

First Presbyterian Church of Byron

March 14, 2010

James Renfrew, Pastor

4th Sunday in Lent

Elizabeth Weber, Organist

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 33)

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven,

Whose wrongs are pardoned.

Lord, all your loyal people pray to you in times of need;

When a great flood of trouble comes rushing in it will not reach them.



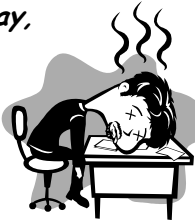
You are my hiding place; you will save me from trouble

I sing aloud of your salvation, because you protect me. Amen.

*HYMN #36 "No One Understands Like Jesus"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

Dear God, the world bears down on us every single day, giving us pounding headaches, weighing on our shoulders, causing an ache in the pit of our stomach, and even our feet hurt! We know that these feelings are not your intentions, and that in Jesus Christ you reach out to us offering comfort, healing, peace and rest. Help us to trust you more fully, we pray! Amen. (silence)



GOD'S ABUNDANT GRACE OFFERED TO YOU!

#51 "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" (vs. 1)

CHORAL ANTHEM

TIME WITH CHILDREN "Feeling Worn Out?"

*PEACE OF CHRIST (We share words of peace, care & friendship)

*HYMN: #48 "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

PRAYERS OF HEALING & HOPE

(We welcome your personal prayers. Please stand so everyone can hear you!)

OFFERING

Lift up your hearts in thanksgiving and praise, as we share the blessings of God with each other and the world around us!

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #382 (A traditional song of thanksgiving)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We welcome every opportunity, O God, to give you thanks and praise for sticking with us, for working hard to bring out the best in us, and for lifting us up in hope. Bless these gifts and the surround us with your hope and peace. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 32:1-7

SERMON: "Hope for the Worn Out"



*WHAT WE BELIEVE

#233 Colossians 1:15-23

*HYMN #56 "God Will Take Care of You"

*BLESSING

*RESPONSE "Go Now in Peace"

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you, each hour of every day.*

*Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know he will guide you in all you do.*

*Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.*

*God will be there watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen.*



POSTLUDE * = please stand, if able



Rest Rooms are just beyond the door next to the pulpit.
Hearing Loops are available at the rear of the church.
An elevator is located at the side entrance of the church.
Large Print bulletins are available at the rear of the church.

Announcements

Today: 9:00 AM Choir 9:45 AM Worship - welcome!
Wednesday: 7:00 PM Trustees
Thursday: 6:30 PM Choir
7:30 PM Session
Next Sunday: 9:00 AM Choir 9:45 AM Worship

Prayers:



One Great Hour of Sharing - Special offering envelopes and coin banks are now available. Please plan to return them by Easter. Our gifts are multiplied to touch the whole world.

We thank Lauren Paluta for playing piano.

Become a member of our **Prayer Chain!** Get added as a link by calling Laura Platt (548-2245) or Jean Roda (548-2417), and we will notify you of prayer concerns in our church and community. You can also call Laura or Jean to add your own prayer.

Visitors! We are very happy to meet you. Please fill out a visitor card. They are found in the inside back cover of the hymnal. Thank you! How to reach **Rev. James Renfrew:** 638-6679 (home), 813-2934 (cell). Please send **announcements**, prayer concerns and Sunday bulletin info to Janet Pike at office@byronfpc.org, or call her at 548-7132. For the time being, Jim is not able to drive, so feel free to contact him at home.

Each week's Sunday sermon and the most recent newsletter is now posted on our church web page, www.byronfpc.org. A new feature in the web page design allows you to add a comment or ask a question about the sermon.

Please support our **emergency food donation** box each week! Peanut butter, crackers, juice boxes, canned fruits and vegetables are always needed, as well as grocery bags. Food items are sent each week to the Emergency Food Shelf of Genesee County Churches United at the Salvation Army in Batavia.

Next Week: Psalm 126 - What things bring tears to your eyes? What things make you cry? God knows of all our struggles, and makes an incredible effort to reach out to us. If you can understand God's motivation to help, then you understand the meaning of the Cross!

We're here to help you move forward on your spiritual journey! Maybe your next step is to learn more about the Bible, to think about baptism, maybe counseling for a personal difficulty, to learn to pray, to try out "faith journaling", to bring children to Sunday School, to become a church member, to prepare for marriage, to share music, or to volunteer as a "back-packer"? Any of these could be the next step on your spiritual journey. The elders and pastor of our church would love to talk to you more about these possibilities. And we're glad to be on this journey with you!

Last Chance! If you missed this week's Pampered Chef fundraiser, it's not too late to place an order! You may see the catalog of available kitchen items at www.pamperedchef.biz/marlae. When ordering enter your host, Chrystal Britt's name in order for our youth to receive credit. By ordering products either for yourself or the church kitchen, you will be helping five youths raise money to attend the 2010 Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Purdue University, Indiana.

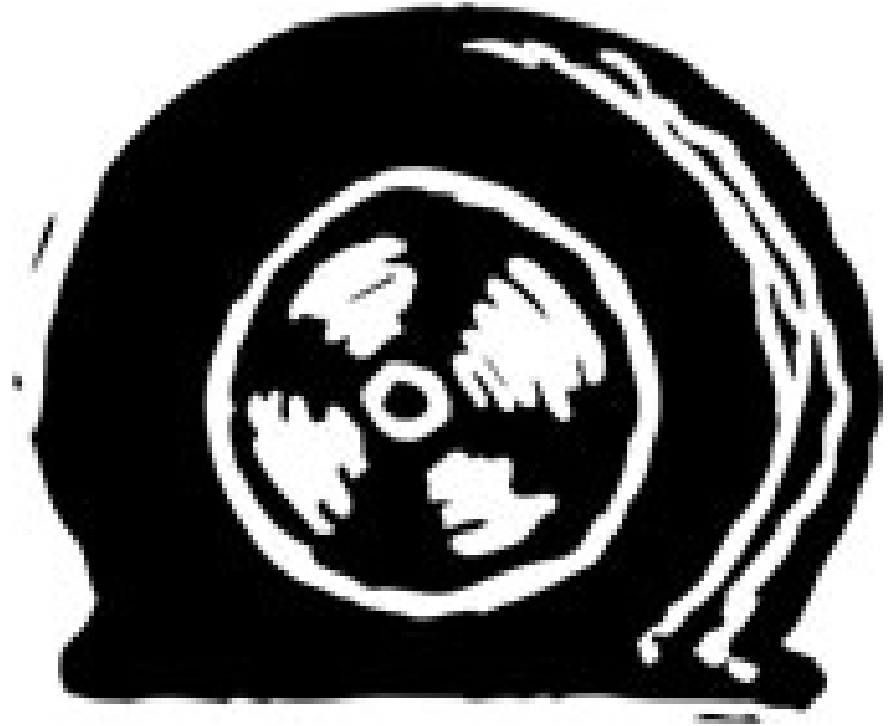
Your Invitation!

Our Membership Committee is initiating some small group experiences for our church during April, May and June. Many churches in diverse denominations have developed this idea with great success. As we strive to develop a richer spiritual environment in our congregation, this seems like a great idea and we hope you will want to try it.

The idea is to create an enjoyable opportunity for folks in the church to get to know one another a little better. During March we will have a sign-up list for those interested in participating. Towards the end of March we will establish dates in April for "Small Groups" to meet. Each group - how many will we have? One, Two, or Three? - will meet in a home for dessert. All we ask is that you try this out for three months, and then we'll review what we've done and see about continuing in the fall for another three months.

Unlike many of the gatherings that take place in our church, each small group will be free of responsibilities, homework, and duties. The idea is no more and no less to get to know one another better! We also believe that small groups can be a different doorway into the life of our congregation.

Please look for the sign-up list at the back of the sanctuary. Once you indicate your interest we will keep you posted on the first series of Small Group Meetings.



Tired?

*First Presbyterian Church
Byron, New York*