

**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 5, 2026 - Resurrection of the Lord / Easter Day**  
**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**

We utilize Feasting on the Word, Year A words for worship.

**GOD CALLS US TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”** Marianne Kim

**LIGHTING OF CANDLES**

**DECLARATION OF THE EMPTY CROSS – CHIMES & BELLS**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(Bill)

**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.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ you broke the power of death and opened the way to eternal life. As the empty tomb stands witness to his triumph over death, make your church to be a bold testimony to his enduring victory in life, that all we do may proclaim to the world, "He is risen, indeed!" Through Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

(Bill)

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)**

L: Beloved church, behold the victory of our God:  
Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave.

**A: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

L: Sin and death shall reign no more.

**A: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

L: Let this place resound with joy.

**A: Christ is risen! Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

### **\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING #232 – Jesus Christ is Risen Today!**

(Pastor)

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

L: Lord Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
you raised us from the waters of baptism  
and brought us into the joy of your resurrection.

And yet, we confess—we do not always live like Easter people.

**A: We doubt your promises,  
we struggle to know what you are asking of us,  
and we are fearful when life feels uncertain.  
Like Mary at the tomb, we grieve and feel lost,  
even when you are standing right in front of us.**

L: Call us by name, risen Lord,  
so that we may truly recognize you and trust your presence.

**A: When we are tempted to fear death or despair,  
give us courage to proclaim your victory over the grave.**

L: When we get caught up in small arguments and divisions,  
turn our attention back to your healing and reconciling love.

When the power of evil feels overwhelming,  
remind us again that you have already overcome it.

**A: Forgive us, gracious God,  
and let our lives bear witness to your salvation—  
through your love  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

*Moment of silence*

(Pastor)

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

### WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

(Bill)

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** *Almighty God, by the power of your Spirit roll away the stone and reveal to us the Word of Life. Amen.*

### **First Reading Acts 10:34-43**

(NRSV)

34 Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality,  
35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.  
36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—  
he is Lord of all. 37 That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the  
baptism that John announced: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit

and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41 not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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 “Love Divine, All Lives Excelling”** Arr. Marty Parks

(Pastor)

**SECOND READING Matthew 28:1-10**

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

28 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised

from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." 8 So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

## SERMON

### "Is it True?"

*Pastor Lisa Giacomazza*

(Pastor)

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Responsive)

Let us unite our hearts in prayer, saying, **God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

For the Church throughout the world,  
that as we celebrate the feast of Jesus' resurrection,  
we may renew our faith and strengthen our witness  
in Jesus' name.

**God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

For pastors, teachers, and ministers,  
that they be wise in leadership, humble in service, and fearless  
in the face of evil;

**God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

For the governments of the world and its leaders,  
that they may practice compassion and  
reject the politics that use death and suffering as means of control;

**God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

For our planet Earth,  
that people may be good stewards of its resources  
and share in its abundance;

**God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

For the poor and the stranger,  
that they may receive a place of refuge, hope, and hospitality;

**God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

For the sick and those in distress,  
that they may find healing for their pain  
and be restored to fullness of life;

**God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

For our neighbors,  
that together we may dwell in harmony;  
**God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

For our enemies,  
that we may love them  
and be agents of reconciliation in the name of Jesus;  
**God of Resurrection, hear our prayer.**

Almighty God,  
receive these prayers we offer,  
and by the power of your Holy Spirit  
use us for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ.  
In his name we pray. **Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC – Plowshare by Spencer LaJoye**

*This is my final prayer for all of you – I leave you with these words so beautifully written by a wonderful artist. May it be a plowshare of sorts. – With all my love and blessings to you all –  
Pastor Lisa*

## **OFFERING**

### **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY “Now the Green Blade Riseth”** Marianne Kim

**\*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)**

**Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives in union with our risen Lord who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.**

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

## **WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

**\*BENEDICTION HYMN #836 “Abide with Me”** verses 1, 3 & 5

**\*CHARGE**

**\*BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE “Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”** Marianne Kim

**Liturgist** –Bill Springer (Easter)

April 12 -

April 19 – Bill Springer

April 26 –

May 3 –

May 10 –

May 17 – Bill Springer

May 24 –

May 31 -

### **Question for Reflection**

When Mary Magdalene first saw the resurrected Jesus, she did not recognize him, even though she knew the tomb was empty. Have you ever experienced the presence of the risen Christ, even when you were not expecting him? Are there times you have been in the presence of the risen Christ but have not recognized him? How would you know?

### **Prayer for the Week (Evening)**

Lord, the days of sadness are over, for you have risen from the dead. As you conquered the grave, free your servant from fear of harm or death, that I may rest in peace this night and in the morning rise to sing “alleluia.” Amen.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**April 8, 2026 - NAP Dinner - 5 pm** at Lewiston, 505 Cayuga Street.

**Operation Christmas Child** Market Place. You can “buy” an item to be put in the shoe boxes. Target item for April – stuffies.

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. 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 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday - Attendance:**

Weather:

Adults.....	30
Youth.....	5
Sermon – Hand delivered.....	0
Sermon – mailed.....	5
Sermon – emailed.....	6
Facebook plays.....	
You Tube views.....	3

**Next Sunday – April 12, 2026**

Worship service, Sunday School .....10:30 am  
Crochet, knitting, crafting group.....2 pm  
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](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  
April 2026**

- Apr. 5** Worship, 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 Lewiston, 505 Cayuga Street.....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 Men .....9:00 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
  
- May 3** Worship, Communion, Sunday School.....10:30 am  
Mission meeting .....following worship  
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm  
AA meeting.....7:30 pm

