



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

OCTOBER 2, 2022

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.

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.

Series Overview - Life of David: A Man After God's Own Heart

Why did Israel need a king? Is not God Israel's king? After the period of the Judges, Israel voiced its desire for a king. In Scripture, this desire is seen as either a good idea or a bad idea, depending on the passage. It seems that the success of a monarchy depends on the heart of the monarch. After Saul failed as the first king, God called a shepherd from the country town of Bethlehem to be king. After being anointed by Samuel, David became the king who would unify Israel, centralize the government, and provide for the first permanent house for the worship of God.

There are two themes in the story of David that demand our attention. First, after David was anointed, he went on the run for years as Saul sought to put him to death. What does it look like to follow God faithfully when our experience does not match his promises? David will show us. Second, while David was celebrated for his commitment to God and sincerity in worship, he was also guilty of failing God, failing in leadership, and failing his family. What does it look like to repent from failure and move forward in faith? David will show us that, too.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Lord's Day | October 2, 2022

REFLECTION

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

- Romans 1:19-23

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

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

Luke 1:68-72

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people

And has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David

As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

That we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

HYMN OF ADORATION | *We sing praises to God*

Father Long Before Creation

Chinese Hymn Translated by Francis Johnson | Music by Andrew Osenga | ©2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings

Father, long before creation
Thou hadst chosen us in love,
And that love so deep, so moving,
Draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us
Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion,
Yet our God is e'er the same;
His compassion and His covenant
Through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children
Must forever praise His name.

God's compassion is my story,
Is my boasting all the day;
Mercy free and never failing
Moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us
That His only Son He gave.

Loving Father now before Thee
We will ever praise Thy love,
And our songs will sound unceasing
'Til we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory
To our God and to the Lamb.

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*

Almighty Father; we enter your presence confessing the things we try to conceal from you and the things we try to conceal from others. We confess the heartbreak, worry, and sorrow we have caused, that make it difficult for others to forgive us, the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong, the harm we have done that makes it hard for us to forgive ourselves. Lord have mercy and forgive us through Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah ... I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

HYMN OF GRACE | *We celebrate God's gift of grace*

Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul

Words by Anne Steele | Music by Kevin Twit | Kevin Twit Music ©1998

Dear refuge of my weary soul,
On Thee, when sorrows rise
On Thee, when waves of trouble roll,
My fainting hope relies
To Thee I tell each rising grief,
For Thou alone canst heal
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief,
For every pain I feel.

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail,
I fear to call Thee mine
The springs of comfort seem to fail,
And all my hopes decline
Yet gracious God, where shall I flee?
Thou art my only trust
And still my soul would cleave to Thee
Though prostrate in the dust.

Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face,
And shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace,
Be deaf when I complain?
No still the ear of sovereign grace,
Attends the mourner's prayer
Oh may I ever find access,
To breathe my sorrows there.

Thy mercy seat is open still,
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will,
And wait beneath Thy feet,
Thy mercy seat is open still,
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will,
And wait beneath Thy feet.

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

The Heidelberg Catechism | Q56

What do you believe concerning “the forgiveness of sins”?

I believe that God, because of Christ’s satisfaction, will no longer remember any of my sins or my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather, by grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

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.

HYMN OF PREPARATION | *We prepare our hearts to hear God's Word*

Jesus' Precious Blood

Words by William J. Irons | Music by Clint Wells | ©2005 Red Mountain Music

What sacred fountain yonder springs
Up from the throne of God,
And all new covenant blessings brings?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What mighty sum paid all my debt,
When I a bondman stood,
And has my soul at freedom set?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What stream can sweep away
My sins just like a flood,
Nor lets one guilty blemish stay?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What voice is that which speaks for me
In heaven's court for good,
And from the curse has set me free?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What stream can sweep away
My sins just like a flood,
Nor lets one guilty blemish stay?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What theme, my soul shall best employ
Thy harp before thy God,
And make all heaven to ring with joy?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What stream can sweep away
My sins just like a flood,
Nor lets one guilty blemish stay?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHILDREN'S CHURCH DISMISSAL | *Children 4 years old through 2nd grade*

SCRIPTURE READING | *1 Samuel 28:3-25*

³Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in Ramah, his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the necromancers out of the land. ⁴The Philistines assembled and came and encamped at Shunem. And Saul gathered all Israel, and they encamped at Gilboa. ⁵When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. ⁶And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams, or by Urim, or by prophets. ⁷Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "Behold, there is a medium at En-dor." ⁸So Saul disguised himself and put on other garments and went, he and two men with him. And they came to the woman by night. And he said, "Divine for me by a spirit and bring up for me whomever I shall name to you." ⁹The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the necromancers from the land. Why then are you laying a trap for my life to bring about my death?" ¹⁰But Saul swore to her by the Lord, "As the Lord lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." ¹¹Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" He said, "Bring up Samuel for me." ¹²When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul." ¹³The king said to her, "Do not be afraid. What do you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "I see a god coming up out of the earth." ¹⁴He said to her, "What is his appearance?" And she said, "An old man is coming up, and he is wrapped in a robe." And Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and paid homage.

¹⁵Then Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?” Saul answered, “I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams. Therefore I have summoned you to tell me what I shall do.” ¹⁶And Samuel said, “Why then do you ask me, since the Lord has turned from you and become your enemy? ¹⁷The Lord has done to you as he spoke by me, for the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. ¹⁸Because you did not obey the voice of the Lord and did not carry out his fierce wrath against Amalek, therefore the Lord has done this thing to you this day. ¹⁹Moreover, the Lord will give Israel also with you into the hand of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons shall be with me. The Lord will give the army of Israel also into the hand of the Philistines.” ²⁰Then Saul fell at once full length on the ground, filled with fear because of the words of Samuel. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten nothing all day and all night. ²¹And the woman came to Saul, and when she saw that he was terrified, she said to him, “Behold, your servant has obeyed you. I have taken my life in my hand and have listened to what you have said to me. ²²Now therefore, you also obey your servant. Let me set a morsel of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way.” ²³He refused and said, “I will not eat.” But his servants, together with the woman, urged him, and he listened to their words. So he arose from the earth and sat on the bed. ²⁴Now the woman had a fattened calf in the house, and she quickly killed it, and she took flour and kneaded it and baked unleavened bread of it, ²⁵and she put it before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Ryan Tompkins | *The End of the Road*

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. Enthral 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.

COMMUNION HYMN | *We celebrate the family meal of Christians*

Mighty God We Thank and Praise You

Words by Wendell Kimbrough | Music by Ludwig van Beethoven | Wendell Kimbrough ©2012

Mighty God we thank and praise you
For this meal, this Bread of Life!
Precious blood and body, broken,
From your Son our Savior Christ.

In these myst'ries you assure us
We are members of your Son.
Heirs of your eternal Kingdom,
With all faithful people One.

Humbly now we ask you, Father,
In your grace to make us strong
That, with all the saints before us,
In good works we may press on!

Send us out to love and serve you!
Send us out to sing your praise!
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Pow'r and glory to your name!

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. Amen.

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

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

*And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another
and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless
in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with
all his saints.*

DISMISSAL | *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!**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Saul had put the mediums and necromancers out of the land, but then he went to a witch. What does that reveal about Saul's heart? How are you "clean" on the outside and "unclean" on the inside?
2. Saul knew that the Lord had withdrawn from him. Have you ever felt that God has withdrawn from you? What should one do in such a place? What might Saul have done differently?
3. How should we understand Samuel being brought up from the dead? How did a theology of resurrection develop over time?
4. Why did not Saul repent? Why did Saul not step aside for David's ascension? In what ways have you worked against the will of the Lord (i.e., clung to the story you want rather than the one he has for you)?
5. Saul embodies a cycle of despondency (i.e., moving away from God and in that desperation moving further away from God). How do you avoid such a cycle?

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 2

11:15am
Congregational Meeting | Temple Shalom

Tuesday, October 4

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, October 5

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Saturday, October 8

7 - 9pm
Women's Backyard Bonfire | Buell's Home

Sunday, October 9

9 - 9:45am
Elementary Sunday School | Room 120
6 - 8pm
Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, October 11

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, October 12

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Sunday, October 16

11:45am - 1pm
Intro to Mercy (1) | Temple Shalom

Tuesday, October 18

No Men's Bible Study
No Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, October 19

No Women's Bible Study

Sunday, October 23

Youth Volunteer Sunday
9 - 9:45am
Elementary Sunday School | Room 120
11:45am - 1pm
Intro to Mercy (2) | Temple Shalom
6 - 8pm
Youth Group | Church's Home

Tuesday, October 25

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, October 26

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Sunday, October 30

11:45am - 1pm
Intro to Mercy (3) | Temple Shalom

Tuesday, November 1

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, November 2

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Sunday, November 6

11:45am - 1pm
Intro to Mercy (4) | Temple Shalom

Tuesday, November 8

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas

Saturday, November 12

Women's Social | TBD

Sunday, November 13

9 - 9:45am
Elementary Sunday School | Room 120
6 - 8pm
Youth Group | TBD

Sunday, November 27

No Elementary Sunday School
No Youth Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Intro to Mercy

Intro to Mercy classes resume this fall. Dates have shifted slightly for the four-week class and are as follows: 10/16, 10/23, 10/30 & 11/2. The class will meet Sundays after church in September and October in the conference room at Temple Shalom. We will provide lunch and childcare. Come hear about Mercy's vision, mission, core values, theology, and how to get involved. Contact Jessica for more information or sign up via the link in the weekly email.

Mercy Children

Nursery is available weekly for infants (Nursery Room). Sunday School will be available for toddlers weekly during the service. Children (4 years-2nd Grade) will be dismissed from the service during the sermon for Children's Church and Elementary Sunday School (3rd-5th Grade) will meet at 9am on 2nd & 4th Sundays. Our Mother's Room is available during the service if you need a space to feed a baby or calm a little one who is feeling fussy. The office to the north of the sanctuary is a private space set with comfortable chairs and a changing station. If you have any questions or would like to get involved with our children's ministry, please email Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com).

Youth Group

Youth Group meets 2nd & 4th Sunday evenings at rotating homes. The schedule will be listed on the calendar in the bulletin. The 4th Sunday of each month, youth have the opportunity to serve as part of the Set Up or Welcome Team as a group, though they are welcome to serve any week alongside their families. For more information about the youth ministry and schedule, contact Josh and Hannah Patch at youth@mercydallas.com.

Women's Ministry

The women of Mercy will study Nancy Guthrie's book, *The Promised One: Seeing Jesus in Genesis*. Join us either Tuesday mornings (childcare available) or Wednesday evenings. You can find more info on the registration page, linked in the weekly email. We look forward to studying God's Word with the women in our church family!

Men's Ministry

The Mercy Men's Bible Study meets Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30am at Cindi's Deli in Dallas (on Central between Forest and Royal). We will study Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship* (ISBN-10: 0684815001 or ISBN-13: 978-0684815008).

Serve at Mercy

Sunday morning volunteers are critical to the work and worship of Mercy. Contact Jessica at jessica@mercydallas.com for more information or to sign up.

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 if you would like to receive weekly emails.

CONNECTING

Pastor Search Team

If you have any questions about the ongoing pastor search, or are interested in contacting the Pastor Search Team, please email pastorsearch@mercydallas.com.

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.

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 if you would like to receive weekly emails.

Prayer Requests

If you have a private matter that the session could be praying for, please email their private email at session@mercydallas.com. They would love the opportunity to lift 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 on Sundays.
- Give online at www.mercydallas.givingfire.com.
- Mail a check to Mercy Presbyterian, P.O. Box 670035, Dallas, TX 75230

MINISTRY STAFF

Interim Pastor

Rev. Ryan Tompkins | ryan@mercydallas.com

Ministry Coordinator

Jessica Nokes | jessica@mercydallas.com

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Emily Freeman | emily@mercydallas.com

Women's Ministry Coordinator

Joanna Dawson | women@mercydallas.com

Director of Music

Sal Bautista | music@mercydallas.com

Youth Group Leaders | youth@mercydallas.com

Josh and Hannah Patch

Nate and Cecile Foster

Glenn Lanier

Thomas and Katherine Walter

SESSION | session@mercydallas.com

Jon Buell

Dave Nelson

Rev. Ryan Tompkins

Tim Swindell

DEACONS | deacons@mercydallas.com

Thomas Buerger

Brett Cast

Eric Clay

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Adam Huebner

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter