
Overbrook Presbyterian Church



“One of the essential paradoxes of Advent: that while we wait for God, we are with God all along, that while we need to be reassured of God’s arrival, or the arrival of our homecoming, we are already at home. While we wait, we have to trust, to have faith, but it is God’s grace that gives us that faith. As with all spiritual knowledge, two things are true, and equally true, at once. The mind can’t grasp paradox; it is the knowledge of the soul.”
— Michelle Blake

Worship Service
First Sunday of Advent
November 28, 2021
10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church
We are glad you are worshiping 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. Dr. Adam Hearlson, Pastor

Lay Leader: Elizabeth Mendoza

Advent Banner Carrier: Hannah Lazo

Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music

The Overbrook Choir

Iris Fairfax, soprano

Ushers: Max Mason, Ken Carroll, Mary Scott, Jason Sheau and Nickie Stokes

Deacon Delivering Flowers: Ginny Leagans

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.

Large Print Bulletins and Hymns are Available.

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

Following worship today, please join us for Fellowship Hour in the parking lot. 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

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

INTROIT

I wait for the Lord

Eric Thiman
(1900-1975)

SONG OF PREPARATION

HYMN NO. 88, verse 1

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Gloria and Herb Brabham

Our Emmanuel, as we light this flame, may it kindle peace in our hearts.

In a season when the pace feels frantic, when our attention is divided and diffuse, when the past feels too present, and the losses feel most acute, we ask for peace. Beside this quiet flame, as we wait and pray, may we sense your presence, and may we know your love. May the arrival of our Emmanuel bring us peace.

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Elizabeth Mendoza

From Psalm 150

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament.

All: Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Leader: Praise him with the trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

All: Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with clanging cymbals!

Leader: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

All: Praise the Lord!

❖HYMN No. 349

WACHET AUF
“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us

WELCOME

Adam Hearlson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE

Elizabeth Mendoza

From Walter Breuggemann

You are the God from whom no secrets can be hidden,
and we are the people with many secrets,
that we want to tell for the sake of our lives
that we dare not tell because they are deep and painful.

You are the God of all truth,
and now we bid you heed our truth,
about which we will not bear false witness...

The truth of grief, unresolved,
the truth of pain, unacknowledged
the truth of fear, too child-like
the truth of hate as powerful as it is deep.

We trust the great truth of your wondrous love,
Our truth, heard by you, will make us free.

SILENT CONFESSION

EMBRACING GOD'S GRACE

Adam Hearlson

❖SONG OF PRAISE NO. 581

GLORIA PATRI

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

NEW TESTAMENT 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Page 195/pew Bible

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE No. 137

HE CAME DOWN

He Came Down

He came down that we may have love; he
came down that we may have love; he came down that we may
have love; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with triplets of eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Anthony Carrella

Following Time with Children, learners in Pre-K through Grade 6 are welcome and encouraged to recess with Anthony and volunteer teachers to our gated playground for Outdoor Sunday School. COVID-19 prevention measures are firmly in place, including masking, distancing, and vaccinated instructors.

SOLO

“Et exultavit” from *Magnificat*
Iris Fairfax, soprano

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Et exultavit spiritus meus	And my spirit rejoices
in Deo salutari meo.	in God my Savior.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Names of Advent”

Adam Hearlson

❖ HYMN No. 103

O-SO-SO

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

❖ AFFIRMATION 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.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

LIFE AT THE CROSSROADS

Adam Hearlson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Adam Hearlson

SHARING OF PEACE

Adam Hearlson

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

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Adam Hearlson

(Offering boxes/baskets/plates are by the door.
We encourage you to use these in this time.)

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

Paul Manz
(1919-2009)

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come
The Overbrook Choir

Peace be to you and grace from Him
Who freed us from our sin.
Who loved us all, and shed his blood,
That we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord almighty God,
Who was and is, and is to come,
Sing holy, holy Lord.

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below.
For Christ is coming,
Is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon.

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more.
They need no light, no lamp, nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!

Ruth Manz

❖ 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

Elizabeth Mendoza

Our Emmanuel, in this season of waiting, may our hands be kept busy with generosity and care. May these gifts help those who have waited too long. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN No. 352

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING
My Lord, What a Morning

❖ BENEDICTION

Adam Hearlson

❖ CHORAL RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

Paul Manz
(1919-2009)



Music Spotlight: Music at the Offering

“E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come” is one of the most enduring pieces of twentieth-century American choral literature. Written by Paul Manz (1919-2009), celebrated Lutheran composer, cantor, and professor, it has been sung all over the world, including at the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King’s College, Cambridge.

But not many know of its origins. In 1953, Paul and Ruth Manz’s three-year-old son was critically ill, and they feared that he might not survive his illness. In Ruth’s words, “I think we’d reached the point where we felt that time was certainly running out, so we committed it to the Lord and said, ‘Lord Jesus, quickly come.’” At his son’s bedside, Paul began drafting the piece that would later become the choral work you hear today. Their son recovered, and Paul and Ruth attributed this recovery to the power of prayer.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Confirmation Class

There will be no confirmation class in Advent; class resumes in January. Information about confirmation for the Winter and Spring will be sent to confirmands soon.



MESSIAH SING-ALONG

Messiah Sing: December 5 at 3:00 PM

Get into the spirit of Advent with our annual Messiah Sing! Now in its twenty-seventh year, this Overbrook tradition is a participatory event, giving you the opportunity to hear and sing to your favorite choruses from Handel's *Messiah*, as well as hear our wonderful Quartet sing recitatives and arias, all accompanied by Paul Fleckenstein and conducted by Christopher Gage. Join us as we celebrate the season together!



After a hiatus, the Overbrook Presbyterian Fair Trade Market returns! Mark your calendar now - Saturday, December 4th 9:00 to 3:00; Sunday, December 5th 9:00 to 1:00 - to shop for your Fair Trade holiday gifts. "Fair trade is a worldwide movement that aims to help farmers and producers in less economically developed countries (LEDCs). The term fair trade means that they receive a fair price for the goods that they produce." (<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/fair-trade>)

The Mission and Outreach committee is looking for volunteers to help set up on Friday, December 3rd, cashiers on Saturday and Sunday and a clean up crew on Sunday afternoon. If you can give us an hour or two of your time the first weekend in December, please contact Janet Bowker (jabowker1001@gmail.com)



Sunday, December 12, immediately following worship, will be a *congregational meeting*. 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 2022 Nominating Committee.

The congregation will also vote to affirm Adam's change of call. A list of the nominees and their bios will be listed in the December newsletter. Since it is a Special Congregational Meeting, no other business may be conducted except the business at hand.



Fellowship Hour: We need hosts for this important aspect of our hospitality! If you are interested, please follow the link to the sign up genius. <https://tinyurl.com/4bx8caf> or call the church office and leave a message. If you would a copy of the instructions for Fellowship email Lisa at office@overbrookpresb.org or leave a voicemail at the church office.

Advent at OPC

Advent begins today. To guide us on our Advent journey, the Presbyterian Church (USA) has prepared an interactive daily devotional. The devotional, *Come to Bethlehem and Be Nourished*, can be accessed online through the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/jthw3k>. OPC members who prefer a printed version of the devotional, can contact our Parish Associate, Sharon Parker, (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) who will arrange for home delivery.



The Greening of The Church

Greening of the Church – On December 12, the third week of Advent, we hang the third banner, light the third Advent candle, and decorate our sanctuary in the Greening of the Church. We will address the significance of the symbols of Christmas that we know and love, the wreath, greens, candles, poinsettias, the

manager, and the Chrismon tree. Everyone present will be able to participate in the Greening of the Church.



Christmas Eve Services at OPC

As we enter this joy-filled and holy season of Advent, we are expanding our Christmas Eve worship opportunities to be as welcoming and inclusive as possible.

We will have three services open to all:

- 3 p.m. OUTDOOR Christmas Pageant
- 5 p.m. Family Service, in the Sanctuary
- 8 p.m. Lessons and Carols, in the Sanctuary. * Note the new earlier start time this year.

Weekly Opportunities

The Work of the Church continues, and we continue to create programming for our community.

Please note that all hyperlinks can also be found in our weekly e-news, “This Week at OPC” that is published every Friday.

- **Tuesday Women’s Prayer & Support Group—7:30 am**
Join <https://bit.ly/3yxD2F4> or call 646-558-8656,
Meeting ID: 932 4865 5338
- **Wednesday Bible Study—10:30 am**
Masks are required regardless of vaccination status.
To Join via zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/46n54thm>
- **Thursday Vigil for Racial Justice—3:00 pm-5:00 pm**
- **Saturday Morning Men’s’ Group—9:00 am**
Join <https://bit.ly/3hOXg6H> or call 646-558-8656,
Meeting ID: 920 1485 0418
- **Sunday School for Children-PreK-Grade 6**
Join us on the second, third, fourth and fifth Sunday of the month.
 - **Indoor -> Outdoor:** Learners may arrive at 10:30 for indoor worship, stay to the children’s message, and then walk with their teachers and leaders to the outdoor learning space.
 - **Outdoor Only:** Learners arrive at 10:45 in the OPC playground. Indoor participants will meet the outdoor participants.
 - **Inclement Weather:** Should inclement weather remain in the forecast after 9:30 AM on any given Sunday, all learning will most likely occur in an indoor, ventilated space.

Ways to Give

We've updated our options for giving. Please see below or visit our website at <http://www.overbrookpresb.org/giving.php> for more information.

Give using a credit card, debit card or bank account (Realm):

Use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/GiveOPC>. You can indicate the amount you want to give and to which account or accounts you'd like to apply your gift. You can give once or set up recurring gifts.

Give using a credit card (PayPal Giving Fund): Use this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/GiveOPCPPGF> to donate using the PayPal Giving Fund using a credit card. When giving this way, the church is not charged any processing fees. You will have to either log in with your PayPal account or create one to donate this way.

Give by text:

Text GIVEOPC followed by the amount (for example: GIVEOPC \$100) to 73256. You'll receive a text message in response with your next steps. After you give one time, your payment method is saved, so you can quickly give again from your phone.

Give on the Realm app:

To get the app, search **Realm Connect** in the app store. Download the free app. Sign in with your existing Realm account. Don't have an account? Contact the church office. Once you're in the app, click on the **Giving** button and you can set up one-time or recurring gifts or pledge. You can also view your past giving.

To set up a recurring donation by check: Most banks offer the option to set up recurring payments by check. You can set it up so that the church is mailed a check on whatever schedule you choose. You'd need to check your bank's website or call them to set that up. The church mailing address is 6376 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151.

Prayer List

- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health for Sara Davis who is in Dunwoody Rehab.
- Prayers for healing and comfort for Judy Williamson following successful breast cancer surgery.
- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health for Becky Lazo's mother Susan Leach, who remains under medical care.
- Prayers for continued healing and restoration of strength for Caroline Skinner following her successful kidney transplant surgery.
- Prayers of hope and healing for Margaret Young's brother Chuck Lundeen, who is undergoing medical treatment for cancer.
- Prayers for Stephanie Morris and her family.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Bill Long, father of Eric Long.
- Prayers for healing, hope, and comfort for Wendy Fraser, sister of Jeremy Blatchley, as she continues medical treatment for cancer.
- Prayers of healing, hope, and comfort for Marjorie Wright, cousin of Rev. LoisAnn Furgess-Oler as she receives medical care for leukemia.
- Prayers for healing, hope and comfort of Keith Young as he continues to receive medical treatment for cancer.
- Prayers for those who face on-going health challenges, especially Ken Carroll, Aqueelah Folwell, Stephanie Stokes, Judy Swartz, Ed Harvey, Ellen Burr and Terri Carter.
- Prayers of gratitude for those who faithfully serve as caregivers for their loved ones.

*Please contact Terri Hunter (teresahunter42@gmail.com)
or Sharon Parker (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) 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 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Elaine Blodgett	Elizabeth Cosgriff	Keedra Carroll
Herbert Brabham	Bob Harden, Jr.	Kevin Davis**
Elizabeth Mendoza	Larry McGhee	Solomon Hunter
Richard Owens	Deborah Rottinger**	Becky Lazo**
Aimerie Scherluebbe**	Eileen Wiggins**	Nathalie May

OPC DEACONS:

Teresa Hunter, Moderator, Board of Deacons

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; Mary Lou Ryce, Secretary

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Nancy Gilhool	Artia Benjamin**	Peju Adebajo**
Terri Hunter**	Suchita Fiorillo**	Joan Beck
Mary Lou Ryce	Bill Baker	Ginny Leagans
Carol Tulba**	Bob Kaercher	Leah Mayne
Zachary Wong	Nickie Stokes**	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 - *Designated Pastor*

The Rev. David McMillan - *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. Christopher Gage - *Director of Music*

Anthony 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*; **Amanda Staub**, *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.”
