



# MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

**FEBRUARY 26, 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.



**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
Lord's Day Worship | February 26, 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 136:1-3; 23-26*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Give thanks to the God of gods,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

It is he who remembered us in our low estate,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

and rescued us from our foes,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

he who gives food to all flesh,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Give thanks to the God of heaven,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever.**

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

*Arise, My Soul, Arise*

*Words by Charles Wesley | Music by Kevin Twit | Kevin Twit Music ©1996*

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;  
The bleeding sacrifice, in my behalf appears;  
Before the throne my Surety stands,  
Before the throne my Surety stands,  
My name is written on His hands.

Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

He ever lives above, for me to intercede;  
His all redeeming love, His precious blood, to plead;  
His blood atoned for every race,  
His blood atoned for every race,  
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

Five bleeding wounds He bears; received on Calvary;  
They pour effectual prayers; they strongly plead for me:  
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,  
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,  
"Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

The Father hears Him pray, His dear anointed One;  
He cannot turn away the presence of His Son;  
The Spirit answers to the blood,  
The Spirit answers to the blood  
And tells me I am born of God.

Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear;  
He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.

Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise  
Arise, my soul, arise.  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

**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 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*

*2 Chronicles 9:8*

*Blessed be the Lord your God, who has delighted in you and set you on his throne as king for the Lord your God! Because your God loved Israel and would establish them forever, he has made you king over them, that you may execute justice and righteousness.*

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

***Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)***

*Words by Kathrina von Schlegel | Translated by Jane Laurie Borthwick | Music by Jean Sibelius |  
Additional Words and Music by Kari Jobe & Jason Ingram | Worship Together Music ©2013*

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain  
Leave to thy God to order and provide  
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain.  
Be still my soul thy best thy heav'nly friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still my soul thy God doth undertake  
To guide the future as He has the past  
Thy hope thy confidence let nothing shake  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still my soul the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

In You I rest, in You I found my hope;  
In You I trust, You never let me go.  
I place my life within Your hands alone -  
Be still my soul.

Be still my soul the hour is hastening on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord  
When disappointment grief and fear are gone  
Sorrow forgot Love's purest joys restored  
Be still my soul when change and tears are past  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

In You I rest, in You I found my hope;  
In You I trust, You never let me go.  
I place my life within Your hands alone -  
Be still my soul.

In You I rest, in You I found my hope;  
In You I trust, You never let me go.  
I place my life within Your hands alone -  
Be still my soul. Be still my soul.  
Be still my soul.

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

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**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*

The children will sing the first verse; the congregation will join in for the second and third verses.

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*Words by Robert Robinson | American Folk Tune | Public Domain*

*\*Hymn of the Month | Teaching our children great hymns of our faith*

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
Hither by thy help I've come;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it;  
Seal it for thy courts above.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

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

Make room in your hearts for us. We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have taken advantage of no one. <sup>3</sup>I do not say this to condemn you, for I said before that you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together. <sup>4</sup>I am acting with great boldness toward you; I have great pride in you; I am filled with comfort. In all our affliction, I am overflowing with joy. <sup>5</sup>For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within. <sup>6</sup>But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, <sup>7</sup>and not only by his coming but also by the comfort with which he was comforted by you, as he told us of your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced still more. <sup>8</sup>For even if I made you grieve with my letter, I do not regret it—though I did regret it, for I see that that letter grieved you, though only for a while. <sup>9</sup>As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. <sup>10</sup>For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. <sup>11</sup>For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter. <sup>12</sup>So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the one who did the wrong, nor for the sake of the one who suffered the wrong, but in order that your earnestness for us might be revealed to you in the sight of God. <sup>13</sup>Therefore we are comforted. And besides our own comfort, we rejoiced still more at the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all. <sup>14</sup>For whatever boasts I made to him about you, I was not put to shame. But just as everything we said to you was true, so also our boasting before Titus has proved true. <sup>15</sup>And his affection for you is even greater, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling. <sup>16</sup>I rejoice, because I have complete confidence in you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** | Rev. Doug Tharp | *Gospel Waltz*

**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.*

*The Gospel Is Good News Indeed*

*Words by William Gadsby | Music by Benj Pocta | Red Mountain Music ©2006*

The gospel is good news indeed,  
To sinners deep in debt;  
The man who has no works to plead,  
Will thankful be for it.

To know that when he's nought to pay,  
His debts are all discharged,  
Will make him blooming look as May,  
And set his soul at large.

No news can be compared with this,  
To men oppressed with sin;  
Who know what legal bondage is,  
And labor but in vain.

Freedom from sin and Satan's chains,  
And legal toil as well,  
The gospel sweetly now proclaims;  
Which tidings suit them well.

How gladly does the prisoner hear,  
What gospel has to tell!  
'Tis perfect love that casts out fear,  
And brings him from his cell.

The man that feels his guilt abound,  
And knows himself unclean,  
Will find the gospel's joyful sound,  
Is welcome news to him.

**SENDING SONG** | *We are sent as God's people into the world as we trust His promises*

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

*Words by Elizabeth Cecelia & Douglas Clephane | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997*

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
The shadow of a mighty rock  
Within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat,  
And the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus,  
Mine eye at times can see  
The very dying form of One  
Who suffered there for me;  
And from my stricken heart with tears  
Two wonders I confess  
The wonders of redeeming love  
And my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow  
For my abiding place:  
I ask no other sunshine  
Than the sunshine of His face;  
Content to let the world go by  
To know no gain nor loss,  
My sinful self my only shame,  
My glory, all the cross.

**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*

*1 Timothy 1:17*

*To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.*

**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!**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ***Mercy Children***

Nursery is available weekly for infants (Nursery Room). Sunday School is available for toddlers during the service. Children (4 years-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade) are dismissed from the service during the sermon for Children's Church. Elementary Sunday School (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade) meets at 9am on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. A Mother's Room is available during the service if you need a space to feed or calm a little one. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday evenings at rotating homes. The next meeting is set for February 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Fesler's Home (6940 Cliffbrook Dr) at 6pm. High school students should bring their catechism; all students should come with their Bibles! Save the date for the Youth Progressive Dinner on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> - no foolin'. For more information about the youth ministry and schedule, contact Josh and Hannah Patch at youth@mercydallas.com.

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

Save the Date for our next Women's Event on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> - details to come! The last meetings of the Genesis studies are this week. A study for the spring will begin on March 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> - details to come. For questions regarding the women's ministry at Mercy, contact Joanna Dawson (women@mercydallas.com).

### ***Men's Ministry***

Join us Thursday mornings from 6:30-7:30am for the men's Bible study, which meets at Cindi's Deli (11111 N Central Expy). We are studying the book of Ephesians where Paul calls us to examine every area of our lives in light of the gospel, including marriage, family, and work. There is no text to order for this study; we will use some prepared questions and Bible study methods to work through the letter together.

### ***Mercy Financial Update***

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

<b>2022/2023 Budget</b>	<b>\$630,000</b>
July 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022 Expenses	\$343,265
July 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022 Giving	\$353,891
<i>Variance</i>	<i>\$10,626</i>

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, February 26**

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6-8pm

Youth Group | The Fesler's Home

### **Tuesday, February 28**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

### **Wednesday, March 1**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Nelson's Home

### **Thursday, March 2**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Thursday, March 9**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Sunday, March 12**

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6-8pm

Youth Group | TBD

### **Thursday, March 16**

*No Men's Bible Study This Week*

### **Tuesday, March 21**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

### **Wednesday, March 22**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Study | The Nelson's Home

**Thursday, March 23**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

**Saturday, March 25**

Women's Social | TBD

**Sunday, March 26**

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6-8pm

Youth Group | TBD

**Tuesday, March 28**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

**Wednesday, March 29**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Nelson's Home

**Thursday, March 30**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

**Saturday, April 1**

Youth Progressive Dinner | TBD

**Sunday, April 2**

*Palm Sunday + Holy Week Begins*

**Monday, April 3**

6:30 - 8:30pm

Holy Week Service + Dinner | The Dawson's Home

**Tuesday, April 4**

*No Women's Bible Study This Week*

**Wednesday, April 5**

*No Women's Bible Study This Week*

**Thursday, April 6**

*No Men's Bible Study This Week*

6:30 - 7:30pm

Maundy Thursday Service | Chapel

**Saturday, April 8**

10 - 11:30am

Easter Egg Hunt | TBD

**Sunday, April 9**

10 - 11:30am

Easter Sunday | Temple Shalom

**Tuesday, April 11**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

**Wednesday, April 12**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Nelson's Home

**Thursday, April 13**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

**Tuesday, April 18**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

**Wednesday, April 19**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Nelson's Home

**Thursday, April 20**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

## 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 the session could be praying for, please email their private email at [session@mercydallas.com](mailto: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.churchcenter.com/giving/to/general](http://www.mercydallas.churchcenter.com/giving/to/general)
- Mail a check to Mercy Presbyterian, P.O. Box 670035, Dallas, TX 75230

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## 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

Glenn and Maci Lanier

Thomas and Katherine Walter

## SESSION | [session@mercydallas.com](mailto:session@mercydallas.com)

Rev. Doug Tharp

Jon Buell

Dave Nelson

Tim Swindell

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

Thomas Buerger

Brett Cast

Eric Clay

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Adam Huebner

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter