

**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 19, 2026 – Third Sunday of Easter

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 Ashley Mertz

GOD CALLS US TOGETHER

PRELUDE “Blessed Jesus, at Your Word” Johann Rudolph Ahle

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) (from Psalm 116)

L: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.

A: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,

L: in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

A: Praise the Lord!

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING #839 “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”** all verses

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, even as we proclaim the saving life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we fail to see the living Christ in our midst. We find ourselves preoccupied with our own well-being and success, forgetting your imperative to love our neighbor as ourselves. We turn away from systems that challenge our way of thinking, choosing to justify our actions instead of examining our intentions.

Show us again how to live a resurrection faith, a faith that sees life and hope in the midst of death and destruction. Transform our hearts so that where they are hardened toward you, neighbor and self, they may once again be filled with love and moved to actions of grace and mercy. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Moment of silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsive)

L: In Acts 2:39, Peter says: “For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” Receive the good news, Children of God, you are forgiven.

A: Thanks be to God.

WE ENCOUNTER GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Job 38:1-8

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVUE)

38 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³Gird up your loins like a man;

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone

⁷when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings^[a] shouted for joy?

⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,

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 Love of God” Arr. Marty Parks

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 1:3-11

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, ⁴ who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. ⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. ⁶ If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. ⁷ Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

⁸ We do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, of the affliction we experienced in Asia, for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself. ⁹ Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death so that we would rely not on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. ¹⁰ He who rescued us from so deadly a peril will continue to rescue us;^[a] on him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again, ¹¹ as you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many may give thanks on our^[b] behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

R: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

SERMON

“Good Grief”

James Sanford

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (The Confession of Belhar) (Unison)

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God’s Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continuously be built up to attain.

That this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “A Day of Arising” Carl F. Chalk

***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)**

Lord, we know that every good and perfect gift comes from you. We pray that the gifts of time, talent, and treasure we have offered today will work for the good of the world, so that your love will be known not just in word but in action. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

***ACOLYTES CLAIM THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

***BENEDICTION HYMN #482 "Baptized in Water" all verses**

***CHARGE and BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE “The Risen Christ”** Walter Greatorex

Liturgist –*Bill Springer*

April 26 –

May 3 – Lee Weinsheimer

May 10 –

May 17 – Bill Springer

May 24 –

May 31 -

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to James Sanford for filling in today.
We appreciate your time and talents to lead us in worship.

May 6, 2026 - NAP Dinner - 5 pm at Riverside.

May 17, 2026 – Fall Festival meeting. Come for lunch, stay for the meeting. More heads means fewer headaches. We need your ideas and input.

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.

There are **Prayer Shawls** and throws available for someone ill, homebound or just not feeling well. One does not need to be a church member to receive a shawl. See Cheryl.

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 April 12, 2026 –

Weather:

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

Next Sunday – April 26, 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. 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. 18** Presbyterian Men9:00 am
- Apr. 19** Worship, Sunday School..... 10:30 am
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 meetingfollowing worship
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm
- May 6** NAP dinner at Riverside.....5 pm
- May 10** Worship, Sunday School..... 10:30 am
Crochet, knitting group.....2:00 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm
- May 12** Session meeting – In person at Bacon7:00 pm
- May 17** Worship, Sunday School.....10:30 am
Fall Festival meeting.....noon
Crochet, knitting group.....2 pm
AA meeting.....7:30 pm