

**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

**February 8, 2026 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

**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**

Liturgy used with permission from Presbyterian Outlook  
written by Rev Owen J. Gray

**GOD CALLS US TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE “I Will Trust”** 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) (Psalm 27:1)**

**L:** Come, let us gather with hearts that trust God.

**People:** God's light steadies us and helps us stand firm.

**L:** God's goodness shapes our lives with generosity and grace.

**People:** With grateful hearts, we worship the One who makes us flourish.

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING #658 "God Is So Good" all verses**

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Gracious God, we confess that this life of faith is harder than we expected. You call us to be salt of the earth, to live with justice, compassion, and love, yet we slip into what is easy and familiar. Sometimes doing what is right feels too costly, and we settle for the status quo.**

**Forgive us. Wake us up and shake us free from our routines. Renew our desire to do what is right in your eyes, and inspire us to shine with your light. Help us, like the prophets and saints before us, to act with courage and faith.**

*Moment of silence*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING

#### Psalm 112

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

#### *Introduction*

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord!

Happy are those who fear the Lord,  
who greatly delight in his commandments.

<sup>2</sup> Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

<sup>5</sup> It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup> For the righteous will never be moved;  
they will be remembered forever.

<sup>7</sup> They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.

<sup>8</sup> Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

<sup>9</sup> They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;  
their righteousness endures forever;  
their horn is exalted in honor.

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 “Children’s Melody”** Mark Hayes

**SECOND READING** **Matthew 23:1-12**

23 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 2 “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’s seat; 3 therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it, but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. 4 They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others, but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. 5 They do all their deeds to be seen by others, for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. 6 They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues 7 and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to have people call them rabbi. 8 But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers and sisters. 9 And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father, the one in heaven. 10 Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. 11 The greatest among you will be your servant. 12 All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**SERMON**

**“I Like Your Christ, But...”**

*Reverend Abigail Trautman*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray for those we love, our community, our world and for peace and grace for us all.

**OFFERING**

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY “Bethany”** 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)**

**Accept these, our gifts, almighty God, as a statement of our faith. May our offering bring goodness and light wherever it is needed. May our communities of faith be bearers of your light. And may we be sources of that same light to the world in all we say and do. Amen**

**\*ACOLYTES CLAIM THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

**\*BENEDICTION HYMN #515 “I Come With Joy”** verses 1, 4 & 5

## **\*CHARGE**

## **\*BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE “Beach Spring”** Arthur Frackenpohl

**Liturgist** – Pastor Lisa

Feb. 15 –

Feb. 22 – Bill Springer

Mar. 1 –

Mar. 8 -

Today we are glad to welcome **Reverend Abigail Trautman**, Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Western New York. She joins us to share her wisdom and insight on this beautiful passage from Matthew.

Following worship, you’re invited to a brief reception where you can greet Rev. Trautman and share where you find joy in your faith journey. We are grateful for her presence with us today.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE – Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm – Chapel**

**January 1 – Annual Reports were due** – we are still missing a few. Please get your report in so we can compile the Annual Report to be approved by Session on February 11<sup>th</sup> and distributed on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>.

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.

### **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, Hot Cajun, Sweet Maple Bacon, Pepperoni and other flavors. See 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.

## **Special Envelopes for 2026**

### **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 \$50.

### **Scholarship Fund** - *February 1, 2026*

### **Sessional Fund** - *February 1, 2026*

On Communion Sunday the members are asked to make a voluntary contribution to the Sessional Fund, to carry on the work of the Session and to take care of the distressed of the congregation. Amounts placed in this envelope will be set aside for that purpose. If unavoidably absent on Communion Sunday, 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. February 15, 2026**

Worship service, Sunday School ...10:30 am

Fall Festival meeting.....noon

Crochet, knitting, crafting group.....2 pm

AA meeting.....7:30 pm

### **Attendance: February 1, 2026**

Weather: Cold

Adults.....19

Youth.....4

Sermon – Hand delivered.....1

Sermon – mailed.....3

Sermon – emailed.....7

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](http://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 February 2026**

**Jan. 1** Annual Reports due to Church Secretary

**Feb. 1** Worship, Communion, Sunday School.....10:30 am  
Mission and Outreach meeting – following worship  
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm  
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

**Feb. 4** NAP dinner at Riverside – 5 pm

**Feb. 6** Committee monthly reports due

**Feb. 8** Worship, Sunday School..... 10:30 am  
Special guest – Rev. Abigail Tarutman  
Reception .....after worship  
Shower - .....1:00pm  
Super Bowl watch party.....5:00 pm  
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

**Feb. 11** Session meeting – by zoom.....7:00 pm

**Feb. 15** Worship, Sunday School.....10:30 am  
Fall Festival meeting.....noon  
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm  
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

**Feb. 16 Church closed for President's Day**

**Feb. 17** Worship & Music meeting – by Zoom.....7:00 pm

**Feb. 18 Ash Wednesday -service at Bacon Memorial – 7 pm**

**Feb. 20** Deadline for March Bacon Visitor announcements

**Feb. 21** Presbyterian Men .....9:00 am

**Feb. 22** Worship, Sunday School.....10:30 am  
Annual Congregational meeting immediately after worship  
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm  
AA meeting.....7:30 pm