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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., APRIL 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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 2024

Chip Cobb, Jr.
Harry Hannigan
Robie Lawlace
Jim Rowe

Class of 2025

Pat Corl
Barry Jeffries
Frank Miller
Ben Yurchak

Class of 2026

Shirley Fishburne
Randy Lawlace
Gary Lovett
Kathy Toal

Donald Poorman,
Clerk of Session

Likewise, our congregation elects members to serve on the diaconate. The ministry of a deacon is first and foremost one of care. Care for those both within and beyond the community of faith. Our deacons visit with members, organize support for those in need, and assist in the care of our church property.

DIACONATE

Class of 2024

Dan Del Duca,
Co-Moderator
Carol Fritz
Sarah Schreiner

Class of 2025

Stephanie McGrory,
Co-Moderator
Jim Coath
Jan Terwiesch

Class of 2026

Kofi Owusu
Barb Wood
Barbara McNutt

*Standing for those who are able.

People's response in bold type.

GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE

In Heavenly Love Abiding
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Russell Hayton
Paul Manz

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 80)

Frank Miller

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.
You cleared ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.
The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.
It sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the river.
Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine.

*HYMN 473

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

CALL TO CONFESSION (Romans 8)

The Apostle Paul writes to the church, "The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words."

With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, scripture tells us we will be known by our fruit. O Lord, these branches have not provided a hungry world with your love and hope. You call us to mature in our faith, but we are busy and cannot schedule an appointment with your Word and community. You call us to love our neighborhood, but wrapped in our own concerns, we have condoned evil, prejudice, violence, and greed. Holy God, prune these branches so we might love you and our neighbor; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (John 3 & II Corinthians 5)

Hear the good news! As people born of water and the Spirit, we have died to the old life, and a new life has begun. God's grace is poured out upon us day by day. Be thankful, and live as one who has been raised to new life.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE (Galatians 5)

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*RESPONSE

Be Not Afraid Jacques Berthier

Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris - en, al - le - lu - ia!

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THE WORD PROCLAIMED

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, through your Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING, Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved

my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watch-tower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

God is love, and all who live in love, live in God.
 God is light, in God there is no darkness. Come live in the love of the Lord.
 Come to the Lord, receive the light, and live in the love of the Lord.
 We are called to be God's own children, to live in the love of the Lord.
 All of you are one, united in Jesus, to live in the love of the Lord.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND READING, John 15:1-8

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"The I AM Shepherd and It's Fruit"

Rev. Jason Grimes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 366

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

ST. CATHERINE

*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.

THE 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 (Romans 6)

Let us present ourselves to God—

As those who have been delivered from death to life.

OFFERTORY, Duet

Thanks Be to God

Stanley Dickson

Courtney Capriotti, *Mezzo-soprano*; Jim Longacre, *Tenor*

Thanks be to God for roses rare,
For skies of blue and sunshine fair;
For every gift I raise a prayer,
Thanks be to God!
Thanks be to God for lovely night,
For mystic fields with stars bedight,

For hours of dream and deep delight,
Thanks be to God!
Thanks be to God for love divine
The hopes that round my heart entwine;
For all the joy that now is mine
Thanks be to God!
(P. J. O'Reilly)

*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 384

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

ST. MARGARET

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth

Wayne L. Wold



This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God
and in celebration of my grandchildren

Will and Colette Pawlowski

by Carol Fritz.

Festive Choral Service

May 5 during 10:30 a.m. worship

The choirs of APC cordially invite you to a special Festive Choral Service on Sunday morning, during the May 5 worship service!

All our choirs (Chancel, Youth, Children, Cherub, and Handbell) have had a joyful year of rehearsing, music making, and participating in Worship – from fall Homecoming to

Advent and Christmas, and through Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. They are eager to share several anthems of praise and prayer with APC members and friends during this special service.

Some of the offerings include “Come, Worship God,” “Sing a New Song,” “Prayer Litany,” and “When in Our Music God Is Glorified.” Many of the titles will be sung (or rung) by several choirs combined, and a guest flutist and cellist will also join in the celebration! Elder Don Poorman will offer scripture readings and reflections between the musical selections.

We hope to see you there as we praise God through the gift of music!



Meditative Walks at Stoneleigh

Looking for a way to get out into God's creation this spring? Join Pastor Jason every Wednesday (weather permitting) at 11:15 a.m. for a walk and discussion in the beautiful setting of Stoneleigh: A Natural Garden (1829 County Line Rd, Villanova, PA).

Ardmore Food Pantry Creative Arts Festival

Thursday, May 9 at 4 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church



The Ardmore Food Pantry is becoming much more than a food pantry! AFP aims to become a center with opportunities for their guests far beyond food offerings. Over the last few months, AFP has hosted several free self-expression workshops exploring performance, writing, art, music and more. This arts festival is a chance for participants to share their talents, and highlight AFP's new vision with the community!

Please come out to support our neighbors!

Vacation Bible School 2024

It's time for a summer camp adventure with God!

"When ever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you."

June 17-21, 2024 - 9 a.m.-12 p.m.



April is National Donate Life Month



April is National Donate Life Month (NDLM), and was established by Donate Life America and similar organizations in 2003. The Philadelphia area partner organization, Gift of Life Family House (aka Howie's House) is a mission partner of APC.

Since 2011, Gift of Life Howie's House has served as a "home away from home" for transplant patients and their families by providing temporary, affordable lodging and supportive services to those who travel to Philadelphia, for transplant-related care.

To support the mission of Howie's House, APC will be collecting travel-sized toiletries for guests during their stay, now through the end of May.

Please put donations of *new* travel-sized toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, etc.), as well as toothbrushes and toothpaste, in the bins in the back of the church and in the church office. We will be collecting these items throughout the month of May!

Accessing Our Church Directory

Did you know that you can access and update our church directory at home? We use a program called **Instant Church Directory** to manage our directory. You can create a log-in for this page and view the directory at any time, and even update your own information.

On the bottom center of ardmorepres.org there is a link labelled "Church Directory" that will take you to the Instant Church Directory log-in page. If you have created an account before, use that to log-in. If you haven't, please create your log-in account.

In order for Instant Church Directory to recognize you as a member of APC, and grant access to our directory, you will need to create your login using the same email address you submitted to the directory. If you don't know, or need to change your email address in the directory, please contact Emily.

You are of course welcome to pick up a hard copy of our church directory from the office or we can mail you one! Contact Emily at admin@ardmorepres.org or 610-642-6650 to request a copy, request updates, or with any questions!



This Week at APC

- Sun., April 28** 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Small Group (Mill Creek Room)
10:30 a.m. Lord's Day Worship (Fifth Sunday of Easter)
 In-Person & Livestreamed at ardmorepres.org/live
11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:45 a.m. Youth Choir (Choir Room)
- Mon., April 29** 1:00 p.m. Prayer Fellowship (Zoom)
- Wed., May 1** 11:15 a.m. Meditative Walk at Stoneleigh (Weather permitting)
5:00 p.m. Wednesday PLUS Closing Program (Fellowship Hall)
 Cherub Choir (Mill Creek Room)
6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)
7:00 p.m. Christian Education Committee Meeting (MCR)
7:15 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting (Parlor)
- Thurs., May 2** 12:30 p.m. Mid-Week Bible Study (MCR)
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir (Chapel)
- Sun., May 5** 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Small Group (Mill Creek Room)
10:30 a.m. Lord's Day Worship (Sixth Sunday of Easter)
 In-Person & Livestreamed at ardmorepres.org/live
11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time
5:00 p.m. Youth Group (Library)

Fellowship Time Hosts Needed!



The sign-up sheet for hosting our fellowship after worship is up on the bulletin board in the back of the Sanctuary! We need your help to continue this special time together. Everything is provided for hosting, you only need to set-up and serve the refreshments. *Please take a look at the calendar on the board and see what dates work for you!*

Questions? Contact the church office at admin@ardmorepres.org.



Lift your prayers this week for: Phil Jeffries and Fluff McKeown as they undergo cancer treatment, Jim Dormond, Steve and Barbara Hibbs, Betsy Reif Soto and her son Ezra Soto, Carolyn Young, the family of Gren Foote, the family of Betty Campbell, the family of Sandy Foote, the Nofer family, David Block's family in Israel, and the community of Overbrook Presbyterian Church.

Ongoing Prayers for: Lucille Hannigan, Boots Sheckard, Kate Brooks, Victoria Dean, Jessie DiNome, Rosemary Fisher, Holly Frank, Twila Garletts, Julie Patterson, Chris Rowe, Mary Schreiber, Adrienne Wood, Kathy Toal, Jim Dormond, John Beerbower, Paul Goetsch, Sujatha Manawadu, the Howard and Bayless Families, Mary Scattergood, the Schreiber Family and Debbie Young.

We pray for God's provision of healing and wholeness for those who suffer, and God's grace for those who are homebound or living in care facilities. We pray for God's guidance here at APC, with the Church Universal, and all our mission partners. Finally, we lift up our continued prayers for our nation and our world.

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)

Maggie Reif, *Children's Ministry Coordinator*, mreif@ardmorepres.org

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!