



MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

NOVEMBER 6, 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 | November 6, 2022

REFLECTION

"Guidance, like all God's acts of blessing under the covenant of grace, is a sovereign act. Not merely does God will to guide us in the sense of showing us his way, that we may tread it; he wills also to guide us in the more fundamental sense of ensuring that, whatever happens, whatever mistakes we may make, we shall come safely home. Slippings and strayings there will be, no doubt, but the everlasting arms are beneath us; we shall be caught, rescued, restored. This is God's promise; this is how good he is."

- J. I. Packer

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 65:1-4

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.

O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.

**Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts!
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of
your temple!**

HYMN OF ADORATION | *We sing praises to God*

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Words by Joachim Neander | Traditional German Melody Public Domain

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty the King of creation!
O, my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord! Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth!
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth;
Hast thou not seen, how all your longings have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him
Let the Amen, sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

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*

O God, we confess that we have not sought you, our souls have not thirsted for you, our flesh does not faint for you. Our lips seek our own praise before they seek your praise. Our hearts seek our own blessing before we seek your blessing. Rather than being satisfied in you, we have sought satisfaction elsewhere. Let us rejoice in you. Let us exalt in you. You bring all stories to their proper and good conclusion. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

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

Before the Throne of God Above

Words and Music by Charitie Lees Bancroft & Vikki Cook | Sovereign Grace Worship ©1997

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart,
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the just is satisfied

To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace.
One with Himself I cannot die;
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

The Heidelberg Catechism | Q62

Why can't our good works be our righteousness before God, or at least a part of our righteousness?

Because the righteousness which can pass God's judgment must be entirely perfect and must in every way measure up to the divine law. But even our best works in this life are imperfect and stained with sin.

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.

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

Psalm 73

Words by Kevin Twit and Mac Purdy | Music by Kevin Twit | Kevin Twit Music ©1995

Surely God is good
To all the pure in heart
But as for me, my feet had almost slipped
I nearly lost my grip
For I envied, the arrogant
They are free, from my burdens

Surely I, in vain,
Have kept my, my heart pure
And surely they are strong and free from trials
While I am so confused
Then I entered Your holy place
Then I saw their destiny

Surely, they're cast down
As those on slippery ground
As dreams fade when we wake, so they become
Completely swept away
In my heart I was arrogant
Like a beast before You

Yet always You are near
You guide me by Your Word
And always, my Lord God, You are my strength
My portion You will be
You're my refuge, my Sovereign Lord
I will sing of Your awesome deeds
You're my refuge, my Sovereign Lord
I will sing of Your awesome deeds

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

- ⁶³ O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
- ² So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
- ³ Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
- ⁴ So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
- ⁵ My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,
- ⁶ when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
- ⁷ for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.
- ⁸ My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.
- ⁹ But those who seek to destroy my life
shall go down into the depths of the earth;
- ¹⁰ they shall be given over to the power of the sword;
they shall be a portion for jackals.
- ¹¹ But the king shall rejoice in God;
all who swear by him shall exult,
for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Words and Music by Sandra McCracken & Joshua Moore | Drink Your Tea Music ©2015

We will feast in the House of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire,
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood.
Upheld, protected, gathered up.

We will feast in the House of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more.

In the dark of night before the dawn,
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning O how long?
O God of Jacob be my strength.

We will feast in the House of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more.

Every vow we've broken and betrayed,
You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave,
Bind us together bring shalom.

We will feast in the House of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more.

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*

Philemon 1:25

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

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. We can see the destruction that sin brings in the chapters of 2 Samuel (13-18, if you want to skim the story) following David's sin with Bathsheba. David's sin brought strife to his family and civil war to the kingdom. It was easily the low point of David's life. What impresses you about Psalm 63 in light of the history that lies behind it?
2. When have you longed for God the way David did in verses 1-4? What prevents you from longing for God?
3. In verses 5-6, David confessed that he will be satisfied with God when he meditates upon him. How do you practice meditating on God so that he is your satisfaction?
4. In verses 9-11, David trusted in God's justice. When have you found it hard to wait on God's justice? What helped you to wait?
5. What is your takeaway from David's psalm?

CALENDAR

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

9:30 - 11:30am

Women's Final Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, November 9

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Final Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Saturday, November 12

2-4pm

Women's Social | Sosnowski's Home

6:30-8pm

Middle School Social | The Village

Sunday, November 13

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | Church's Home

Tuesday, November 15

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas

Tuesday, November 22

No Men's Bible Study

Sunday, November 27

First Sunday of Advent

No Elementary Sunday School

No Youth Group

Tuesday, November 29

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas

Friday, December 2

6:30pm

Men's Social | Swindell's Home

Saturday, December 3

10am - 12pm

Women's Brunch | Thomason's Home

Sunday, December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

Tuesday, December 6

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas

Sunday, December 11

Third Sunday of Advent

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, December 13

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas

Sunday, December 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Service | The Chapel

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

No Elementary Sunday School

No Youth Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 and online. 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. The Middle School social has been rescheduled for next Saturday, November 12th. For more information about the youth ministry and schedule, contact Josh and Hannah Patch at youth@mercydallas.com.

Women's Ministry

This is the last week for both the Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening Bible Studies. A new series will begin in the new year. Our next social is a holiday themed book and cookbook swap this Saturday, November 12th at the Sosnowski's home. Contact Joanna Dawson (women@mercydallas.com) with any questions regarding the women's ministry at Mercy.

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 are studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship* (ISBN-10: 0684815001 or ISBN-13: 978-0684815008). Save the Date for the fall social on Friday, December 2nd at the Swindell's home at 6:30pm.

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

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		SESSION session@mercydallas.com
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