

The theme for today is Unanswered Prayer. If your prayer has seemed to go unanswered, what does it mean that God's grace is still and always sufficient? How is God's power made perfect in your weakness?



*My
grace is
sufficient for
you, for my
power is made
perfect in your
weakness.*

2 Cor 12:9

Service for the Lord's Day
February 17, 2019
The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Gathering Around the Word

Gathering Music

Striking of the Hour

Welcome

Prelude

Sarabande on LAND OF REST

Gerald Near

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship

from Psalm 42 and II Corinthians 12

Our souls may feel cast down, and our minds disquieted.

But we hope in God still, and we shall again praise God, our help, and our God!

I say to my God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten about me?"

And why must I walk mournfully?

We hope in God still, and we shall again praise God, our help, and our God!

God's grace is sufficient. God's power is made perfect in our weakness.

Let us worship God! We call on you, for you will answer.

Psalm 42 and II Corinthians 12 give us perspective on unanswered prayer.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (*Responsive*)

Lord, we trust and believe that whatever we ask in prayer will be given. Help thou our unbelief! The one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. Our iniquities have made a breach between us, our sins have hidden your face from us, O God. So teach us again: when we ask, it will be given; when we seek, we will find; and when we knock, a door will be opened. Hear our prayers for forgiveness. The sacrifice acceptable to you is a contrite heart. Put this heart in us. By your loving mercy, restore us to light out of our darkness for the sake of our savior, Jesus Christ.

Matthew 21:22 and 7:7, James 1:6, Isaiah 59:2, Mark 9:24, Psalm 51:17

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Declaration of Good News

Response Hymn 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42

Com-fort, com-fort now my peo-ple; tell of peace, So says our God.

Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness mourn-ing un-der sor-row's load.

To my peo-ple now pro-claim that my par-don waits for them!

Tell them that their sins I cov-er, that that their war-fare is now o-ver.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination**Psalter Reading** (*Responsive*)

Psalm 27:7-14

Hear me, LORD, when I call to you! **Be merciful and answer me!**

When you said, "Come worship me," I answered, "I will come, LORD."

Don't hide yourself from me! **Don't be angry with me; don't turn your servant away.**

You have been my help; **don't leave me, don't abandon me, O God, my savior.**

My father and mother may abandon me, **but the LORD will take care of me.**

Teach me, LORD, what you want me to do, **and lead me along a safe path, because I have many enemies.**

Don't abandon me to my enemies, **who attack me with lies and threats.**

I know that I will live to see **the LORD's goodness in this present life.**

Trust in the LORD. **Have faith, do not despair. Trust in the LORD.**

Anthem

Prayer of St. Paul

Charles Callahan

DiDi Turley, mezzo-soprano

Reading from the Epistles

II Corinthians 12: 7(b)-10

I was given a thorn in my body because of the outstanding revelations I've received so that I wouldn't be conceited. It's a messenger from Satan sent to torment me so that I wouldn't be conceited.

I pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me alone. He said to me, "My grace is enough for you, because power is made perfect in weakness." So I'll gladly spend my time bragging about my weaknesses so that Christ's power can rest on me. Therefore, I'm all right with weaknesses, insults, disasters, harassments, and stressful situations for the sake of Christ, because when I'm weak, then I'm strong.

We may occasionally feel God's distance from us. We admit this, and we ask God to heal the breach. Much of this prayer is taken directly from scripture.

Psalm 27 manages to be a cry for help, an expression of desperation, and a statement of extraordinary confidence in the mercies of God.

There are no useful clues to identify the Apostle Paul's "Thorn in the Flesh." He asked to be delivered of it three times. The answer to his prayer was not what he wanted, but was even better. God said, "My grace is sufficient." Thanks be to God!

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 829 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* OLIVET

Affirmation of Faith Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 178, A Declaration of Faith (9.3)
Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, in the name of Christ, by help of his Spirit, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies. Christ calls us to live in the presence of God. We are charged to pray for ourselves and others with gratitude, boldness, and persistence, confident that God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all. Life in God’s presence issues in life for others, for if we do not love sisters and brothers whom we see, we cannot love God whom we do not see. Amen.

All Sit

Prayers of the People and the 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.

Offering

Offertory Tim Brumfield at Piano

All Stand

Doxology
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn 543 *God, Be the Love* GREEN TYLER
Verses 1, 4-5 Only

Benediction

Postlude Tim Brumfield at Organ

WELCOME VISITORS!

We invite you to pick up visitor’s information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the Right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by ministers, officers, and congregation.

If you have a fussy baby or are coughing, etc., the worship service may be viewed from the parlor via television (across the hall from the Sanctuary). Loving childcare is available in our children’s center for children 3 and under on Sundays, and children’s activity packets are available in the narthex.

The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101

270-843-4707 • www.bgpres.org

The Presbyterian Church Staff

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Dr. Matthew W. Covington</i>
<i>Organist, Pastoral Assistant</i>	<i>Thomas N. Moody</i>
<i>Choir Director</i>	<i>Dr. Wayne Pope</i>
<i>Financial Administrator</i>	<i>Terry Johnson</i>
<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	<i>Leslee Kirkconnell</i>
<i>Youth Ministry</i>	<i>David Clarke</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Steve Moore</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Cheryl Gregory</i>
<i>Director, Preschool Learning Center</i>	<i>Dana Patterson</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Cedric Whitney</i>
<i>Children's Music</i>	<i>Ellie Osborne</i>
<i>Sunday Sexton</i>	<i>Barbara Solberg-Hale</i>
<i>Clerk of Session</i>	<i>Tim Leigh</i>

Donate Online:

We have recently set up the church website to accept online donations. Just go to the website below and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You can also scan the QR code, right..

<https://bgpresdonate.cloverdonations.com/online-donations/>



Announcements

USHERS: The Thomison and Polen families

LAY READER: Larry Gildersleeve

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Barbara Solberg-Hale and Matt Hunt

NURSERY ATTENDANTS: Alisia Mosley and Kimberly Watkins

LIBRARIAN: Arnie Petrus, arfranpe@msn.com

CHILDREN'S MUSIC: Ellie Osborne

LECTIONARY FOR NEXT SUNDAY, February 24: Genesis 45: 3–11, 15; Psalm 37:1–11, 39–40; 1 Corinthians 15:35–38, 42–50; Luke 6:27–38.

DEACONS OF THE WEEK this week will be Ray Elms and Debbie Morse. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

TODAY: We welcome guest musician Tim Brumfield in worship, and:

TIM BRUMFIELD IN PIPES, PIANO, PRAISE! As part of our 200th Anniversary Celebration – a 3:00pm concert this afternoon (Free!) Renowned Paul Winter Consort organist/pianist **Tim Brumfield**. Tim is considered one of the world's finest organ improvisers, tours regularly as a solo organist and pianist, and is often asked to lecture on the art of improvisation including improvising favorite hymns upon request. Funded by the gracious gift left in memory of Peggy Pack, this very special concert is free and open to the public. Come and bring a guest or two!

Calendar

Sunday, February 17

- 8:30 a.m. Fellowship
- 9:00 a.m. Children's Music
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 3:00 p.m. Tim Brumfield concert
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, February 18

- 5:00 p.m. Community Ed Class
- 7:00 p.m. Round Table Pulpit

Tuesday, February 19

- 9:00 a.m. POPS
- 11:00 a.m. Special Care
- 11:00 a.m. Finance Ministry
- 1:00 p.m. CUICHM
- 2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:15 p.m. Chairs of Session
- 7:00 p.m. Session

Wednesday, February 20

- 9:00 a.m. POPS
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 21

- 6:00 p.m. Room In The Inn

WHAT ARE OUR CHILDREN LEARNING? Our Preschool Class is learning about Daniel in Daniel 1:1-21. Our Godly Play group continues with the Parable of the Leaven in Matthew 13:33. Older elementary explored the Beatitudes in Luke 6:17-26. Please read the stories with your children at home and talk about what they learned.

YOUTH are continuing to explore what the church means and how they are an important part.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTREAT REGISTRATION is due (\$100)! All who will be in 6th - 9th grade next fall are eligible. This is a Montreat Youth Conference held at Maryville College. Worship, Bible study, play, fellowship. Contact Leslee Kirkconnell with questions.

COMING UP:

A ROUND TABLE PULPIT continues on Monday evenings, 7:00pm in the Conference Room. Come read and study the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday - enhance your biblical knowledge and possibly help shape the sermon. The Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington leads.

YOUTH DINNERS: Our Sunday night Youth Fellowship is in full swing but there are a few nights where we still need dinner provided at 5:30. If you can help that would be great; it would mean bringing dinner and eating with us if you like. Signup can be found here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094aa9ab2ca7f49-winter1> or speak to David Clarke for more details.

COFFEE ORDERS Fair Trade Coffee sales will take place on Sunday, March 3rd. Need chocolate? Need coffee? Need tea? Come prepared to put in your order on that day.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR YOUTH MINISTRY! On Saturday March 9, from 9-1, we will have a special workshop with the Center for Youth Ministry Training to vision for the future of our youth ministry. Anyone in our congregation with a heart for our youth is welcome to attend. We must know you are coming, for planning purposes, and because there is work to complete ahead of the event! Contact David Clarke or Leslee Kirkconnell for details.

BREAKFAST ITEMS NEEDED for February 24. We anticipate having around 10-12 friends with us next Sunday and we want to provide breakfast hospitality. We need breakfast casseroles, fruit, bagels, sweet treats, etc. Casseroles can be brought ready to serve or cooked that am (must be there by 8:30). Questions? See Leslee Kirkconnell.

HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP WITH THE PRESBYTERY will be a *Challenge to Change*, held at Cedarkirk Camp in Lithia, FL (SE of Tampa). All who will be rising 9th-graduating seniors are eligible. Deposits are due NOW (\$150) to Leslee Kirkconnell. Forms are available on our website.

OTHER NEWS:

LET'S CELEBRATE KINDNESS! Write your kind act on a piece of paper and drop it in one of the red baskets (College Street entrance, 10th Street entrance and on the landing by the elevator). For example 21 people assisted with the "extra" RITI night this week. These can be anonymous submissions, acts completed at your workplace, donations to causes, or just simply a smile given to someone in need. Let's see how quickly we reach 200!

200TH DINNER AND ADDRESSES On Palm Sunday afternoon, April 14th our church will host a dinner to celebrate our 200th anniversary. We would like to send invitations to out of town guests. Do you know the addresses of those friends that have moved away that we should invite? Please call the church office and provide Cheryl with needed information. You can also speak to one of the committee members developing the lists: Ann Rudolph Humphrey, Sally Calkins, Karol Kirby Ahmed, Julia Roberts, and Susan Thomison.

THE FOOD PANTRY is running low on many items. We need dry beans, white rice, peanut butter, soup, canned fruit/vegetables (please try to get easy open cans whenever possible, NO green beans), individual snack items. Donations may be left in the drawers under the stairs marked 'Food Pantry.'

Our church Elders: Karol Ahmed, Mark Bigler, Pam Bratcher, David Coverdale, Mary Evans, Rob Hale, Matt Hunt, Mike Kanan, John Kernohan, Stuart Kernohan, Tim Leigh, Nancy Moore, Pamela Napier, David Sears, and David Thomison. **Our church Deacons:** : Rider Allen, Sally Calkins, Judy Clark, Rocky Cooper, Shannon Dyche, Ray Elms, Cathey Green, Jean Harris, Linda Leigh, Tom MacMillin, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Teri Polen, Charlotte Prow, Ken Royse, Susan Thomison, and Debbie Trickey.