

**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

March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday

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 Rev Carol Holbrook Pickett.

GOD CALLS US TOGETHER

PRELUDE “Prelude on “Deep River” Douglas Wagner

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minute for Mission – One Great Hour of Sharing
5th Sunday for Mission

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.

March of the Palms – Christ Enters Jerusalem

We Extinguish the Sixth Candle

Meditation:

We are nearing the end of our Lenten journey, and as disciples of our Lord we remember the events of long ago, when the twelve disciples entered Jerusalem with Jesus, but then deserted him a few days later. We remember that in our own lives, when things go well we often know God is with us, but when we are afraid, when we are at risk, we may abandon our faith. We light this candle as a symbol of our trust in Jesus Christ that God will always remain faithful, even when we lack faith.

Extinguish the Fifth Candle

Prayer (Unison)

Holy One, you have journeyed with us through the valley of the shadow, and will see us through to the other side. Help us to remain faithful to you, even in times of deepest doubt. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: "Hosanna!" They shouted. "Save us!"

All: "Hosanna!" We're shouting. "Save us!"

Leader: Savior, ride into our hearts again,

All: wash us with excitement and hope, give us a reason to praise and to shout again, "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING #197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" all verses**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy Christ, we confess that amidst all the Palm Sunday crowds, we find ourselves in more turmoil than triumph. Our faith is unsteady. Our wisdom is eroding. Our resolve is shaken. Our mercy is hardening. Our hope is weakening. Come again and save us from these sins. Give us strength to follow you, our humble Savior, our wise fool, our all in all. Amen.

Moment of silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING **Isaiah 50:4-9** New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Introduction

4 The Lord God has given me a trained tongue, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens, wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. 5 The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I did not turn backward. 6 I gave my back to those who struck me and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. 7 The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me?

Let us stand in court together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. 9 It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

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 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” Arr. Marty Parks

SECOND READING Matthew 21:1-11

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Jesus's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

21 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

⁵ “Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

SERMON

“The Final Irony...”

Pastor Lisa Giacomazza

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Offertory on “Morecambe” John Dixon

***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 one, we cannot offer you great treasures as the world measures them. Here is only what we have at hand: cloaks and palm fronds to line your path, and all our ordinary sacrifices. Accept these gifts, and transform them, that we may share in your great work of love. Amen

***ACOLYTES CLAIM THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

***BENEDICTION HYMN #216 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” all verses**

***CHARGE**

***BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE** “Paeon on “Hymn to Joy” David Lasky

Liturgist –*Jim Copia* (Palm Sunday)

April 5 – Bill Springer (Easter)

April 12 -

April 19 -

April 26 –

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY – Palm Sunday – Collection of fish banks and envelopes for One Great Hour of Sharing.

TODAY – 5th Sunday offering for Mission

TODAY - Egg Hunt

Join the children for an indoor egg hunt. See flyer for more details

Easter Flowers

We will offer Easter plants this year for \$10 each. Plants will be in worship on Palm Sunday through Easter. They will adorn the sanctuary until Easter Sunday when you will be able to take your plant home with you. We will offer a limited variety of mums, tulips, hyacinths, or lilies. If you do not wish to take your plant home, we will deliver it to someone in the church for you (or you can do so yourself for a great opportunity to share God’s love and beauty!) You can donate online – just indicate Easter Flower in the comment or note on your check. Thank you!

Operation Christmas Child Market Place. You can “buy” an item to be put in the shoe boxes. Target item for March – quality crafts or craft pieces (beads, cording, yarn, crochet hooks, knitting needles)

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.

April 8 or 15, 2026 - NAP Dinner Wednesday, at TBA

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. See Cheryl McInerney or Bill Springer.

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

Last Sunday March 22, 2026 - Attendance:

Weather: Drizzly

Adults.....	27
Youth.....	2
Sermon – Hand delivered.....	0
Sermon – mailed.....	5
Sermon – emailed.....	6
Facebook plays.....	
You Tube views.....	

Next Sunday – April 5, 2026 *Easter Sunday*

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

NO Mission committee meeting

NO Crochet, knitting, crafting group

AA meeting.....7:30 pm

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
March/April 2026**

- Mar. 29** Worship, Sunday School.....10:30 am
Palm Sunday – Egg Hunt
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm
- Apr. 5** Worship, Communion, Sunday School..... 10:30 am *Easter Sunday*
NO Mission and Outreach meeting
NO Crochet, knitting group
AA meeting.....7:30 pm
- Apr. 8** NAP dinner at TBA.....5 pm
- Apr. 8** Session meeting – by zoom.....7:00 pm
- Apr. 12** Worship, Sunday School.....10:30 am
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm
- Apr. 18** Presbyterian Men9:00 am
- Apr. 19** Worship, Sunday School..... 10:30 am
Fall Fest planning meeting
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm
- Apr. 20** Deadline for May Bacon Visitor announcements
- Apr. 21** Worship & Music meeting – by Zoom...7:00 pm
- Apr. 26** Worship, Sunday School.....10:30 am
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

Palm Sunday

