



# Overbrook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 19, 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

Janie Martin, Liturgist

Anthony Carrella, Director of Children and Family Ministry

Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music

The Overbrook Choir

Syrena Torres, mezzo-soprano

Today's chancel flowers are given by Eileen Wiggins in celebration of the baptisms of Yiran Xie and Grace Xie Epley children of Isabella Xie and Jonathan Epley Wiggins.

**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 Sunanda Charles Brown.

*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

The Lord is in his holy temple

Ann Ker  
(b. 1938)

❖CALL TO WORSHIP

*Janie Martin*

*By Martin Luther King, Jr.; among the most frequent and consistent prayers of his ministry  
from 1954 to 1968.*

Leader: And unto him who is able to keep us from falling

People: **And lift us from the dark valley of despair to the mountain of  
hope**

Leader: From the midnight of desperation

People: **To the daybreak of joy**

Leader: To him be the power and authority

All: **Forever and ever. Amen.**

❖HYMN (*on next two pages*)

LIFT EVERY VOICE

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en  
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening  
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -  
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had  
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening  
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry  
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?  
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but also among all who seek liberation from oppression.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought  
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -  
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -  
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at  
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.  
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

WELCOME

*Adam Hearlson*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE (*unison*)

*Janie Martin*

*A prayer from Martin Luther King after the delivery of his sermon, "Man's Sin and God's Grace," at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.*

Oh God, our graciously heavenly Father, help us to see the meaning of this grace, and help us to realize that in our sinful lives there is some hope, there is a way out through Thy powerful and ever-flowing grace. In the name and Spirit of Jesus, we pray. 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

FIRST READING

Psalm 36:5-10

*Janie Martin*

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Yiran Xie Epley and Grace Xie Epley*

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 YIRAN AND GRACE 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

H. Leslie Adams  
(1932-2024)

Prayer

*Syrena Torres, mezzo-soprano*

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I ask you this:  
Which way to go?  
I ask you this:  
Which sin to bear?  
Which crown to put  
Upon my hair?  
I do not know,  
Lord God,  
I do not know.

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*Langston Hughes (1927)*

SECOND READING  
The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Galatians 5:22-26

*Adam Hearlson*

SERMON

“The Fruit of the Spirit: Peace”  
*(Following the sermon, learners in Grades 6-12  
are encouraged to recess to Sunday School.)*

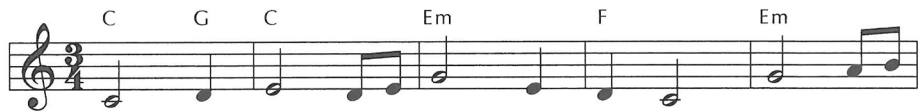
*Adam Hearlson*

❖ HYMN *(on next page)*

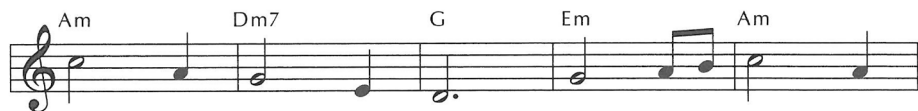
CHARLESTOWN

All Who Love and Serve Your City





1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who  
 2 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed  
 3 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the  
 4 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for  
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the  
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a  
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our



peace and jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless:  
 word of Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."  
 world that spurns him, of - fering peace from Cal - vary's hill.  
 judge, our glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This 20th-century text greatly enriches the neglected genre of urban hymns. The second stanza quotes John 9:4, the third stanza refers to Jesus weeping over Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37/Luke 13:34), and the final line cites the name given to Israel's future holy city (Ezekiel 48:35).

## ❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*From the writings of Martin Luther King, Jr., compiled by the United Presbyterian Church.*

I refuse to believe that we are unable to influence the events which surround us.

I refuse to believe that we are so bound to racism and war, that peace, brotherhood, and sisterhood are not possible.

I believe there is an urgent need for people to overcome oppression and violence, without resorting to violence and oppression.

I believe that we need to discover a way to live together in peace, a way that rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation. The foundation of this way is love.

I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. I believe that right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant.

I believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies; education and culture for their minds; and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits.

I believe that what self-centered people have torn down, other-centered people can build up.

By the goodness of God at work within people, I believe that brokenness can be healed. "And the lion and the lamb shall lie down together, and everyone will sit under their own vine and fig tree, and none shall be afraid."

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

LIFE AT THE CROSSROADS

*Adam Hearlson*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Thomas Attwood

O God, who by the leading of a star (1765-1838)  
*The Overbrook Choir*

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O God, who by the leading of a star  
didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles,  
mercifully grant that we who know thee now by faith,  
may after this life have the fruition of thy glorious Godhead,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

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*The Collect for Epiphany*

#### ❖ 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

*Janie Martin*

God, may these gifts make straight the path of the Lord. May they bind up the broken hearted and honor the ignored. May they be the answer to dreams long deferred. Amen.

### SENDING FORTH

#### ❖ HYMN (*on next two pages*)

CWM RHONDDA

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple  
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -  
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its  
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our  
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in  
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

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.

❖BENEDICTION

Adam Hearlson

❖CHORAL RESPONSE

I will lay me down in peace

Eric Thiman  
(1900-1975)

POSTLUDE

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

Music Spotlight: Anthem at the Offering



H. Leslie Adams was known for combining elements of Western classical music with African-American traditions. Today's piece is interesting for a number of reasons, but one aspect is especially notable. Langston Hughes's poem conveys a sense of uncertainty, instead relying on trusting in the Lord. Listen to how the highest note of the piano part never settles on one note, instead moving among several in the same area of the keyboard—a hesitant wavering that mirrors the mood of the text.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Memorial to the Lost. For 9 years, OPC has provided for and hosted the Memorial to the Lost, an effort by Heeding God's Call and OPC to bring attention to the tragic number of Philadelphians who died during the year as a result of gun violence. Writing the name, birthdate, and date of death of each victim on a tee-shirt to be displayed on church grounds honors the memory of each victim.

- **Monday, January 20, 9:00 A.M.** Participate in the erection of the *Memorial to the Lost* on OPC church grounds.
- **Monday, January 20, 11:00 A.M.** Join Pastor Adam at the Crossroads as he leads the community in prayer for the victims and their families and for an end to gun violence.

Building Update and Congregational Meeting—Sunday, January 26, after worship. Join us for a meeting to discuss the latest developments in our building project.

**“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](mailto:stainedglass@overbrookpresb.org).

**Centering Prayer—Wednesday, January 22, 9:30 A.M.** Centering Prayer takes every Wednesday morning at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El. This practice offers the opportunity for both spoken and contemplative prayer. All are warmly welcome.

**Bible Study—Wednesday, January 22, 10:30 AM.** All are welcome to join us for Bible Study at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El.

**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 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/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)).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Volunteer Opportunity: Sunday School Teachers Needed!** Do you have a passion for guiding and inspiring the next generation? 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. Details on how to complete clearances are on the sign-up genius. 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](mailto:corinnabowser@gmail.com)) with any questions.



**Youth Holiday Ice Skating Event—Sunday, January 26, after worship.** Save the date! Youth families are invited to attend our annual ice-skating trip at the Dilworth Park Ice Skating Rink at City Hall. Invite friends! The cost is \$15.00 (scholarships available). To register, scan the QR code. Drivers and Chaperones are needed. Please see Suchita Fiorillo if you are able to chaperone.



## CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

**Tuesday Evening Contemplative Caregiver Gatherings—Please RSVP.** Join us monthly on the lower level of Overbrook for a shared meal and a time of sacred quiet. We'll begin with a 5:30 P.M. community-organized dinner, followed by contemplative practice from 6:00 to 6:45 P.M. A collaborative cleanup will occur in the last fifteen minutes of the session. Childcare will be available during the practice, allowing caregivers a moment of rest for body, mind, and soul in God's presence.

- **February Gathering:** Explore the Centering Prayer movement.
- **March Gathering:** Delve into spiritual poetry—food for the soul—and extended periods of silence.

So that we can schedule these gatherings, please give your availability, fill out an RSVP, and sign up for mealtime roles here: [tinyurl.com/RSVP-Caregivers](https://tinyurl.com/RSVP-Caregivers).

Please plan to arrive at 5:30 so we can start our practice smoothly at 6:00 and wrap up by 7:00. This revised schedule reflects the rhythms of young families and the availability of our caregivers. Bring your whole self—your hopes, your weariness, and your joy—as we share in this monthly space for holy listening. If you have any questions, you can get in touch with Anthony or Molly in person or by email: [cfm@overbrookpresb.org](mailto:cfm@overbrookpresb.org).

## CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

(CONTINUED)

**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](https://tinyurl.com/CFM-Fellowship) Questions? If you have any questions, you can get in touch with Anthony or Molly in person or by email: [cfm@overbrookpresb.org](mailto:cfm@overbrookpresb.org).

## PARISH CARE

**Morning Prayer on Zoom—Tuesdays, 7:30 to 8:30 A.M.** Early risers are invited to start the morning with small-group community prayer. Join us from the comfort of your home for a time of faith-filled fellowship and shared prayer. All are welcome: [tinyurl.com/OPCTuesPrayer](https://tinyurl.com/OPCTuesPrayer).

**OPC's Retired Person's Ministry (RPM) Welcomes All!** With deep gratitude for the welcoming kindness of our neighboring congregation, the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, RPM continues to provide fellowship, service, and shared learning opportunities for OPC members and community friends. Meeting on select Fridays each month, RPM has become a mutual ministry of our two faith communities. Come join us in January as we celebrate the new year and the opportunities it brings for engagement, activism, and discovery.

- **RPM Café: January 31, 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

*What in the World is Happening?*

In **Anderson Hall (upper level)** at St. Thomas, the first RPM Café of 2025 will offer a sampling of diverse international foods, prepared by the Great Chefs of RPM. We invite you to join the cooking team and bring a favorite global soup, salad, or casserole to share. If you are able to provide an international tasty treat, please contact **Sharon Parker** ([sparker614@gmail.com](mailto:sparker614@gmail.com)) or **Pat Dillon** ([psdillon1@earthlink.net](mailto:psdillon1@earthlink.net)). Following lunch, we will welcome guest presenters to offer international perspectives on world events.

RPM is a mutual ministry of Overbrook and St. Thomas. All are welcome; there is no cost to participate.



PARISH CARE  
(CONTINUED)

Adult Forum—January 21 and 28, 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. Adult Forum offers opportunities for shared discourse and learning in the comfort of community. Meeting on Zoom on the third and fourth Tuesdays of the month, this activity combines peer-led discussions with presentations from guest speakers. This month's discussion is titled "Courage of Our Convictions: A Christian Response to Global Crisis." Join us here: <https://tinyurl.com/OPCForumZoom>.

## Prayer List

- Prayers of thanksgiving for the life of Laura Beale Toy, beloved member of Overbrook, who entered into Life Eternal on January 7. May Laura's memory be a blessing to all.
- Prayers of strength and comfort for Sharon Parker as she faces a period of physical and vocational transitions.
- 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 restoration of health and comfort for Lillian Carnahan, mother of Rachel.
- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health for Peter Seidel as he awaits 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, 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](mailto:wbaklava@aol.com)) or Sharon Parker ([sharon@overbrookpresb.org](mailto:sharon@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 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
Linda Huff-Paul**	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; Mary Lou Ryce, 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*

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.”*

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