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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., SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Worship Service

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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 2023

Jody Brumbach
Elaine Giese
Donald Poorman,
Clerk of Session

Class of 2024

Chip Cobb, Jr.
Robie Lawlace

Class of 2025

Barry Jeffries
Frank Miller
Ben Yurchak

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 2023

Kristy Cobb
Graham Fuller
Isla Grant,
Moderator
Anne Toal McComiskie

Class of 2024

Dan Del Duca
Carol Fritz
Sarah Schreiner,
Co-Moderator

Class of 2025

Jim Coath
Stephanie McGrory
Jan Terwiesch

*Standing for those who are able.

People's response in bold type.

GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE *O God of Earth and Altar ("King's Lynn")* Dale Wood

The grace and peace 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 98) Don Poorman

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord,

For he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

*HYMN 8 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* TRURO

CALL TO CONFESSION (Isaiah 1)

The prophet Isaiah declares, "Though our sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

Friends, in humility and in faith, let us confess our sins before God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, turning from you and our neighbors. We have worshipped our idols and refused to bear the troubles of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. O God, in your great mercy, forgive our sin and free us from selfishness; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (I Timothy 1 & I Peter 2))

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin and be alive to all that is good. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE (Matthew 6)

“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*RESPONSE, Hymn 229, v. 1 *From All That Dwell Below the Skies* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

From all that dwell below the skies

Let the Creator’s praise arise:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer’s name be sung

Through every land, in every tongue.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia!

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

FIRST READING, Isaiah 2:1-4

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.

ANTHEM, Chancel Choir

Give Ear, O Ye Heavens
Shirley Fishburne, *Organ*

Dale Wood

Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak;
And hear, O earth, the words of my
mouth.

My doctrine shall drop as the rain,
My speech shall distill as the dew,
As the small rain upon the tender herb,
And as the showers upon the grass:

Because I will publish the Name of the
Lord:

Ascribe ye greatness unto our God.

He is the Rock, His work is perfect:

For all His ways are judgment:

A God of truth and without iniquity,

Just and right is He.

(Deuteronomy 32:1-4)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND READING, I Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

THIRD READING, Luke 21:25-28

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON *“From Thence He Shall Come To Judge the Quick And The Dead”*
Rev. Jason Grimes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 291

O God of Earth and Altar

LLANGLOFFAN

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles’ 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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.**

PREPARING TO MAKE OUR OFFERING TO GOD (I Chronicles 29:14)

Lord, who are we that we are able to give so generously?

For all things come from you and what we now offer is already yours.

OFFERTORY, Quartet

Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor

Welsh Melody

Judge Eternal, throned in splendor,
Lord of lords and King of kings,
With your living fire of judgment
Purge this land of bitter things;
Solace all its wide dominion
With the healing of your wings.
Still the weary folk are pining
For the hour that brings release,
And the city's crowded clangor

Cries aloud for sin to cease,
And the homesteads and the woodlands
Plead in silence for their peace.
Crown, O God, your own endeavor;
Cleave our darkness with your sword;
Feed the faithless and the hungry
With the richness of your word;
Cleanse the body of this nation
Through the glory of the Lord.
(Henry Scott Holland)

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

*HYMN 538

Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Truro"

Jonathan Reuss



This Sunday's flowers are given *to the glory of God,*

and in loving memory of my parents

Irene and "Pat" Harman

by Peggy Leneis

and in loving memory of

Jack Straub

by his children and wife, Mary Lee Straub.

Children's Church Kick-Off Meeting

Today after worship
in the Mill Creek Room



Children's Church resumes today! If you're interested in joining our team of teachers and volunteers or want to learn more, join us today after worship in the Mill Creek Room for a brief planning meeting. If you're unable to attend the meeting, please email Christian Education Coordinator Maggie Reif at mreif@ardmorepres.org.



SUNDAY MORNING
ADULT SMALL
GROUP

Sunday Morning Adult Small Group Study Series

Exploring Our Statement of Faith

Join us as we embark on a study of our church's "Brief Statement of Faith". Adopted in 2018 this statement summarizes APC's central beliefs about God as revealed in the Bible and interpreted through the historic creeds of the Presbyterian Church.

Our 4- week series begins on **September 24** with the first two sections of the Statement of Faith:

"The Bible Is Inspired by God" and "God Is One and Triune"

During this series, we will review the scriptural basis of our faith statements, and hopefully find strength and joy in our common understanding about God's great love for us! You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions as desired.

We hope you will join us!

The **Ardmore Food Pantry** is serving a record number of people in recent months and is in need of donations!

Particular needs include:

- diapers
- feminine hygiene products
- peanut butter
- pasta and sauce
- tuna
- canned beans
- vegetables



You can also donate \$25 gift cards to Acme, Giant or Trader Joe's. Please leave donations in the basket in the back of our Sanctuary, or drop off at St. Mary's Episcopal Church at 36 Ardmore Avenue. *Thank you!*

NEW Middle School Youth Group

Starting **Sunday, September 24**, and meeting every other Sunday evening from 5-7 p.m., we invite middle all schoolers (grades 5-8) to participate in our new middle school youth group. All are welcome!

Participants can expect a time of fellowship over a shared meal, engagement with scripture, and fun activities such as music, games, or crafts. The youth group will be led by a volunteer team committed to creating a welcoming space for youth to strengthen their faiths.

If you have a child interested in participating, please contact our Children's Ministry Coordinator, Maggie Reif at mreif@ardmorepres.org so that our volunteer team can plan meals and activities.

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TEACHERS'
TEAMMATES

School Supply Drive

APC is currently running a School Supply drive for our mission partner, Teachers' Teammates! Now through September 24, we are collecting new and "like new" supplies that they will distribute to area teachers.

You can drop off donations in our church office or in the back of the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings.

To learn more about Teachers' Teammates,
and see a full list of accepted donations, visit
www.teachersteamates.org.



This Week at APC

- Sun., Sept. 17** 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Small Group (Mill Creek Room)
 Study Topic: Holiness
 10:30 a.m. Lord's Day Worship
 In-Person & Livestreamed at ardmorepres.org/live
 11:45 a.m. Lemonade on the Lawn
 Youth Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)
- Mon., Sept. 18** 1:00 p.m. Prayer Fellowship (Zoom)
- Tues., Sept. 19** 7:15 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee Meeting (Zoom)
- Wed., Sept. 20** 11:15 a.m. Meditative Walk at Stoneleigh
 (Weather permitting)
 5:00 p.m. Wednesday PLUS (Choir Room)
 Cherub Choir (Playground)
 6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)
- Thurs., Sept. 21** 12:30 p.m. Mid-Week Bible Study (Mill Creek Room)
 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir (Chapel)
- Sun., Sept. 24** 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Small Group (Mill Creek Room)
 Study Topic: Exploring Our Statement of Faith (Week 1)
 10:30 a.m. Lord's Day Worship
 In-Person & Livestreamed at ardmorepres.org/live
 11:45 a.m. Lemonade on the Lawn



Lift your prayers this week for: Kids starting school, those in the path of Hurricane Idalia, Barry Jeffries' brother Phil, Debbie Young, Barb and Dennis Woods' daughter, Adrienne, Jim Coath and Family, Lucille Hannigan, Boots Sheppard, Gun Violence, Wildfire Victims, Children Suffering from Anxiety, People of Ukraine and Russia, Our Church Family, World Leaders & Health Care Workers. Prayers for those suffering from Covid-19 and long-term effects. Ongoing Prayers for: Kate Brooks, Victoria Dean, Jessie DiNome, Rosemary Fisher, Sandy Foote, Holly Frank, Twila Garletts, Julie Patterson, Chris Rowe, Mary Schreiber, Kathy Toal Jim Dormond. Prayers for those grieving the loss of someone they love. Friends/Family: John Beerbower, Brooks Family, Fisher Family, Paul Goetsch, Sujatha Manawadu, Joyce Grimes, Howard and Bayless Families, Mary Scattergood, Schreiber Family, Toal 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), 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, *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, *Parish Associate*, gjmtk5@gmail.com

Michelle Butera, *Preschool Director*, mbutera@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 103)

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

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

Scott Welden, *Finance Manager*, swelden@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 114)

Bill Waters, *Facilities Manager*, wwaters@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 105)

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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!