



ARDMORE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Transforming Lives Through the Good News of Jesus Christ”

ARDMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ardmore, Pennsylvania

10:30 A.M., OCTOBER 18, 2026

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

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 questions or 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.

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, serve for specific terms of service, and chair committees related to the life and work of the church. 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.

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 our community of faith. Our deacons visit with members, organize support for those in need, and assist in the care of our church property.

SESSION

Class of 2026

Shirley Fishburne

Personnel

Randy Lawlace

Finance

Gary Lovett

Mission Awareness

Kathy Toal

*Christian Education and
Preschool*

Class of 2027

Holly Frank

Elizabeth Luff

Donald Poorman,
Clerk of Session

Jim Rowe

*Building and Grounds
and Preschool*

Class of 2028

Rick Corl

*Stewardship and
Nominating*

Janice Felix

Worship

Jill Fowler

Catherine Schreiner
Fellowship and Outreach

DIACONATE

Class of 2026

Kofi Owusu

Barb Wood

Barbara McNutt

Class of 2027

Kate Brooks

Alice Miller

Co-Moderator

Anne Warner

Class of 2028

Isla Grant

Co-Moderator

Ryan Krieger

Lynne Leopold-Sharp

*Standing for those who are able.

People's response in bold type.

GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Sonata in A Minor for Solo Flute (Allegro)

C. P. E. Bach

Maya Koteschwar, *Flute*

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

PRAYER OF ADORATION

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Rick Corl

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 96)

Frank Miller

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; God is to be revered above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before God; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

*HYMN 483

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

CALL TO CONFESSION (Matthew 11)

Come to me, all who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Let us ask God to forgive us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in your gracious presence, we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue too often harm your creation and people. The fears and jealousies we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve in the world as agents of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[SILENT PRAYER]

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Psalm 103)

God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who revere him; as far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us.

Be thankful, and live as one who has been raised to new life. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE (Psalm 85)

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for God will speak peace to his people.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*RESPONSE

Peace, Perfect Peace (v. 1 & 5)

PAX TECUM

**Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?
The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.
Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown?
Jesus we know, and He is on the throne.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Empty us, Great God,
of all that prevents us from hearing what you want us to hear.
Empty us of our preconceptions,
our preoccupations and our prejudices.
Empty us that we might be filled
with your Spirit and your Word.
Empty us that we might be filled for ministry and mission.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

FIRST READING, Daniel 3:1-7

King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden statue whose height was sixty cubits and whose width was six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent for the satraps, the prefects, and the

governors, the counsellors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to assemble and come to the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. So the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counsellors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, assembled for the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. When they were standing before the statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up, the herald proclaimed aloud, "You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you are to fall down and worship the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire." Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshipped the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

ANTHEM, Chancel Choir

Song of Thanksgiving

Michael Joncas

What return can I make to the Lord for His goodness unto me?

I will take the cup of salvation and will call upon his Name.

My vows to the Lord I will pay in the presence of all His people;

To you will I offer the sacrifice of thanks, and I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord is my strength and my shield. I trust in Him and I find my help.

My heart exults, my heart exults, and with my song I give Him thanks.

(From Psalm 116)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND 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 God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"The Kingdom Tension"

Rev. Jason Grimes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 333

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

*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 (Matthew 22)

Jesus said: Give to the emperor
the things that belong to the emperor
and to God the things that are God's.

OFFERTORY, Duet

Be Thou Exalted

Bruno Huhn

Courtney Capriotti, *Mezzo-soprano*; Tom Sitzler, *Baritone*

Be Thou exalted, Lord, in Thine own strength:

So will we sing and praise Thy power.

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, He shall sustain thee:

Trust in Him; pour out your heart before Him.

Be Thou exalted, Lord, in Thine own strength:

So will we sing and praise Thy power.

For Thy mercy is great unto the heavens,

And Thy truth unto the clouds.

Be Thou exalted above the heavens!

I will praise the name of God with a song.

(Excerpts from Psalms)

*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 422

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

Flute Sonata No. 2 (Andante)

Philippe Gaubert



This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God,
in gratitude for
His amazing grace for 62 years
by Pat and Dick Corl.

The Gathering: October 20

Join us Tuesday, October 20, at 11:30 a.m. at the Wyndham Restaurant on the Bryn Mawr College campus for the next Gathering! Guest speaker Samantha Nestory, Horticulturist and Engagement Manager at Stoneleigh, will share insights about the beautiful property.



Participants pay for their own lunch. All are welcome!
Questions? Contact Shirley Fishburne at shirleyfishburne@gmail.com.

We hope you'll join us for another wonderful Gathering!



Men's Bible Study Saturday, October 24th at 9:00 a.m.

Join Pastor Jason for coffee and light breakfast, we will begin our studies and discuss meeting times, topics, and plans for the group.
Men of all ages are welcome to join the conversation and help us get started!

The Call Congregational Meeting November 15, 2025

Our annual congregational meeting on November 15 immediately following worship. We will elect our new church officers and receive the budget, so please plan to stay after worship for this short but important meeting!





Documentary Movie Screening:

Next Sunday October 25

Brewing Possibilities

Directed by David Block

Join us after worship on October 25 when we will share lunch together and watch David's documentary! This film shares the mission and vision of a community nonprofit café in Narberth, that offers employment and employment training opportunities to individuals with disabilities and neurodivergent conditions.

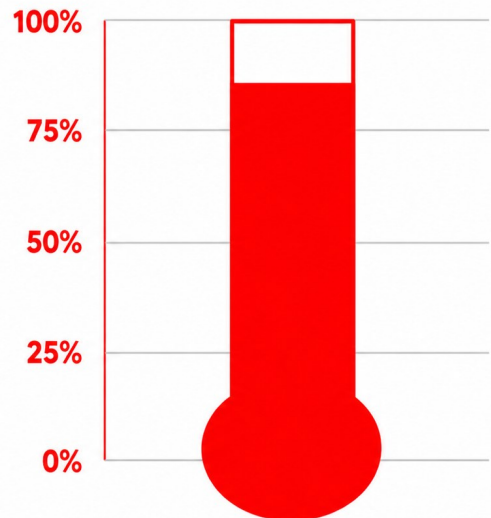
Brewing Possibilities is David's 10th documentary and has special meaning for David as a blind and autistic filmmaker, as well as an employee of GET Café!

APC 2026 Pledge Campaign Progress

Thank you! to everyone who has submitted a financial pledge for 2026.

YTD Pledged Contributions

Received as of 9/30/26	\$ 296,078
2026 Pledge Total	\$ 345,631
Percent of Total	86%



Session Meeting Highlights

The Session of Ardmore Presbyterian Church met for their monthly meeting on Monday, October 12, 2026.

Here are the highlights of reports and approvals from this week's meeting:

- **Session** approved the Ardmore Presbyterian Weekday Preschool to seek licensing from the PA Department of Human Services.
- **Session** approved the reception of a free-will offering to benefit GET Café at the documentary film screening on October 25.
- **Session** approved APC's participation in the Code Blue Shelter as a host church, during the month of February 2027.

The next session meeting will take place on Monday, November 9, 2026.

Save-the-Date!

Confirmation Luncheon

Join us for a special luncheon after worship on Sunday, November 22, as we celebrate six of our young people who will be confirmed at Ardmore Presbyterian Church!

Through confirmation, these youth will make a public profession of their faith and affirm their place in the life of the church.

This is a meaningful milestone in their faith journeys, and we look forward to celebrating this special occasion with our church family. Come share in the joy, offer your encouragement, and help us welcome and support these young people as they take this important step in their lives of faith. We hope you'll join us!

If you are interested joining our church, please reach out to Pastor Jason at jgrimes@ardmorepres.org.



This Week at APC

Sun., Oct. 18	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Library)
	10:30 a.m.	Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service In-Person & Livestreamed at ardmorepres.org/live
	11:45 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	11:45 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Mon., Oct. 19	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Group (Zoom)
	7:00 p.m.	Preschool Committee Meeting (Zoom)
	6:30 p.m.	Diaconate Meeting (MCR)
Tues., Oct. 20	11:30 a.m.	The Gathering (Wyndham Restaurant)
	7:15 p.m.	Building and Grounds Committee Meeting (Zoom)
Wed., Oct. 21	11:15 a.m.	Meditative Walk at Stoneleigh (Weather Permitting)
	5:00 p.m.	Wednesday PLUS (Choir Room)
	6:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thurs., Oct. 22	12:30 p.m.	Mid-Day Bible Study (Mill Creek Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)
Sun., Oct. 25	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School (Library)
	10:30 a.m.	Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service In-Person & Livestreamed at ardmorepres.org/live
	11:45 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	11:45 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class (Mill Creek Room)

Next Sunday: Reformation Sunday

On Sunday, October 25 we recognize Reformation Sunday, when we remember the call to be “reformed and ever reforming”. Bagpiper Charlie Rutan will make his annual visit; the choirs will sing, *Built On a Rock*; and all will join to sing, *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*. Come celebrate the history of our church together!





Lift your prayers this week for: The McKoy Family, The Gray Family, Janet Abel, Anne Fishburne Hamilton, Ben Frick, Brian Sloss, Cathy Shields, Robin Hill, Judi Tidikis, Jay Palumbo, Walter and Theresa Haenn, Kim O'Rourke, and Phil Jeffries.

Ongoing Prayers for: John Abrams, John Beerbower, Kate Brooks, Victoria Dean, Jessie DiNome, Rosemary Fisher, Twila Garletts, Paul Goetsch, Lucille Hannigan, Matt Hershey, Steve Hibbs, the Howard Family, Sujatha Manawadu, Julie Patterson, Chris Rowe, Mary Schreiber, the Schreiber Family, Kathy Toal, Adrienne Wood, Carolyn 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 STAFF DIRECTORY

Ministers: Entire Congregation

Assisted by:

Rev. Jason Grimes, *Pastor*, jgrimes@ardmorepres.org

Rev. Schaunel Steinnagel, *Parish Associate*, rvschaunel@aol.com

Kristy Cobb, *Finance Manager*, kcobb@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 114)

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

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

Kofi Owusu, *Pastoral Assistant*, knyarkoowusu@gmail.com

Emily Polhamus, *Director of Administration and Communications*,
epolhamus@ardmorepres.org (Ext. 101)

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

Raisa Stephens, *Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator*, rstephens@ardmorepres.org

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/giving). Or, you may simply **scan the QR code on the left here with your phone.**