



“Transforming Lives Through the Good News of Jesus Christ”

ARDMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ardmore, Pennsylvania

10:30 A.M., NOVEMBER 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Worship Service

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. Jason Grimes at jgrimes@ardmorepres.org or call 610-642-6650x100.

A recording or live streaming of **Sunday's service** will be posted online at www.ardmorepres.org and on our YouTube page.

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

In the tradition of the **Presbyterian Church USA**, our church is governed by a group of elders called the Session. Elders are elected by the congregation, and serve for specific terms of service. Together with our pastor, elders are called to exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline, and have responsibilities for the life of the congregation, as well as the whole church.

SESSION

Class of 2022

Dick Corl
Barry Jeffries
Jeff Michaelson
Ben Yurchak

Class of 2023

Jody Brumbach
Elaine Giese
Donald Poorman,
Clerk of Session

Class of 2024

Chip Cobb, Jr.
John DiNome
Robie Lawlace

Likewise, our congregation elects members to serve on the diaconate. It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. Our deacons visit with members, organize support for those in need, and lead us in celebrations.

DIACONATE

Class of 2022

Jessie DiNome,
Moderator
Maria Helena Fernandez
Elizabeth Luff
Katherine Anne Matt

Class of 2023

Kristy Cobb
Graham Fuller
Isla Grant
Anne Toal McComiskie

Class of 2024

Dan Del Duca
Carol Fritz
Sarah Schreiner,
Co-Moderator

*Standing for those who are able.

People's response in bold type.

GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Arr. Wilbur Held (1998)

The hope of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH Rev. Jason Grimes

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 71)

In you, O Lord, I take refuge.

In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.

Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

I will hope continually, and will praise you yet more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts of your deeds of salvation all day long.

I will come praising the mighty deeds of the Lord God, I will praise your righteousness.

My lips will shout for joy when I sing praises to you; my soul also, which you have rescued.

*HYMN 1 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* STUTTGART

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (Isaiah 2:1-4) Maggie Reif

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

Filled with Hope, we wait patiently.
Come, Lord Jesus!

PRAYER FOR HOPE

CALL TO CONFESSION (Psalm 130)

The Psalmist prays, "If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord, more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, in Christ, hear our confession. We go about our day placing hope in people, things, structures, and ideas that will eventually let us down. Our strength will weaken, the value of treasure will fluctuate, homes will fall into disrepair, leaders will make decisions that do not benefit our wellbeing, minds grow confused and our loved ones will prove as feeble as our perceived strength. Forgive us, O God, as we place our hope in the One who is both fully God and fully human, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Psalm 103)

You are full of compassion and mercy, O Lord, slow to anger and of great kindness. You have not dealt with us according to our sins. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is your mercy great upon those who fear you. As far as the east is from the west, you removed our sins from us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE (II Corinthians 13)

Brothers and sisters, rejoice. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

The peace of Christ be with you.

Peace be with you.

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
At Bethlehem I had My birth.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said He,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said He.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in hope, peace, joy and love and then grant us strength to follow on the path before us; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING, Isaiah 9:1-7 (NIV)

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.
You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice
when dividing the plunder.
For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered

the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.
Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood
will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire.
For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.

SECOND READING, Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 (NIV)

“As I looked,
“thrones were set in place,
and the Ancient of Days took his seat.
His clothing was as white as snow;
the hair of his head was white like wool.
His throne was flaming with fire,
and its wheels were all ablaze.
A river of fire was flowing,
coming out from before him.
Thousands upon thousands attended him;
ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.
The court was seated,
and the books were opened. . . .”

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

ANTHEM, Chancel Choir *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Arr. Wilbur Held (1998)

THIRD READING, Mark 14:55-63 (NIV)

The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree.

Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands.’” Yet even then their testimony did not agree.

Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?” But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer.

Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”

“I am,” said Jesus. “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

The high priest tore his clothes. “Why do we need any more witnesses?” he asked.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Divinity of the Christ Child”

Ben Yurchak

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 11

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

Emma Lou Diemer (1979)



This Sunday's flowers are given to the *glory of God,*
and in gratitude to
our **church officers**
ending their service this year.

Advent Adult Small Group Series

Continue the Conversation!

Join our Sunday Morning Adult Small Group for an Advent discussion with Ben Yurchak beginning next Sunday.

Topics include: the divinity of Jesus, the reliability of the New Testament, and more!

Adult Sunday School meets Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Mill Creek Room.

Questions? Contact Cathie Calkins at catherine.calkins@gmail.com.



Poinsettia Dedications

Please fill out a poinsettia card in your pew or contact the church office to dedicate a poinsettia (\$10 per plant) to a loved one or in commemoration of a special occasion.

The deadline for submission is **Monday, December 12.**

2023 Stewardship Campaign A Future with Hope

Last week you may have received a letter in the mail from our stewardship committee asking you to consider your pledge to support APC in 2023. We ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge and return it to the church office by Sunday, December 4. You can drop it in the offering plate on Sunday or in the mail.



If you did not receive a pledge letter, and you would like to, please let us know! If you have questions, please reach out to the church office at admin@ardmorepres.org or 610-642-6650. Thank you for your continued support of APC!

We can't thank you enough for supporting Ardmore Presbyterian Church!



Advent Festivities at Ardmore Presbyterian Church

Please keep these dates in mind for celebrating the Christmas season at APC.

We hope you will join us for these special events!

Saturday, December 3: Greening of the Church, 2-4 p.m.

Sunday, December 11: Family Advent Celebration, 4-6 p.m.

Sunday, December 18: Sunday Worship Featuring the Christmas Cantata and Children's Nativity Tableau, 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve Family Worship Service, 5 p.m.
Lessons and Carols Service, 10 p.m.**

Sunday, December 25: Simple Christmas Morning Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.

This Week at APC

Sunday, Nov. 27	10:30 a.m.	Lord's Day Worship In-Person & Livestreamed at ardmorepres.org/live
	11:45 a.m.	Lemonade on the Lawn
	11:45 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Monday, Nov. 28	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Fellowship on Zoom
	4:30 p.m.	Youth Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Wednesday, Nov. 30	11:15 a.m.	Meditative Walk at Stoneleigh
	5:00 p.m.	Wednesday PLUS with Children's Choir (Choir Room) Cherub Choir (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday, Dec. 1	12:30 p.m.	Bible Study (Mill Creek Room and Zoom)
	7:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)
Saturday, Dec. 3	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service for Barbara Simons (Chapel)
	2:00 p.m.	Greening of the Church (Sanctuary)
Sunday, Dec. 4		Second Sunday of Advent
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Mill Creek Room)
	10:30 a.m.	Lord's Day Worship In-Person & Livestreamed at ardmorepres.org/live
	11:45 a.m.	Lemonade on the Lawn
	11:45 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)



Lift your prayers this week for: **Children Suffering from Anxiety, Country of Ukraine, Dormond Family, Gun Violence, Hurricane Victims, Mary Schreiber, Our Church Family, Simons Family, World Leaders & Health Care Workers.** Prayers for those suffering from Covid-19 and long term effects. Ongoing Prayers for: **Kate Brooks, Jessie DiNome, Rosemary Fisher, Sandy Foote, Holly Frank, Twila Garletts, Claire Hammonds, Julie Patterson, Chris Rowe, Mary Schreiber, Kathy Toal.** Prayers for those grieving the loss of someone they love. Friends/Family: **John Beerbower, Brooks Family, Drew Elliott, Ross Ellison, Fisher Family, Dr. David Githii, Edna Gray's Family, Paul Goetsch, Dilshani and Jason Grimes' Mothers, Barbara Hayward, Howard and Bayless Family (Pearlie Diesinger's Family), Ingeborg (Christian Terwiesch's Mom), Kellylyn Nicholson and son Rhys, Light It Up Green for Pediatric Cancer, Rochon Family, Mary Scattergood, Schreiber Family, Toal Family, Curt Wilson's Family.** Prayer for those in care facilities. Prayer for those in the military. APC mission partners: **APC Preschool, Ardmore Food Pantry, Caring Hands Ministry (in India), First Place, Gift of Life Home, Family Promise of the Main Line, 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. Jason Grimes, Pastor, jgrimes@ardmorepres.org

Gary Garletts, M.M., AAGO, Director of Music/Organist, ggarletts@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 102)

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, mbutera@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 103)

Emily Polhamus, Church Administrator/Director of Communications,
epolhamus@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 101)

Irena Reynolds, M.A., Preschool Administrator, ireynolds@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 115)

Scott Welden, M.B.A., Finance Manager, swelden@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 114)

Bob Peters, A.S., Building Manager, bpeters@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 105)

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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!