
Overbrook Presbyterian Church



Worship Service
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 12, 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: Gretchen Boger

Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music

The Overbrook Choir

Iris Fairfax, soprano

Ushers: **Robert Harden, Jr.**, Davorka Sabljak, Aimerie Scherluebbe,
Will Schick, Trudy Sheau and Kevin Davis

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

*Andante religioso
from Sonata IV*

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

INTROIT

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Ann Ker
(b. 1937)

BLESSING

*A Blessing for Presence
by John O'Donohue*

Adam Hearlson

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Gretchen Boger

Leader: Behold!

People: For God makes all things new

Leader: Behold!

People: The Alpha and the Omega in our midst.

Leader: Behold!

People: The Spirit who binds us together.

Leader: Behold!

People: The love of Jesus that is healing our wounds.

Leader: Behold!

People: The community of grace we seek to become.

Leader: Behold!

People: The blessing without measure that surround us.

Leader: Behold! A chance to worship God.

All: Behold! The God who has never failed to show up.

❖ HYMN No. 15

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All Creatures of Our God and King

WELCOME

Adam Hearlson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE

Gretchen Boger

Merciful Creator. You have filled us with your love. You have covered us in grace. You have set us in paths of peace. But, loving God, we have not shared that love, grace, and peace. We confess O God, that though we have all been

born in your image, we have not treated your people and your world with the reverence it deserves. Forgive us, great redeemer. Give us courage that we might extend your love to a world in desperate need. Set us firm in your grace that we might see the ignored, fight for the oppressed, and comfort the afflicted. This we pray in the mighty name of Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

EMBRACING GOD'S GRACE

Adam Hearlson

❖ 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

Gretchen Boger

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

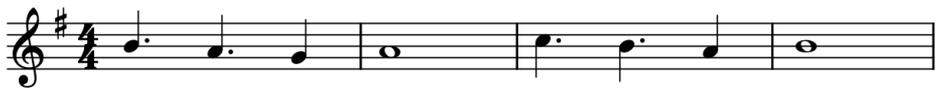
John 1:1-5

page 86/pew Bible
Gretchen Boger

CANTICLE No. 399

THEMBA AMEN

God Welcomes All
(sung 3 times as children come forward)



God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;



God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Following the blessing, 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.

Blessing

May the tag in your bag, and the faces of friends and loved ones remind you that God is always with you. As you sit and as you stand, as you learn and as you play, in every fear and every celebration, may you know God, your friend, is always there.

Prayer (multiple voices)

God of fresh starts and new beginnings, we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our backpacks to you.

Last year was different from what we expected. We couldn't see our friends or play on playgrounds, we learned at home, in masks six feet apart, or both. In all these changes, we may have felt sad and alone. God, our friend who comforts us, hold us close and wipe our tears.

In our backpacks, we carry blank pages, sharpened pencils, and pointy crayons, and in our hearts, we carry big feelings, unanswered questions, and hopeful expectations. There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring— of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become.

For grown-ups going back to school, we ask you to be with them too, God. Thank you for our teachers, helpers, caregivers, and leaders, and for all they do to help us learn and grow. God, our friend who's full of wonder, fill their hearts and bless their hands.

God, our friend who is always with us, be with us through it all. Be with us as we ride the bus. Be with us as we walk. Be with us as we buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes. However we get there, and whatever we wear, bless our journey into something new.

Amen.

SOLO

arr. Florence B. Price

My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord (1887-1953)

Iris Fairfax, soprano

In de Lord, in de Lord,
My soul's been anchored in de Lord.
In de Lord, in de Lord,
My soul's been anchored in de Lord.

Befo' I'd stay in hell one day,
My soul's been anchored in de Lord;
I'd sing an' pray myself away,
My soul's been anchored in de Lord.

I'm goin' to pray an' never stop,
My soul's been anchored in de Lord;
Until I've reached the mountain top,
My soul's been anchored in de Lord.

Spiritual

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 2:4-9

page 2/pew Bible

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“A Vocabulary of Faith: God”

Adam Hearlson

❖HYMN No. 760

WESTCHASE

Bring Many Names

❖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

Sharon Parker

SHARING OF PEACE

Sharon Parker

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

Norman Gilbert

Let All the World

(1912-1975)

The Overbrook Choir

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
but above all the heart must bear the longest part.

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!

George Herbert (1593-1633)

❖ 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

May these gifts, Loving God, create a more just world. May they create a more loving world. May they contribute to the creation of beauty. May they uphold the hurting, and secure those in danger. In giving, may we learn what it means to serve a generous God.

SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN No. 611

HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

❖ BENEDICTION

from St. Augustine

All shall be Amen and Alleluia.

We shall see rest and we shall see,

We shall see and we shall know,

We shall know and we shall love,

We shall love and we shall praise.

Behold our end which is no end.

❖ CHORAL RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer
(1840-1901)

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

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F major

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)



Happenings at Overbrook Presbyterian Church



Backpack Blessings and Outdoor Ice Cream Party following worship!

Today during worship, we will be blessing backpacks for our students. After worship be sure to stick around and join the ice cream party and social during fellowship hour.



Wednesday Bible Study Resumes this week

Bible study will resume this Wednesday, September 15th from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Bible Study will be in person along with the opportunity to join online. The study will be on Paul's Letter to the Romans for the fall through December. The group will be aided in their study by Beverly Roberts Gaventa's book, *When in Romans: The Gospel According to Paul*. Copies of the book are available at the church office.

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.

- Sunday Morning Study—9:15 am
- Wednesday Bible Study-10:30 am
Will resume on Wednesday, September 15 both in person and online. Masks are required regardless of vaccination status.
To Join via zoom: [Wednesday Bible Study Zoom Link 10:30-12:00 pm](#)
- Tuesday Women's Prayer & Support Group—7:30 am
Join <https://bit.ly/3yxD2F4> or call 646-558-8656,
Meeting ID: 932 4865 5338
- Thursday Vigil for Racial Justice—4:00 pm-6:30 pm
- Saturday Morning Men's' Group—9:00 am
Join <https://bit.ly/3hOXg6H> or call 646-558-8656,
Meeting ID: 920 1485 0418

Ways to Give

Many people have asked how they can continue to give to the church during this time. We currently have five ways you can give online to the church.

1. To donate by credit card (with PayPal account): We have a Donate button on our website that will take you to the PayPal Giving Fund where you can make donations to the church 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.

2. To donate with a credit card (without PayPal account): If you'd prefer not to use a PayPal account, you can donate through PayPal but using a credit card only. Go to this link: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=VX4E5GVVUE7VW&source=url. Pick "Donate with a Debit or Credit Card" and follow the directions.

3. To set up a recurring credit card donation (with PayPal account): If you'd like to set up a monthly credit card donation, you can use this link: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=VX4E5GVVUE7VW&source=url. Enter the amount of your donation and check the box to make it a monthly donation. You will have to have (or create) a PayPal account to set it up this way.

4. 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.

5. To give by text: Text GIVE to **484-222-5757** and follow the prompts. You can make a one-time donation or set up recurring donations.

As with all online giving, most companies take a cut of whatever you give (PayPal takes 3% and texting takes 1% plus the 3% of PayPal), so, if you are searching for the way for the church to receive the whole amount of your gift, automatic deduction from your bank is the most efficient.

Prayer List

- Prayers for restoration of health for Judy Williamson as she prepares for breast cancer surgery
- Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of Theresa De Cesare as they mourn her recent passing.
- Prayers for restoration of health and a definitive diagnosis for the father of Stephanie Morris
- Prayers for healing and comfort for Stephanie Stokes, daughter of Nickie Stokes, as she faces health challenges.
- Prayers for healing and comfort for Ted Dillon as he recovers from spinal surgery.
- Prayers of thanks for all the well wishes during Jeremey Blatchley's recovery.
- Prayers for hope and restoration of health and mobility for Barbara, friend of Mary Lou Ryce.
- Prayers for healing and comfort for Patrick O'Healey as he recovers from spinal surgery.
- Prayers of restoration of health for Lincoln Hollowell, father of Aimerie Scherluebbe.
- Prayers for healing, hope, and comfort for Keith Young who remains under medical care for cancer.
- Prayers for restoration of health for Anna, daughter of Rev. Lisa Farrell, Pastor of Penn Wynne Presbyterian Church.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Estalene Ferrillo.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Wendy Fraser, sister of Jeremy Blatchley, as she continues treatment for cancer.
- Prayers of hope and comfort for families experiencing poverty, domestic strife, and uncertainty.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Aqueelah Folwell.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Caroline Skinner.
- Prayers for those who face on-going health challenges, especially Susan Leach, Judy Swartz, Ed Harvey, Ellen Burr, Marina Patino-Treat, and Theresa Carter.
- Prayers for Stephanie Morris and her family.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Bill Long, Eric Long's father, as he faces cancer treatment.

*Please contact Terri Hunter (teresahunter42@gmail.com)
or Sharon Parker (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) add names to the prayer list.*

OPC SESSION MEMBERS:

Adam Hearlson, Moderator

Sara Davis, 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 Christian Education*

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