

**BACON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

A family of faith since 1922

166 59th Street

Niagara Falls, New York 14304-3812

716-283-5744

Church office hours - Mon., Wed., Fri., 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

April 11, 2021 - 2nd Sunday of Easter
10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Large Print bulletin available - ask an usher
Please silence all cell phones before worship.

* Please stand if you are able.

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Face covering/mask must be worn at all times while inside the church.
Please remain socially distanced as much as possible. Thank you.

We utilize Feasting on the Word, Year B for our worship.

GOD CALLS US TOGETHER

PRELUDE “My Lord, What a Morning” Roger C. Wilson

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

(Liturgist)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please keep announcements brief, especially if they are already in the bulletin.

(Liturgist)

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

L: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

A: And also with you.

L: While remaining in your seat, please turn to each other and offer a sign of peace.

(Pastor)

MEDITATION & OPENING PRAYER

(Liturgist)

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Responsive)

L: Peace be with you.

A: How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity.

L: Receive the Holy Spirit.

A: It is like precious oil on the head, the blessing of the Lord.

(Liturgist)

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING # 246 “Christ Is Alive!”** verses 1, 3 & 4

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

3. In every insult, rift, and war where color,
scorn or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet
loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

4. Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the
Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the
life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to
this and every age, till earth and sky and
ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

(Pastor)

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Pastor)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

You have shown yourself to us, O God, by Word and Spirit, with signs and wonders, in flesh and blood, yet we still struggle to live and believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us; forgive us. Enter into our lives and cast out our fear so that we may come to trust in you and have life in Jesus’ name. Amen.

(Pastor)

(confess silently)

(Pastor)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

WE ENCOUNTER GOD’S WORD

(Liturgist)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: God of all who doubt and believe, by the gift of your Spirit enable us to hear with our ears, to see with our eyes, and to touch with our hands your Word of life—Jesus Christ— our Lord and our God. Amen.

INTRODUCTION: The lectionary takes us on a journey of Acts throughout Eastertide this year starting with today’s scripture. We meet this community of believers in Jerusalem. We have to acknowledge the spiritual vitality shown by a multitude of unnamed and unremembered saints. We have to feel their shared heartbeat of generosity and linger with their willingness to risk. For the community itself, in its unity of purpose and its commitment to protect the well-being of all, especially its most vulnerable members, bears witness to the new life God makes possible through Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit. There’s always a community, whether you notice it or not. Hear God’s word.

(Liturgist)

FIRST READING Acts 4:32-35 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Believers Share Their Possessions

³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.

³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.

³⁵ They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God!

(Liturgist)

HYMN (seated) verse 1 “**Jesus Loves Me**”

(Pastor)

CHILDREN'S TIME & **Lord's Prayer******

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.

ANTHEM “How Blest Are They” Soloists Barry Rose and Christine Ford

(Pastor)

SECOND READING John 20:19-31 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.
²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”
²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”
²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”
²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”
²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”
³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.
³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

(Pastor)

SERMON

“Doubting Christ? Doubting Ourselves.”

Pastor Lisa Giacomazza

HYMN AFTER THE SERMON #251 “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia” (all verses)

(Call and Response hymn)

1. Christ Has Risen, Alleluia. Rejoice praise him, alleluia.

For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispel its gloom.

Let us sing to him with endless joy.

Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

2. For three long days the grave did its worst until its strength by God was dispersed.

He who gives life did death undergo, and in its conquest his might did show.

Let us sing to him with endless joy.

Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

3. The angel said to them, “Do not fear. You look for Jesus who is not here.

See for yourselves the tomb is all bare. Only the grave clothes are lying there.”

Let us sing to him with endless joy.

Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

4. “Go spread the news: he’s not in the grave. He has arisen this world to save.

Jesus’ redeeming labors are done. Even the battle with sin is won.”

Let us sing to him with endless joy.

Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

5. Christ has arisen to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be. Jesus is living!

Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly King.

Let us sing to him with endless joy.

Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

(Pastor)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING

(Pastor)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Gabrielle’s Oboe” Soloist Christine Ford

***DOXOLOGY #606**

**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.**

(Pastor)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION and THANKSGIVING (Unison)**

Holy God, we give you thanks and praise for light and life and love, and—above all— the presence of the living Lord among us. By your Spirit who breathes within us, strengthen our faith, use our gifts, and work in our lives to bear witness to the resurrection of Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***ACOLYTES CLAIM THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

***BENEDICTION HYMN #232 Jesus “Christ Has Risen Today” (all verses)**

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinner to redeem and save. Alleluia!
3. But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he’s King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
4. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as God’s love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

(Pastor)
***CHARGE**

(Pastor)
***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** “Allegro” from Sonata #2 **G.F. Handel** **Soloist Christine Ford**

LITURGIST – Lee Weinsheimer

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting is TODAY! The Annual Meeting of Bacon Memorial Presbyterian Church will take place today after worship. Reports are available on the table in the Narthex for your review. We hope you brought your “bright idea!”

Garden Club – Our new Garden Club will meet Sunday, April 18th immediately following worship. Just looking for ideas on how we can spruce up the exterior grounds of the church. Please join us!

Thank you! Thank you to all who purchased an Easter Plant that enhanced our Easter celebrations – 7 plants were delivered to our at home members.

Boxes of offering envelopes are on the table in the church Narthex. Pick yours up on Sunday or during office hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.

Wish List for The Magdalene Project:

Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Lotion, Bar Soap or Bottled Soap, Our Daily Breads, Bibles, Other Religious Material that believes in Jesus, Cross Necklaces, Small Rocks with crosses or religious words such as Peace, Believe etc., Quart Zip Lock Bags, Gallon Zip Lock bags, Take Out Containers for Food. *See complete list on Magdalene box in the Narthex.*

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We have prayer Shawls and Lapghans for those who are ill or home bound. Call the church office if you know someone who could use a hug and a prayer.

Flowers for the re-table

If you would like to **order flowers for the re-table**, please call Ron Clements at 283-9411. You may want to honor someone’s memory with flowers in remembrance of a birthday or place a rose when a child is born.

Food cupboard

Any non-perishable food you would like to donate is always welcome. The following items are always needed: Protein-rich foods such as tuna, canned chicken, beans or peanut butter. The food cupboard is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Please check the expiration date of donated food.

Lion’s Club

The **Lion’s Club** is collecting your used eyeglasses, eyeglass cases and old hearing aids. There is a collection box on the table in the Narthex.

IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

There will be someone in the office to answer calls
Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sun., April 18, 2021

Sunday Worship Service and Sunday School 10:30 am
Garden Club meeting after worship
AA meeting 7:00 pm

Sat., April 24, 2021

Rummage sale 9am - 2pm

We are committed to continuing our on-line worship on a weekly basis and we encourage you to continue to watch and share our message with your family and friends. Our on-line worship can be found on the **Bacon Memorial Presbyterian Church You Tube channel**. You will find a link on our webpage at www.baconmemorial.org. You can download a copy of the bulletin from our webpage so you can follow along with us! If you would like a printed copy of the sermon, you may download from the website or you may call the church at 716-283-5744 and we can send you a written copy of the sermon by e-mail/mail weekly. Thank you and may God lead us to find an end to this virus.

But if we walk in the light, as he himself is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
1 John 1:7

*Thank you to Ron and Fran Clements
for donating our Sunday bulletins!*

Bacon Memorial Presbyterian Church

166 59th Street

Niagara Falls, NY 14304

283-5744

Saturday April 24, 2021



Doors open @ 9:00 am

\$2.00 Bag Sale @ 12:00 pm

Something for everyone and priced to sell!