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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 25, 2020

Reformation Sunday 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 (10:15 AM, outdoors)	<i>Selected Hymns</i>	Charlie Rután, <i>Bagpipes</i>
PROCESSION OF BANNERS	<i>Ode to Joy</i>	Ludwig van Beethoven
LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH		Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ, in this hour of worship
lift us out of the routine of our daily lives
 and set us up on your holy mountain.
Let our worship come from our hearts,
 that it may be genuine.
Let our praises for you leap from our mouths,
 that we may be alive with faith and joy.
Make us fresh again! Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Helmut Walcha

CALL TO CONFESSION (based on Psalm 66:16, 18-20) Anna Poorman
 When we see God's beautiful holiness, we recognize our own lack of holiness. God is light and truth, yet we live among shadows and lies. People of God, let us acknowledge who and whose we are; let us ask our powerful God to illumine us with grace and truth in Jesus, our Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us our sins, O Lord. Forgive us the sins of our youth and the sins of our age, the sins of our soul and the sins of our body, our secret and our whispering sins, our presumptuous and our careless sins, the sins we have done to please ourselves, and the sins we have done to please others. Forgive us the sins that we know, and the sins that we know not; forgive them, O Lord, forgive them all because of your great goodness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Psalm 145:13-14)

The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. **Amen.**

MUSICAL REFLECTION

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art Genevan Psalter/Calvin

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE, Genesis 29:16–30:24—Jacob's Giant Family

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING, Matthew 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT READING, Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MUSICAL REFLECTION *How Happy Are the Saints of God*

Knapp/Gambrell

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Eliza Brooks

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

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

*BAGPIPE INTERLUDE

Be Still, My Soul (Finlandia)

Jean Sibelius

*ANTHEM, Combined Choirs

Everywhere I Go

Natalie Sleeth

Everywhere I go, the Lord is near me.
If I call upon him, he will hear me.
Never will I fear, for the Lord is near,
Everywhere I go.
In the dark of night should things alarm me,
Ever in his sight no ill may harm me.
I will be of cheer, for the Lord is near,
Everywhere I go.
He is with me day by day,
He will be my strength and stay.
From his path I will not stray
But follow in his way.
In the coming days of joy or sadness,
I will praise his name with songs of gladness.

For to me it's clear that the Lord is near,
Everywhere I go.
Everywhere, God is there,
Tending all with loving care.
He is near me everywhere I go.
Dark of night, morning light,
I am ever in his sight.
He will keep me safe from harm I know.
Day by day my strength and stay,
I will follow in his way.
All my days I will raise
To his name glad songs of praise,
For the Lord is everywhere I go.

*HYMN

How Happy Are the Saints of God

please see page 7

*PREPARING TO MAKE OUR OFFERING TO GOD

*ANTHEM, Chancel Choir

Blessed Are They

Carolyn Jennings

Blessed are they who take delight in the living Word of God,
For they, like trees along a stream, grow strong in all they do,
Deeply rooted in the Word, ever nourished by the Word,
And the fruit of a holy life is good.
The Word enlightens all who strive to know and do God's will:
A lamp to guide us on our way, a light upon our path,
For the law of God is true, and the grace of God is pure,
And the fruit of a holy life is good.
All you hearers of the Word, rejoice and offer thanks
For love so deep and broad and high, and praise for life so full,
Deeply rooted in the Word, ever nourished by the Word,
And the fruit of a holy life is good.
(Based on Psalm 1:1-3, Psalm 119:105, and Ephesians 3:17-21)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

please see page 8

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Johann G. Walther

457 How Happy Are the Saints of God

(Psalm 1)

1 How hap - py are the saints of God who do not
2 Like deep - ly root - ed trees, they stand be - side an
3 While wick - ed ones are whisked a - way like straw be -

heed the wick - ed way; de - light - ing in the
ev - er - flow - ing stream. Their fruit is plen - ti -
fore the driv - ing wind, the saints are firm - ly

ho - ly Word they seek God's wis - dom night and day.
ful and good; their leaves are al - ways grow - ing green.
plant - ed still, and God will keep them to the end.

Martin Luther, 1529

Trans. Frederick Henry Hedge, 1852

Martin Luther, 1529



1. A might - y for - tress is our God, A bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be los - ing;
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un - do us,
 4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a - bid - eth;



Our help - er He a - mid the flood Of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
 Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choos - ing.
 We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us.
 The Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through Him who with us sid - eth;



For still our an - cient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He, Lord Sab - a -
 The prince of dark - ness grim, We trem - ble not for him; His rage we
 Let goods and kin - dred go, This mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y



power are great, And, armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.
 oth His name, From age to age the same, And He must win the bat - tle.
 can en - dure, For lo! his doom is sure, One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 they may kill, God's truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - er.



This Week at APC

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
Monday, Oct. 26	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Fellowship https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83578496052
	4:30 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
Wed., Oct. 28	5:00-6:00 p.m.	Halloween Parade (see p. 11 for details)
	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. 29	12:00 p.m.	Thursday Mid-Day Bible Study https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88997166578?pwd=WkJsZGpWYlJnakt3bkRFcDVHSjlyQT09
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (PH Front Porch)
Sunday, Nov. 1	2:00 a.m.	Daylight Saving Time ENDS (Turn Clocks BACK)
	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/Rev. Mike Pulsifer
	11:30 a.m.	Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary and online)
	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Fellowship https://us02web.zoom.us/j/156738896
	4:00-5:30 p.m.	Youth Grp. Service: Cookies for College Students

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 by-laws to permit voting online. If you have any questions, please contact Clerk of Session, Don Poorman or Pastor Diane.

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her mother, *Patricia T. Carson* and her grandparents, *Ida J. and Irving F. Teetsell* by Lynn Carson Hepp and family and in loving memory of *Bill Diesinger* by his wife, *Pearlie Diesinger*.

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*



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.

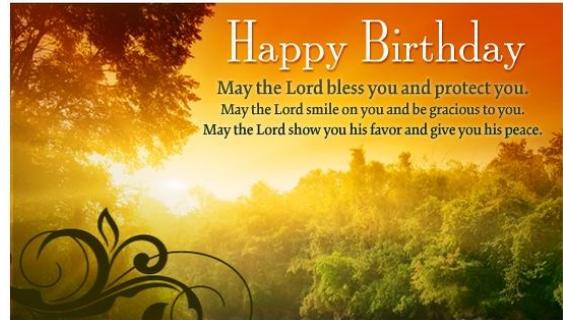
Treat bags will be distributed.

RSVP to the Church Office 610-642-6650



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Jean Wheelock | Caroline Stewart |
| 2 Janet Jennings | 20 Owen Burchette |
| Margaret Paschal | 24 Robie Lawlace |
| Emily Sergio | 25 Lila Davey |
| Ty Straub | 26 Dennis Wood, Jr. |
| 4 Danielle Aitken | 27 Will Pawlowski |
| 6 Megan DeGideo | 28 Hector Cardona |
| Curt Wilson | |
| 8 Edna Gray | |
| Marion Miller | |
| 9 D. J. Frank | |
| Will Wolverton | |
| 13 Tracey Nofer | |
| 15 Betty Birdsall | |
| Dan Del Duca | |
| 16 Quinn Dormond | |
| Linda Hibbs | |
| 17 Karen Nakahara | |
| Alexandra Kozak Solt | |
| 18 Barbara Brookshier | |
| Ted Dinucci | |
| Chris Morse | |
| Sandy Spratt | |



We'd like to list all of our members' and friends' birthdays and can only do so if we know when they are.

Please email

*admin@ardmorepres.org or
call 610-642-6650, x101.*

We welcome piper Charlie Rután to this Reformation service—Founder of *Bagpipes* FAO, Charlie studied at the Piping Centre in Glasgow. He has piped in many venues (including the Kimmel Center) for people such as President Bush, Sr., Her Majesty Queen Noor Regent of Jordan, and Rod Stewart; at the funeral of Tug McGraw; and for US Airways' first nonstop flight Glasgow-Philadelphia. www.CharlieRutan.com



The following weeks are available for dedication of our sanctuary flowers:
Nov. 8, 15, and Dec. 13. Please contact Raelyn at 610-642-6650 to schedule.

A GUIDETO OUR CONFESSIONAL BANNERS

ANCIENT CREEDS



The Nicene Creed (Fourth Century A.D.)

The Nicene Creed was the first official doctrinal statement of the whole Christian church and is the only creed accepted and used by all three major branches of Christendom: Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant. The central doctrines of the Nicene Creed are the personhood of Jesus Christ and the reality of the Holy Spirit. This creed is often used as part of the celebration of the Lord's Supper.



The Apostles' Creed (Second to Ninth Centuries A.D.)

This is the most widely used confessional statement in the Western church. It is certainly the best known. The Sacrament of Baptism was the context from which the creed was further developed. It was probably in question and answer form originally. The central doctrines are one God in three persons and God as Creator of heaven and earth.

REFORMATION CONFESSIONS



The Scots Confession (1560)

The Scots Confession is the first Reformed confession in the English language. The Scots Confession has been called the charter of the Church of Scotland and of world Presbyterianism.

The Scottish Parliament, at the conclusion of the civil war of 1560, invited John Knox and five colleagues to prepare a confession of faith for the church and the nation. They did their work in four days. The central doctrines are election and the church.



The Heidelberg Catechism (1563)

The Heidelberg Catechism was the first Reformed confession to appear in America. Of all the Reformed confessions, the Heidelberg Catechism is the most personal. The catechism was written in three main sections. The first deals with sin and guilt (Questions 3-11). The second and longest part discusses redemption and freedom (Questions 12-85). The final section treats thankfulness to God in obedience and prayer (Questions 86-129). The central doctrines are stewardship and the Lord's Supper.



The Second Helvetic Confession (1566)

The Second Helvetic Confession is longer than any of the other Reformed creeds. It creates an ecumenical spirit.

It has two major sections: the first on theology and the second on the church, ministry, and sacraments. The central doctrines are covenant and baptism.



The Westminster Confession of Faith (1647)

The Westminster Confession of Faith and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms are the best known of the Reformation era creeds among Presbyterians. The central doctrines of the Westminster Confession of Faith and the catechisms are the sovereignty of God and the authority and interpretation of Scripture.

CONTEMPORARY DECLARATIONS



The Theological Declaration of Barmen (1934)

The writers of the Declaration of Barmen were protesting interference in the life of the churches by the Nazi government in Germany and the errors of the Nazi-inspired "German Christian" movement.

The basic questions at issue were: Who is Lord— Jesus or Hitler? God or the state? What is the relation of the church to the state? The central doctrines are the sin of idolatry and the Lordship of Christ.



The Confession of 1967

The Confession of 1967 also constituted a new beginning in the expression of Reformed confessional statements. The Confession of 1967 was the first Reformed statement to overtly and explicitly name and confront current social problems of its own era—racial discrimination, peace among nations, enslaving poverty, and the equality of women and men. The essential doctrine is reconciliation in church and society.

EARLY BIRD ADVENT PLANS

APC does not want Advent activities to pass us by due to Covid -19. Traditionally, during Advent and Christmas most of our activities have required close quarters; therefore, an alternative activity has been planned. This year the fence will be garlanded with pine ropes and bows. We are inviting families and individuals to add their touches in proclaiming the Good News of the birth of Jesus to the community.

We hope you will be willing to create word images to be placed along the fence. We will provide all supplies to draw, saw and paint words on 1/4 inch plywood. Safe, manual scroll saws (with a saw use video) created by Sherina Poorman will be provided with directions, ideas, wood and paint to create words such as **JOY, HOPE, LOVE, PEACE, NOEL**, etc. They should be completed by **December 6** for our socially distanced Advent festivities when they can be ceremoniously attached to the fence among the greens.



Please contact Sherina Poorman or Anne Foote to reserve your words. Supplies can be picked up at the church or delivered if you prefer. We anticipate that these individually created words will show the living Christmas spirit abides at APC and the Pandemic will not impede our joy.

SERMON NOTES

We have EXCITING NEWS from Our PNC

The PNC is happy to announce that we have extended a call to a **candidate for Senior Pastor** and he has **accepted**, subject to a Congregational vote. This call was extended by unanimous vote and it was an “enthusiastic” unanimous vote.

While we cannot share the identity of the candidate at this time, we are excited to do so shortly.

In early November, the PNC will e-mail a packet which will include a cover letter, biography of the candidate, his Statement of Faith, terms of call, and video which will introduce him to all of us.

It is hoped that you can participate in the November 15th Congregational Meeting—either in person or virtually.

IMPORTANT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 1

The session has called for a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 1, immediately following our 10:30 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to change our bylaws to allow for virtual meetings and voting, and to elect officers for the coming year.

We need to have a quorum of 30 voting church members in order to convene this meeting—and with the coronavirus, this is not a given. The change to our bylaws is necessary to allow us to include those connecting virtually for our November 15 Congregational meeting to vote on extending the call and terms of call to our new pastor.

Hoping those who are able and feel comfortable, can attend worship on November 1. You may also choose to gather outside the sanctuary after worship and vote this way.

Thanks for your flexibility as we navigate these uncharted waters!

Pastor Diane



Lift your prayers this week for: **Our Church Family, Pastor Nom. Com., World Leaders & Health Care Workers, Spencer Collman, Dr. David Githii, Joe Hartnett, 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, McMonigle Family, 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

Raelyn Harman, M.S.W., *Church Administrator*, admin@ardmorepres.org

Irena Reynolds, M.A., *Preschool Administrator*, preschool@ardmorepres.org

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

Bob Peters, A.S., *Building Manager*, bobpeters@ardmorepres.org

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

5 W. Montgomery Avenue, Ardmore, PA 19003-1599

admin@ardmorepres.org | 610.642.6650 | www.ardmorepres.org



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!