

**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

January 18, 2026 - Second Sunday after the Epiphany

10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Large Print bulletin available – on the table

Please silence all cell phones before worship.

* Please stand if you are able.

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Liturgy used with permission from Presbyterian Outlook
written by Stephanie Sorge

GOD CALLS US TOGETHER

PRELUDE “Marvelous, Amazing Grace” Ruth Elaine Schram

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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: Let us now offer each other a sign of peace in genuine fellowship and reconciliation in community with one another.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)**

L: God calls us here together — each of us, all of us, our whole selves.

A: We bring our questions, our longings, our hopes, our dreams and our fears.

L: Jesus invites us to come and see where God is at work.

A: Across the street and across the globe, Jesus is present.

L: Within these walls and within our hearts, God is here.

A: Let us worship the God who reaches out in love and invites us to come and see!

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING #43 “On Eagles Wings”**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Almighty God, we confess that as members of YOUR church, we too often forget that we are here to serve you. We too often engage in turf battles, let our egos get in the way and treat others poorly while outwardly professing to be following in the footsteps of your son. We confess to forgetting that while social media can be and is used for great good; it sometimes can be used to spread negative thoughts. We often forget to really welcome other people and close our mind and hearts to people who act different, look different or have different views than us. We ask that you forgive us and help us to look at things in a more inclusive and Christ-like way. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Leviticus 14:33-34

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

³³ The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying:

³⁴ “When you come into the land of Canaan, which I give you for a possession, and I put a defiling disease in a house in the land of your possession,

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God!

HYMN #188 seated “Jesus Loves Me” verse 1

Jesus Loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus Loves me! The Bible tells me so.

CHILDREN'S TIME and 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

SPECIAL MUSIC “The Church’s One Foundation” Gary Norian

SECOND READING John 4:1-42

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Jesus and the Woman of Samaria

4 Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, “Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John” ² (although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized), ³ he left Judea and started back to Galilee. ⁴ But he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³ Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” ¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a

prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³²But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

SERMON

“Good message. Messengers?”

Bill Wilson

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Declaration of Faith)

We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.
But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over
evil that are possible now in the world, the church, and
our individual lives. Hope gives us courage and energy
to contend against all opposition, however invincible it
may seem, for the new world and the new humanity
that are surely coming.
Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Toplady” Nigel Williams

***DOXOLOGY #606** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.
(*some say “him”)

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

Holy God, we are not lacking in any gift, and we give you thanks and praise.
Receive the gifts of our hearts and lives, not as vain sacrifice, but as a joyful
response for your steadfast love. Use what you have given us to your glory in
every place. Transform our gifts to become a beacon of hope, a word of life,
and a balm of healing for all of creation. Amen.

***ACOLYTES CLAIM THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

***BENEDICTION HYMN # 370 “This is My Father’s World”** all verses

***CHARGE**

***BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Arthur Frackenpohl

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 1 – Annual Reports were due

Jan 24 - Tapestry – Purposeful Rest – Saturday at 1pm. Join Tapestry for a discussion on purposeful rest. We will explore different restful experiences including a guided visualization, a chocolate meditation, breath practices and more! Discover your natural doorway to rest. Led by Jessie Mancuso.

Country Meat Sticks for Sale

The Fall Festival committee has some flavored meat sticks left. They are only \$1.50 each or 2 for \$3.00. Flavors include: Sweet Annie Brown, Bold Teriyaki, Hot Cajun, Sweet Maple Bacon, Pepperoni and other flavors. See Sandy Quinn, Cheryl McInerney, Bill Springer.

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.

If you would like to order **flowers for the retable**, please call Ron Clements at 716-283-9411. You may want to honor someone’s memory with flowers in remembrance of a birthday or place a rose when a child is born.

Special Envelopes for 2026

Initial Offering - January 4, 2026

Beginning with the use of these envelopes, I dedicate them to the Lord! With a prayer, I herein make a gift, in addition to my regular contribution, to help in providing the envelopes for the collection and receiving of gifts.

Per Capita - January 4, 2026

Every church is apportioned a share of the expenses of the Presbytery, the Synod, and the General Assembly for ecclesiastical purposes. The apportionment is based on church membership. The amount varies with the needs of the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly, and is a regular expense payable by this church at the spring meeting of the Presbytery. The amount to be paid this year per communicant member is \$40.

Deacons Fund - January 4, 2026,

On Communion Sunday the members are asked to make a voluntary contribution to aid the distressed and afflicted of our Church community. Your gift will be set aside for this purpose. If unavoidably absent from Communion this envelope may be deposited in the offering plate on any convenient Sunday.

IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

Opportunities at Bacon

There will be someone in the office to answer calls

Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sun. January 25, 2025

Worship service, Sunday School	10:30 am
Crochet, knitting, crafting group.....	2 pm
AA meeting.....	7:30 pm

Attendance: January 11, 2026

Weather: Clear

Adults.....	23
Youth.....	6
Sermon – Hand delivered.....	No printed sermon
Sermon – mailed.....	
Sermon – emailed.....	
Facebook plays.....	
You Tube views.....	

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 email or mail weekly.

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

What's Happening at Bacon January 2026

Jan. 1 Annual Reports due to Church Secretary

Jan. 4 Worship, Communion, Sunday School.....10:30 am
Mission and Outreach meeting – following worship
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

Jan. 5 Church closed for the New Year holiday

Jan. 7 NAP dinner at Lewiston – 5 pm

Jan. 11 Worship, Sunday School..... 10:30 am
Election of Officers following worship
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

Jan. 14 Session meeting – by zoom.....7:00 pm

Jan. 17 Presbyterian Men meet at the Jetport.....9:00 am

Jan. 18 Worship, Sunday School.....10:30 am
Third Sunday Lunch – following worship
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

Jan. 19 Church closed for Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday

Jan. 20 Deadline for February Bacon Visitor announcements

Jan. 24 Tapestry1 pm

Jan. 25 Worship, Sunday School.....10:30 am
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

Jan. 28 Worship & Music meeting – by Zoom.....7:00 pm



“Tapestry”: Weaving Fellowship, Mission, and Joy in Christ

At Bacon Memorial, we believe that every person is a unique thread in God’s greater design. **Tapestry** is dedicated to building meaningful relationships, serving with purpose, and celebrating the vibrant life we share in Christ.

Whether you're seeking deeper friendships, a place to serve, or simply a space to belong, Tapestry welcomes you. Come be part of something beautifully woven—where every thread matters. Please bring a neighbor or friend! All are welcome!



The Gift of Stopping – Rediscovering Sabbath Rest

Join us for a discussion on purposeful rest. We will explore different restful experiences including a guided visualization, a chocolate meditation, breath practices and more! Discover your natural doorway into rest.

Led by Jessie Mancuso – Reiki Master, Meditation and Yoga Instructor

Saturday, January 24, 2026 – 1:00 pm

Bacon Memorial Presbyterian Church – Multi-Purpose Room
166 59th Street, Niagara Falls, NY

Please **RSVP** - lisagiacomazza@gmail.com or text 716-816-9503