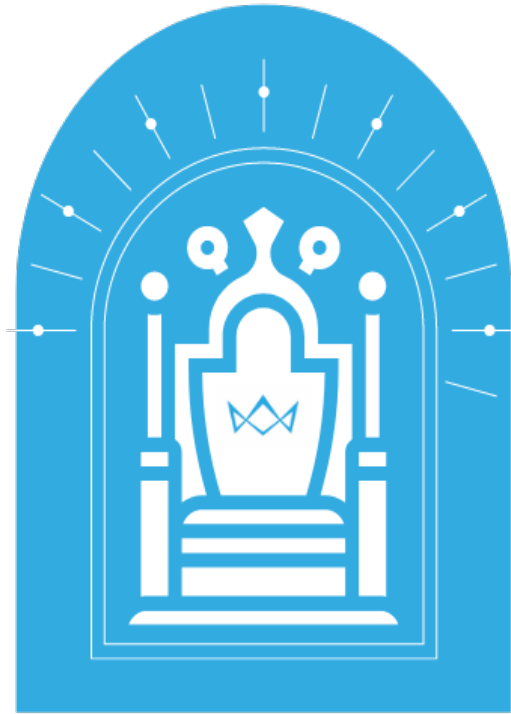




# MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## PORTRAITS *a study in kings and chronicles* OF A KING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

## ***Welcome to Mercy Presbyterian Church***

Thank you for joining us in worship today. If you are visiting with us, we are delighted that you have chosen to be with us and our desire is to be a blessing to you. Our prayer is that God will transform our lives and enable us to live for His glory and the good of the world. We would love to get to know you better and answer any questions you may have. Please share your information with us by emailing us at [church@mercydallas.com](mailto:church@mercydallas.com).

## ***Our Worship***

You will notice that we follow a thoughtful and connected rhythm in our worship, called liturgy. The order of our worship reflects the work of the gospel in our hearts. In worship, we come together to tell the story of the gospel by the structure of our worship, the content of our worship, and the way that we worship.

## ***Parents of Young Children***

We believe the church is for all people, young and old, and want Mercy to be a church where children are seen, heard, and loved. We invite you to involve your children in our service, help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say and sing parts of our worship service every week in order to help our young children to participate. Children's bulletins with coloring activities are available by the door to the sanctuary. Nursery is also available for babies and toddlers. A Mother's Room (the Blumen Room) is available during the service if you need a space to feed or calm a little one. The Blumen Room is a private space set with comfortable chairs and a changing station to the north of the sanctuary, and down the hall to the right.



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Lord's Day Worship | September 17, 2023

### WELCOME

**INVOCATION** | *We pray for God's presence, power and blessing in worship*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** | *God invites us into His presence to worship Him*

*Psalm 72:1-4, 12-14, 18-19*

Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the royal son!  
May he judge your people with righteousness,  
and your poor with justice!

**Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness!  
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the children of the needy,  
and crush the oppressor!**

For he delivers the needy when he calls,  
the poor and him who has no helper.  
He has pity on the weak and the needy,  
and saves the lives of the needy.  
From oppression and violence he redeems their life,  
and precious is their blood in his sight.

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.  
Blessed be his glorious name forever;  
may the whole earth be filled with his glory!  
Amen and Amen!**

**HYMN OF ADORATION** | *We sing praises to God*

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

*Words and Music by Martin Luther | Public Domain*

A mighty fortress is our God, a Bulwark never failing;  
Our Helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing;  
For still our ancient Foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing;  
Dost ask who that may be: Christ Jesus it is He;  
Lord Sabbaoth His name, from age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled, should threaten to undo us;  
We will not fear for God hath willed, His truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him!  
His rage we can endure, for lo his doom is sure  
One little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'r, no thanks to them abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth;  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still,  
His kingdom is forever!

**DOXOLOGY** | *(Glory Words) We praise the Triune God*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** | *We acknowledge our sin and ask for God's grace*

*taken from The Worship Sourcebook*

**O gracious and gentle and condescending God, God of peace, Father of mercy, God of all comfort: we confess before you the evil of our hearts; we acknowledge that we are too inclined toward anger, jealousy, and revenge, to ambition and pride, which often give rise to discord and bitter feelings between others and us. Too often have we thus both offended and grieved you, O long-suffering Father. Forgive us this sin and permit us to partake of the blessing you have promised the peacemakers, who shall be called the children of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE** | *God forgives our sins and gives us grace*

*Galatians 4:4-7*

*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.*

*The Sands of Time are Sinking*

*Words by Anne Cousin | Traditional Folk Tune | Philip Palmertree ©2001*

The sands of time are sinking,  
The dawn of heaven breaks;  
The summer morn I've sighed for -  
The fair, sweet morn awakes:  
Dark, dark had been the midnight  
But dayspring is at hand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth  
In Emmanuel's land.

The king there in His beauty,  
Without a veil is seen:  
It were a well-spent journey,  
Though seven deaths lay between:  
The Lamb with His fair army,  
Doth on Mount Zion stand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth  
In Emmanuel's land.

O Christ, He is the fountain,  
The deep, sweet well of love!  
The streams on earth I've tasted  
More deep I'll drink above:  
There to an ocean fullness  
His mercy doth expand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth  
In Emmanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garment,  
But her dear Bridegroom's face;  
I will not gaze at glory  
But on my King of grace.  
Not at the crown He giveth  
But on His pierced hand;  
The Lamb is all the glory  
Of Emmanuel's land.

O I am my Beloved's  
And my Beloved is mine!  
He brings a poor vile sinner  
Into His house of wine  
I stand upon His merit -  
I know no other stand,  
Not e'en where glory dwelleth  
In Emmanuel's land.

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** | *We confess what we believe*

*Westminster Confession of Faith | Chapter 2.3 | Of God, and of the Holy Trinity*

**In the unity of the Godhead there be three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost: the Father is of none, neither begotten, nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Ghost eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER** | *We lift up our requests to God*

**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.**



*In Christ Alone*

*Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend | Thankyou Music ©2002*

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine –  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand:  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**SCRIPTURE READING** | *1 Kings 12:25-33; 2 Chronicles 13:4-12* | Jon Buell

Then Jeroboam built Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim and lived there. And he went out from there and built Penuel. <sup>26</sup>And Jeroboam said in his heart, "Now the kingdom will turn back to the house of David. <sup>27</sup>If this people go up to offer sacrifices in the temple of the Lord at Jerusalem, then the heart of this people will turn again to their lord, to Rehoboam king of Judah, and they will kill me and return to Rehoboam king of Judah." <sup>28</sup>So the king took counsel and made two calves of gold. And he said to the people, "You have gone up to Jerusalem long enough. Behold your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt." <sup>29</sup>And he set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan. <sup>30</sup>Then this thing became a sin, for the people went as far as Dan to be before one. <sup>31</sup>He also made temples on high places and appointed priests from among all the people, who were not of the Levites. <sup>32</sup>And Jeroboam appointed a feast on the fifteenth day of the eighth month like the feast that was in Judah, and he offered sacrifices on the altar. So he did in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves that he made. And he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places that he had made. <sup>33</sup>He went up to the altar that he had made in Bethel on the fifteenth day in the eighth month, in the month that he had devised from his own heart. And he instituted a feast for the people of Israel and went up to the altar to make offerings.

Then Abijah stood up on Mount Zemaraim that is in the hill country of Ephraim and said, "Hear me, O Jeroboam and all Israel! <sup>5</sup>Ought you not to know that the Lord God of Israel gave the kingship over Israel forever to David and his sons by a covenant of salt? <sup>6</sup>Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, a servant of Solomon the son of David, rose up and rebelled against his lord, <sup>7</sup>and certain worthless scoundrels gathered about him and defied Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and irresolute and could not withstand them. <sup>8</sup>"And now you think to withstand the kingdom of the Lord in the hand of the sons of David, because you are a great multitude and have with you the golden calves that Jeroboam made you for gods. <sup>9</sup>Have you not driven out the priests of the Lord, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and made priests for yourselves like the peoples of other lands? Whoever comes for ordination with a young bull or seven rams becomes a priest of what are not gods. <sup>10</sup>But as for us, the Lord is our God, and we have not forsaken him. We have priests ministering to the Lord who are sons of Aaron, and Levites for their service. <sup>11</sup>They offer to the Lord every morning and every evening burnt offerings and incense of sweet spices, set out the showbread on the table of pure gold, and care for the golden lampstand that its lamps may burn every evening. For we keep the charge of the Lord our God, but you have forsaken him. <sup>12</sup>Behold, God is with us at our head, and his priests with their battle trumpets to sound the call to battle against you. O sons of Israel, do not fight against the Lord, the God of your fathers, for you cannot succeed."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** | Rev. Doug Tharp | *Jeroboam: The Rebel King*

**SERMON NOTES**

## INTERLUDE

### CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER | *The family meal of Christians*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, making us in your image. We praise you for your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who by His death on the cross and rising to new life offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for His people. Therefore, we lift our voices to praise you, saying:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!**

## PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine, and pray that we who receive them, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, according to our Savior's word, may share in victory and eternal life.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Hallelujah! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**Therefore, let us keep the feast. Hallelujah!**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

## PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

*The Lord's Supper, also called Communion or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who have believed the good news, have repented of their sins, and are baptized members in good standing in the Lord's Church. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the Church.*

*Please consider offering your tithes as a physical act of worship by placing your offering in the tithe box located at the entrance to the sanctuary.*

### **Prayer for Those Searching for Truth**

*Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.*

### **Prayer for Awakening**

*Lord Jesus, I have heard from the Bible for years, and have been in church for years, but very little of this seems real to me. Please show me the reality of what you are saying. Unnerve me with the badness of the bad news. Enthrall me with the goodness of the good news. Make what is familiar seem new. Amen.*

### **Prayer of Belief**

*Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.*

### **Prayer for Covenant Children**

*Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.*

### **Prayer for Those Struggling Against Sin**

*Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.*

*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

*Words by Henry Lyte | Music by Bill Moore | Bill Moore Music ©2001*

Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee.  
Destitute, despised, forsaken,  
Thou from hence my all shall be.  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought or hoped or known.  
Yet how rich is my condition!  
God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,  
They have left my Savior, too.  
Human hearts and looks deceive me;  
Thou art not, like them, untrue.  
O while Thou dost smile upon me,  
God of wisdom, love, and might,  
Foes may hate and friends disown me,  
Show Thy face and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me,  
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.  
Life with trials hard may press me;  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.  
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me  
While Thy love is left to me;  
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,  
With Thy favor, loss is gain  
I have called Thee Abba Father,  
I have stayed my heart on Thee  
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;  
All must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation  
Rise o'er sin and fear and care  
Joy to find in every station,  
Something still to do or bear.  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,  
Think what Father's smiles are thine,  
Think that Jesus died to win thee,  
Child of heaven, canst thou repine.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.  
Heaven's eternal days before thee,  
God's own hand shall guide us there.  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,  
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,  
Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.



*All Glory Be to Christ*

*Traditional Scottish Folk Tune | Dustin Kensrue | We Are Younger We Are Faster Music ©2012*

Should nothing of our efforts stand  
No legacy survive  
Unless the Lord does raise the house  
In vain its builders strive  
To You who boast tomorrow's gain  
Tell me what is your life  
A mist it vanishes at dawn  
All glory be to Christ

All glory be to Christ our King  
All glory be to Christ  
His rule and reign we'll ever sing  
All glory be to Christ

His will be done His Kingdom come  
On Earth as is above  
Who is Himself our daily bread  
Praise Him the Lord of love  
Let living waters satisfy  
The thirsty without price  
We'll take a cup of kindness yet  
All glory be to Christ

All glory be to Christ our King  
All glory be to Christ  
His rule and reign we'll ever sing  
All glory be to Christ

**GLORIA PATRI** | *(Glory to the Father) We praise the Triune God*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.

**BENEDICTION** | *God sends us out into the world with His blessing*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give  
you peace.*

| *God sends us out into the world*

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior  
Jesus Christ. **Thanks be to God!**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Children's Ministry**

Toddler Sunday School and Children's Church meet every Sunday. Elementary Sunday School (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade) meets from 9-10am on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday mornings in Room 207. We have a great year of learning ahead! We still need volunteers weekly in both the nursery and toddler rooms. If you are interested in getting your family plugged into the children's ministry at Mercy or if you have a teen or pre-teen interested in helping, contact Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)!

### **Youth Ministry**

Youth Group meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> (the Church's Home) and 4<sup>th</sup> (the Morgan's Home) Sundays from 6-8pm. The next meeting is September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Morgan's Home (7051 Teakwood Dr., Dallas). Bring your Bible and feel free to bring a friend! Questions? Email youth@mercydallas.com.

### **Women's Ministry**

Mercy Women meet on Tuesday mornings (childcare available) or Wednesday evenings (childcare not available) to discuss Jen Wilken's study of *The Sermon on the Mount*. Email Joanna (women@mercydallas.com) with any questions regarding the women's ministry.

### **Men's Ministry**

Mercy Men meet Tuesday mornings at 6:30am to read and discuss *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis at Cindi's Deli in Dallas (11111 N Central Expy). Contact Doug (doug@mercydallas.com) for more information.

### **Mercy Financial Update**

For questions about giving, expenses or Mercy's budget, you can reach out to Bryan Hatfield (bryan@mercydallas.com).

|                                       |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>2023/2024 Budget</b>               | <b>\$655,000</b> |
| July 1, 2022 - July 31, 2023 Expenses | \$44,659         |
| July 1, 2022 - July 31, 2023 Giving   | \$50,371         |
| <i>Variance</i>                       | <b>\$5,712</b>   |

## CALENDAR

### **Tuesday, September 19**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

### **Wednesday, September 20**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

### **Sunday, September 24**

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

### **Tuesday, September 26**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

### **Wednesday, September 27**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

### **Tuesday, October 3**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

### **Wednesday, October 4**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

### **Sunday, October 8**

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Church's Home

### **Tuesday, October 10**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

### **Wednesday, October 11**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

### **Tuesday, October 17**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

### **Wednesday, October 18**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

### **Sunday, October 22**

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

### **Tuesday, October 24**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

### **Wednesday, October 25**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

### **Tuesday, October 31**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

### **Wednesday, November 1**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

## CONNECTING

### **Community Groups**

Community Groups are a vital part of Mercy's ministry and worship. If you are interested in joining a community group, please contact Jessica at [jessica@mercydallas.com](mailto:jessica@mercydallas.com).

### **Weekly Update**

Our weekly email newsletter is the primary way we communicate announcements, information about church life, and details about upcoming events. Email [church@mercydallas.com](mailto:church@mercydallas.com) if you would like to receive weekly emails.

### **Prayer Requests**

If you have a private matter that we could pray for, please email [church@mercydallas.com](mailto:church@mercydallas.com). We would love the opportunity to join you in lifting your needs before the Lord.

### **Giving**

If you would like to give to the work and worship of Mercy Presbyterian Church, you can do so in three ways:

- Place checks or cash in the offering box located by the door as you exit the sanctuary.
  - Give online at [www.mercydallas.churchcenter.com/giving/to/general](http://www.mercydallas.churchcenter.com/giving/to/general)
  - Mail a check to Mercy Presbyterian Church, 6930 Alpha Rd., Dallas, TX 75240
- .....

## MINISTRY STAFF

### **Senior Pastor**

Rev. Doug Tharp | [doug@mercydallas.com](mailto:doug@mercydallas.com)

### **Ministry Coordinator**

Jessica Nokes | [jessica@mercydallas.com](mailto:jessica@mercydallas.com)

### **Children's Ministry Coordinator**

Emily Freeman | [emily@mercydallas.com](mailto:emily@mercydallas.com)

### **Women's Ministry Coordinator**

Joanna Dawson | [women@mercydallas.com](mailto:women@mercydallas.com)

### **Director of Music**

Sal Bautista | [music@mercydallas.com](mailto:music@mercydallas.com)

### **Youth Group Leaders** | [youth@mercydallas.com](mailto:youth@mercydallas.com)

Josh and Hannah Patch  
Nate and Cecile Foster  
Sevee Alaniz

## INTERIM SESSION

### Rev. Doug Tharp

*Senior Pastor | Mercy Presbyterian Church*

### Rev. David Rogers

*Senior Pastor | Town North Presbyterian Church*

### Rev. Robbie Mills

*Associate Director | Mission to the World Western Hub*

### Eric Horan

*Ruling Elder | Park Cities Presbyterian Church*

## DEACONS | [deacons@mercydallas.com](mailto:deacons@mercydallas.com)

Thomas Buerger

Eric Clay

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Adam Huebner

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter