject the false doctrine that the Church could have permission to hand over the form of its message and of its order to whatever it itself might wish or to the vicissitudes of the prevailing ideological and political convictions of the day.

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

LIFE AT THE CROSSROADS

*Adam Hearlson*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Christy Lang Hearlson*

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

R. Nathaniel Dett  
(1882-1943)

Gently, Lord, O Gently Lead Us  
*The Overbrook Choir*

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Gently, Lord, O gently lead us  
Pilgrims in this vale of tears,  
Through the trials yet decreed us,  
Till our last great change appears.  
When temptation's darts assail us,  
When in devious paths we stray,  
Let Thy goodness never fail us,  
Lead us in Thy perfect way.

In the hour of pain and anguish,  
In the hour when death draws near,  
Suffer not our hearts to languish,  
Suffer not our souls to fear.  
And when mortal life is ended,  
Bid us in Thine arms to rest,  
Till, by angel bands attended,  
We awake among the blest. Amen.

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*Thomas Hastings (1784-1872)*

### ❖ DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 607

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

*Raelyn Harman*

Gracious God,  
everything we have comes from you.  
You fill us with good things.  
Our hearts and lives overflow with your abundance.  
With thanksgiving, we bring to you our time, talents, and tithes.  
Use these gifts that you have given us  
to feed others as we have been fed,  
to serve others as we have been served,  
and to bless others as we have been blessed,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

# SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN

WE'VE COME THIS FAR

We've Come This Far by Faith

First system of musical notation. The treble clef staff contains the melody, and the bass clef staff contains the accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, then eighth notes C5 and B4, eighth notes A4 and G4, and a half note F#4. The accompaniment consists of quarter notes G2, A2, B2, and C3, followed by a series of chords and eighth notes.

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord,

Second system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melody, and the bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. The melody features a series of chords and eighth notes. The accompaniment features a series of chords and eighth notes.

trust-ing in the ho-ly Word; God's nev-er failed us yet.

Third system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melody, and the bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. The melody features a series of chords and eighth notes. The accompaniment features a series of chords and eighth notes. There are triplets in both staves.

O, can't turn a-round, we've come this

Fourth system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melody, and the bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. The melody features a series of chords and eighth notes. The accompaniment features a series of chords and eighth notes. The system ends with a double bar line.

far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

❖BENEDICTION

Adam Hearlson

❖CHORAL RESPONSE

Hold thee still in the Lord

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

POSTLUDE

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

Music Spotlight: Anthem at the Offering



Robert Nathaniel Dett was born and raised in Canada but spent most of his career in the United States. He was known for his use of African-American folk songs, seeking not to improve it but instead to feature it in worship. This piece uses a Bahamian spiritual, “Dig My Grave Long an’ Narrow,” for its main melody. Because it is a work of medium length, listen to how certain melodic and rhythmic ideas are reused and adapted to the text that they accompany.

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

**Fellowship Hour Hosts Needed.** 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](mailto:clc@overbrookpresb.org).



**Chancel Flowers—Donations needed.** Please consider donating the Sunday morning chancel flowers in honor/memory of a loved or simply in a celebration 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/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.

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

**Centering Prayer—Wednesday, February 26, 9:30 A.M.** Centering Prayer takes every Wednesday morning at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El. This practice offers opportunities for both spoken and contemplative prayer. All are welcome.

**Bible Study—Wednesday, February 26, 10:30 AM.** All are welcome to join us for Bible Study at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El.

## EASTER PLANS

As we prepare our hearts for Lent and Eastertide, we are grateful to share that our Easter Sunday service will be held at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El, in their fellowship hall. This incredible act of hospitality was extended to us by Rabbi Ethan Witkovsky and the synagogue's executive board, and we are deeply humbled by their generosity, especially given that our Easter Sunday falls on the final day of Passover. Session discussed and accepted the invitation on behalf of OPC at its most recent meeting.

Overbrook has long been a church that values welcome, and in this moment, we are blessed to receive that same spirit of welcome from our Jewish neighbors. The synagogue has encouraged us to celebrate Easter in the full-throated Overbrook way. Their hospitality encompasses our sacred symbols, our sacred songs, and our resurrection proclamations. Out of respect for our hosts and this holy time, we have agreed to use matzoh for Communion, and fellowship hour food and drink will be kosher.

In extending the invitation, Rabbi Ethan shared with me a story of his time serving at Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City. This is one of the largest conservative synagogues in the U.S. - so much so that its congregation cannot fit into its space during the High Holy Days, and they have been welcomed into a neighboring Episcopal church for their services. So the invitation to Overbrook felt quite natural.

Temple Beth Hillel- Beth El's kindness is a beautiful testament to the power of community and a shared commitment to loving our neighbor at a time when our world can feel divided. Love blossoms in both giving and receiving. We invite you to join us in gratitude as we gather on Easter morning. Additionally, we hope to provide some shared programming in the coming months so that our congregations can grow closer in relationship and understanding.

With gratitude and anticipation,  
Adam Hearlson

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Youth Opportunity: “Walking the Walk.”** Sponsored by Interfaith Philadelphia, the nationally recognized “Walking the Walk®” youth initiative brings high-school-aged youth together from across different faith and spiritual traditions to learn about the religious and cultural diversity of our region, strengthen their identity and values, and grow as leaders with empathy, curiosity, and skills for allyship and solidarity. This cohort will be based in the Broomall/Media areas, with visits to houses of worship of participating students. To learn more, scan the QR code.



**Kensington Project—Today.** OPC Youth are once again going to minister to our friends in Kensington this afternoon after worship. Contact Becky Lazo ([rebeccalazo@hotmail.com](mailto:rebeccalazo@hotmail.com)) with any questions on this ministry.

## CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

**Parents: Support the Fellowship Hour!** To foster a safe, warm, and welcoming multigenerational atmosphere at Overbrook, we are strongly encouraging parents and caregivers to volunteer their time to support Fellowship Hour. We’re seeking parents to sign up for a brief 10-minute setup or cleanup shift for the children’s Fellowship Hour games. Volunteers commit to one month and share the role with a partner. If one of you cannot make it on a Sunday, the other will fill in. To read detailed instructions and add your name to the rotation, please visit [tinyurl.com/CFM-Fellowship](http://tinyurl.com/CFM-Fellowship) If you have any questions, you can reach Anthony or Molly in person or by email: [cfm@overbrookpresb.org](mailto:cfm@overbrookpresb.org).

## RETIRED PERSON’S MINISTRY

**Date Change: RPM Cafe** - The RPM Cafe originally scheduled for February 28, has been rescheduled for Friday, March 7 to coincide with World Day of Prayer. All are welcome to join us for a buffet lunch and an inspirational program, as we commemorate World Day of Prayer and celebrate the Lenten journey. Our guest presenters will share the unique spiritual experiences that led them on their paths to faith. Come join us from 11:30 AM-1:00 PM in Anderson Hall, The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, 6361 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa 19151. Responses appreciated by March 5. Please contact Sharon Parker ([sparker6145@gmail.com](mailto:sparker6145@gmail.com)).

## *Abundant gratitude and love...*

Beloved Friends,

Words cannot adequately express my gratitude for last Sunday afternoon's worship service and reception. Your acknowledgement of my call and service to Overbrook was deeply moving. Our time together on Sunday will be among my most treasured memories. My family and I were richly blessed by your generous gifts of presence, creativity, personal reflections, and abundant good spirit.

Throughout my life at Overbrook, you have graciously welcomed me, prayed for me, invited me into your lives, and offered me abundant opportunities for ministry. You entrusted me with your precious children and youth in the rambling confines of our church, and in the Appalachian mountains of West Virginia and Pennsylvania. You held me close in prayer when I was called to serve God's people in Papua New Guinea and Myanmar. In times of my greatest need, you sat at my hospital bedside, later providing home visits, encouragement, laughter, and casseroles!

Although retired from my staff role, I remain united with you in membership and friendship. I will always be grateful for the pastoral care and inspiration of Pastor Adam, the commitment and vision of the Elders and Deacons with whom I have served, and for the unique gifts and faithful service of the OPC staff. I am confident that God is calling another parish care partner in ministry to Overbrook, and that they are now praying their way to us. I look forward to the day when we will all gather to extend a warm and wide Overbrook welcome.

It's a joy to be Overbrook!

Love and blessings to you,  
Sharon Parker



## Prayer List

- Prayers for restoration of health for Joe Blair as he receives ongoing medical care.
- Prayers of support for the Eastling family as they navigate challenging times.
- Prayers for compassionate care and comfort for Phil Sheau's nieces in laws, Sandi Mon and Emma Mon, who both are receiving hospice care.
- Prayers for peace and comfort for Phil Sheau's cousin, Mark Der Bing, as he enters hospice care.
- Prayers for restoration of health for Gwen Anthony, as she remains under medical care.
- Prayers for restoration of health for Mary Lou Ryce, as she remains under cardiac care.
- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health for Peter Seidel following hip replacement surgery.
- Prayers for Janie Martin's cousin, Maureen Cook, who is undergoing medical care for pancreatic cancer.
- Prayers for compassionate care and comfort for Jim Mc Daniel's mother, Doris McDaniel, who is receiving hospice care.
- 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 and Natalie DeShields.
- Prayers for strength, guidance and peace for all who are facing life transitions and confronted with challenging decisions.
- Prayers for strength, guidance, and wisdom for parents facing the daily challenges of balancing precious time between the needs of their beloved children and diverse life and career demands.
- Prayers for strength, peace, and comfort for all who parent young families, while also caring for their aging loved ones.
- 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.
- Prayers for strength, peace and hope for all people impacted by the changing national environment.

*Please contact Lisa Faso ([manager@overbrookpresb.org](mailto:manager@overbrookpresb.org)) or Adam Hearlson ([adam@overbrookpresb.org](mailto:adam@overbrookpresb.org)) to add names to the prayer list.*

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## OPC SESSION MEMBERS:

Adam Hearlson, Moderator

Raelyn Harman, Clerk of Session; Stephanie Morris, Treasurer

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

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Elizabeth Cosgriff**	Artia Benjamin	Brian Burke
Bob Harden, Jr.**	Joseph Blair	Karen Testa
Janie Martin*	Keedra Carroll**	Brian Taussig-Lux**
Corinna Bowser	Solomon Hunter**	Christoph Von Andreae**
Cheryl Davis	Nathalie May**	Mimi Winkler**

## OPC DEACONS:

Bill Baker, Moderator, Board of Deacons

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; Denise Stewart, Secretary

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

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Dela Geraldo	Denise Stewart	Margene Biedermann
Sharon Elwell	Miriam Harden**	Mads Piatt Cosgriff
Bill Baker**	Hannah Lazo*	Rebecca Lazo
Bob Kaercher**	Leah Mayne**	Zee Ann Mason
Philip Brown	Jason Sheau**	Mike Rottinger**

## OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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[www.overbrookpresb.org](http://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*

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.”

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