

**BACON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A family of faith since 1921**

166 59th Street
Niagara Falls, New York 14304-3812

716-283-5744
Church office hours - Mon. - Fri., 9 am - 1 pm.

February 18, 2024 - Ash Wednesday
4:00 p.m.

Large Print bulletin available - ask an usher

Please silence all cell phones before worship.

* Please stand if you are able.

ENTER TO WORSHIP

We enter our 40 day Lenten Journey tonight.

GOD CALLS US TOGETHER

PRELUDE “Abiding” 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)

Leader: Tonight we step away from the noise—the voices that rush us, distract us, and pull us in every direction.

People: We come to listen for God's voice.

Leader: Like Moses climbing the mountain, we come seeking a place where the world grows quiet and God's presence becomes clear.

People: We come to listen for God's voice.

Leader: Like the disciples overshadowed by the cloud, we bring our confusion, our questions, our tired hearts.

People: We come to listen for God's voice.

Leader: In this holy space, God meets us with mercy, reminds us who we are, and calls us beloved.

People: We come to listen, to turn back, and to be renewed.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who speaks in the silence and leads us into life.

People: We come with open hearts. We come to listen. We come to worship.

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING #415 “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” all vs**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Pastor will read a confession while the congregation remains silent in contemplative prayer)

(confess silently)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

Introduction

²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. ⁶As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC **"Amazing Grace"** Mark Hayes

SECOND READING Matthew 1:1-17

The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah

1 An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, **3** and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, **4** and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, **5** and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, **6** and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, **7** and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, **8** and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, **9** and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, **10** and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, **11** and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, **13** and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, **14** and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, **15** and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, **16** and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, who bore Jesus, who is called the Messiah.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

SERMON

“Turning Down the Noise”

Pastor Lisa

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(Please come forward for the Imposition of Ashes)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Hyfrydol” 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)

God, everything we have comes from you. You’ve been so good to us, and we are grateful. Tonight we remember that we came into this world with nothing and we will leave the same way. So we offer what we can—our time, our gifts, our resources— not to impress you, but to serve you.

Use these gifts, and use us, to bring your love into the world. We offer them in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***ACOLYTES CLAIM THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

***BENEDICTION HYMN #417 “Lord Jesus, Think on Me” Vs. 1 & 3**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE “O Come Unto the Lord” Chai Hoon Park**