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ARDMORE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Transforming Lives Through the Good News of Jesus Christ”

ARDMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ardmore, Pennsylvania

10:30 A.M., OCTOBER 18, 2020

Worship Service

In these challenging and uncertain times, I am hopeful that you can connect with the church community in this new “virtual” way, to be led in the worship of God, to feed your soul and find solace and hope. As those who believe in the resurrection, we are called to be “Easter People.” That means we have hope, even in the midst of difficult times. We act out of God’s love for us in the way we treat others, even when we are feeling scared. Our God is a God of power, and love and hope. God conquered death for us in Jesus Christ—he will continue to be with us today, tomorrow and every day. Hold on to this hope, and if you are struggling, ask for help. From your family, friends, your church family, or from me. You are not alone.
Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch, *Transitional Pastor*

We welcome you warmly to Ardmore Presbyterian Church where we strive to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We are especially thankful for visitors. If you have a **prayer request**, please email it to Rev. Fitch at pastor@ardmorepres.org or call 610-642-6650x100.

We are worshipping in our sanctuary on Sunday mornings and require that those attending adhere to our safety protocols which can be found at <https://ardmorepres.org/apc-safety-protocols>.

A recording or live streaming of **Sunday’s service** will be posted online at www.ardmorepres.org.

Please spread the word to those who are interested in viewing our virtual worship.

SESSION

Class of 2020

Jody Brumbach
Elaine Giese
Don Poorman,
Clerk of Session
Bill Toal

Class of 2021

Cathie Calkins
Chip Cobb, Jr.
Jill Fowler
Robie Lawlace

Class of 2022

Dick Corl
Jeff Michaelson
Ben Yurchak

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2020

Kevin Fowler
Graham Fuller
Elizabeth Luff
Mary Schreiber
Jill Fowler,
Session Representative

Class of 2021

Eliza Brooks
Dan del Duca
Holly Frank
Viola Terwiesch

Class of 2022

Katherine Anne Matt,
Moderator
Jessie DiNome
Howard Donahue
Maria Helena Fernandez

*Standing

People's response in bold type

GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE *The Four Seasons – Autumn* A. Vivaldi, arr. S. D. Wolff

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We are gathered to give witness to the enduring realities of life.

**We have come to affirm that life is a gift, that the gift is good,
and that it comes from God.**

We are gathered to renew our hope in Jesus Christ, as we travel life's long and rich journey.

We find God in the paths of our present and our past, but we also trust that God's love will be with us in our future.

Our loving God guides us all the way, every day of our lives, and beyond.

Let us praise God with our whole hearts, for God's grace is forever!

Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* ST. DENIO

CALL TO CONFESSION (based on Psalm 66:16, 18-20) John DiNome

The psalmist testifies: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Psalm 51:1-4, 6, 9-11)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on 1 John 1:5, 7)

This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. **Amen.**

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Rock of Ages

TOPLADY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE, Matthew 14:1-21—Feeding of the 5,000

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING, Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM, Duet

What Shall I Render to My God

Arr. Austin Lovelace

Jim Longacre, *Tenor*; Tom Sitzler, *Baritone*

What shall I render to my God
For all His mercy's store?
I'll take the gifts He hath bestowed
And humbly ask for more.
The sacred cup of saving grace
I will with thanks receive,
And all His promises embrace
And to His glory live.
My vows I will to His great name
Before His people pay,
And all I have, and all I am,
Upon His altar lay.

Thy lawful servant, Lord, I owe
To Thee whate'er is mine.
Born in Thy family below,
And by redemption Thine.
Thy hands created me, Thy hands
From sin have set me free,
The mercy that hath loosed my bands
Hath bound me fast to Thee.
Praise Him, ye saints, the God of love
Who hath thy sins forgiv'n,
Till gathered to the church above,
We sing the songs of heav'n.

OLD TESTAMENT READING, Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth." The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Seeking God's Presence

Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Near to the Heart of God

MC AFEE

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Elaine Giese

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostle's Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM, Quartet

Sing a New Song

H. Schütz, arr. C. Jennings

Sing a new song to God the Lord,
Sing and give praise with one accord.
For His salvation He doth give,
That, through His mercy, we may live.
Worship the Lord in holiness,
Hymns of great joy to Him address.
Honor His works and bless His name,
His grace and truth to all proclaim.

Heaven above and earth below,
Ocean and field His glory show.
All of God's creatures sing His praise,
Let us now too our voices raise.
Glory and thanks to Him belong,
Honor Him evermore in song.

(Based on Psalm 96)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

*OUR WORSHIP CONTINUES OUTSIDE

*HYMN *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* please see page 7

*PREPARING TO MAKE OUR OFFERING TO GOD

*HYMN *Near to the Heart of God* please see page 8

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing* please see page 9

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Immortal, Invisible* (quoting Scherzo) F. Chopin/M. Bos

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert J. and Martha Montgomery and their family by the McLean family and in gratitude for all of the prayers, thoughts and positive energy sent to me during my recent illness by Jessie DiNome.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 263

ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11

Welsh folk melody

Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867; alt. 1987

Adapted in *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3. To all, life Thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry, Thou rul - est in light,

In light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might;
In all life Thou liv - est, the true life of all;
Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;

Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.
Thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
Then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth Thee.
'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!

Near to the Heart of God

MC AFEE CM with refrain

Cleland Boyd McAfee, 1901

Cleland Boyd McAfee, 1901

1. There is a place of qui - et rest, Near to the heart of God,
 2. There is a place of com - fort sweet, Near to the heart of God,
 3. There is a place of full re - lease, Near to the heart of God,

A place where sin can - not mo - lest, Near to the heart of God.
 A place where we our Sav - ior meet, Near to the heart of God.
 A place where all is joy and peace, Near to the heart of God.

Refrain

O Je - sus, blest Re - deem - er, Sent from the heart of God,

Hold us, who wait be - fore Thee, Near to the heart of God.

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

Attr. John Fawcett (1773)

SICILIAN MARINERS 8.7.8.7.8.7

Sicilian Melody

1..Lord, dis - miss us with Thy bless - ing; Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
2..Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Thy gos - pel's joy - ful sound;
3..So that when Thy love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the world a - way,

Let us each, Thy love pos - sess - ing, Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace.
May the fruits of Thy sal - va - tion In our hearts and lives a - bound.
Let no fear of death ap - pall us, Glad Thy sum - mons to o - bey.

O re - fresh us, O re - fresh us, Trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith - ful, Ev - er faith - ful To the truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, May we ev - er Reign with Thee in end - less day.



The following weeks are available for dedication of our sanctuary flowers:
Nov. 8, 15, and Dec. 13. Please contact Raelyn at 610-331-8972 to schedule.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

TODAY, 5-6 p.m.

Please join us for a Harvest Festival. We will have a fire pit, music, harvest stories, and safely provide the makings for smores. Please bring food items that can be donated to Ardmore Food Pantry. Meet at the Parish House. Bring your own chairs.

Face Masks Required.

This Week at APC

Sunday, Oct. 18	9:00 a.m.	Sunday Morning Adult Small Group Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/890918410
	10:30 a.m.	Lord's Day Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Fellowship https://us02web.zoom.us/j/156738896
	5:00-6:00 p.m.	Harvest Festival (Youth Group Included)
Monday, Oct. 19	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Fellowship https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83578496052
Tues., Oct. 20	7:00 p.m.	Book Discussion: <u>Let Justice Roll Down</u> by John Perkins
	7:15 p.m.	Building and Grounds Committee Mtg. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89818788994
Wed., Oct. 21	5:00-6:00 p.m.	Wednesday PLUS/Children's Choir (PH Lawn)
	6:15-6:45 p.m.	Cherub Choir Zoom Group (see Carol Shih or Twila Garletts for access code)
	6:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thurs., Oct. 22	12:00 p.m.	Thursday Mid-Day Bible Study https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88997166578?pwd=WkJsZGpWYlJnakd3bkRFcDVHSjlyQT09
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (PH Front Porch)
Sunday, Oct. 25	9:00 a.m.	Sunday Morning Adult Small Group Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/890918410
	10:30 a.m.	Lord's Day Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Fellowship https://us02web.zoom.us/j/156738896
	6:00-8:45 p.m.	Meet at the Parish House, drive to Linvilla Orchards for Autumn Moon Hayride https://www.linvilla.com/family-fun/hayrides

Empowered by God—Responding by Grace

“Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking” (2 Cor. 8:7).

In this challenging year, we have indeed been **EMPOWERED by GOD** to find ways to safely continue to worship and gather and be church, in a new and different way. You have **RESPONDED by GRACE** through giving of your time, energy, care and funds to share God’s message of love and Christ’s gift of forgiveness. As we move into this time of Stewardship, I hope you will prayerfully consider what APC means to you, and how you will continue to support the ministry of Jesus Christ. We will dedicate all our pledges on Stewardship Sunday, November 8th.

Grace & Peace, *Pastor Diane*

Please plan to attend a **Congregational Meeting** after worship on **November 1, 2020** to elect officers and vote on a proposed change in APC’s bylaws to permit voting online. If you have any questions, please contact Clerk of Session, Don Poorman or Pastor Diane.



JOIN US FOR APC’S HALLOWEEN PARADE

October 28, 2020 at 5 p.m.
(instead of Wednesday Plus)

Meet at the front door of the Sanctuary and we will proceed around the church complex.

Please park in the Suburban Square lot.

Come in costume and stay with your family unit.

Face masks are required and we will socially distance.

Treat bags will be distributed.

RSVP to the Church Office 610-642-6650





Lift your prayers this week for: **Our Church Family, Pastor Nom. Com., World Leaders & Health Care Workers, Spencer Collman, Dr. David Githii, Joe Hartnett, Bruce Kozak, Julie Patterson, Christopher Rowe, Kossi and Josephine Sedzro.**

Ongoing Prayers for: **Kate Brooks, Rosemary Fischer, Sandy Foote, Twila Garletts, Claire Hammonds, Mary Schreiber, Kathy Toal.** In prayer for all who are grieving the loss of someone they love. Friends/Family: **Pastor Diane's mother Polly Jamison, Irena Reynolds' (Preschool Administrator's) brother-in-law Mike.** APC mission partners: APC Preschool, Ardmore Food Pantry, Caring Hands Ministry (in India), First Place, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Kuwadzana Presbyterian Church (in Zimbabwe), Maternity Care Coalition, Medical Benevolence Foundation, Pre-Med Hospice Ministry, Teachers' Teammates, The Welcome Church, Welcoming the Stranger, and West Kensington Ministry.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Ministers: Entire Congregation

Assisted by:

Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch, M.Div., *Transitional Pastor*, pastor@ardmorepres.org

Gary Garletts, M.M., AAGO, *Director of Music/Organist*, music@ardmorepres.org

Kaitlyn Waterson, soprano; Courtney Capriotti, mezzo-soprano; Jim Longacre, tenor; Tom Sitzler, baritone

Rev. Graham Robinson, D.Min., *Parish Associate*, gjmtk5@gmail.com

Michelle Butera, M.B.A., *Director, Weekday Preschool*, michellebutera@ardmorepres.org

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Scott Welden, M.B.A., *Finance Manager*, scottwelden@ardmorepres.org

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Eliza Brooks, O.T.D., *Youth Ministry Coordinator*, ebrooks35@gmail.com

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Online E-Giving – You may now give to APC at any time by going to the church's website (www.ArdmorePres.org) and click on the green "GIVE NOW" button on the top right corner. Or, you may simply **scan the QR code on the left here with your phone.** Simply set up a new account and start e-giving today!