



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

MARCH 27, 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](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.

## ***Overview of Nehemiah***

In 587 BC, Judah was sent into Babylonian exile. In 538 BC, Judah began to return. Upon their return, there was no Temple and there were no walls to define and protect the city of Jerusalem. As one commentator puts it, "It was a death to make way for a rebirth."

Nehemiah tells the story of God's people's effort to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, which are representative of the people's identity being re-established according to the Covenant with God. It is a story of challenge and hope - a story of what it looks like to repent and to commit oneself to God and his purposes. It is a reminder to Mercy Pres of what it means to be faithful as God's people, and what it means to prioritize what is truly important.



**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
The Lord's Day | March 27, 2022

**REFLECTION**

*I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess.*

*- Martin Luther*

**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 63:1-8*

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.**

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

**Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.**

So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

**My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,**

When I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

**For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.**

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

*Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah*

*Scottish Psalter | Music by Darwin Jordan | Darwin Jordan Music ©1982*

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;  
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.  
Put no confidence in princes, nor for help on man depend;  
He shall die, to dust returning, and his purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses Israel's God to be his aid;  
He is blest whose hope of blessing on the Lord his God is stayed.  
Heaven and earth the Lord created, seas and all that they contain;  
He delivers from oppression, righteousness He will maintain.

Food He daily gives the hungry, sets the mourning prisoner free,  
Raises those bowed down with anguish, makes the sightless eyes to see,  
Well Jehovah loves the righteous, and the stranger He befriends,  
Helps the fatherless and widow, judgment on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;  
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.  
Over all God reigns forever, through all ages He is King;  
Unto Him, thy God, O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing.

**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*

**Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I remember, and the sins I have forgotten. Forgive my many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements and those when I have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown myself. Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided. Forgive me the pain I have caused others and the indulgence I have shown myself. Jesus, have mercy on me and make me whole. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

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

*1 Thessalonians 5:9-10*

*For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.*

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

*Be Thou My Vision*

*Ancient Irish Hymn | Public Domain*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High king of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High king of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

**MERCY MOMENT** | *RUF International at Southern Methodist University*

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

*The Heidelberg Catechism | Q21 & 22*

What is true faith?

**True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit.**

What then must a Christian believe?

**All that is promised us in the gospel, a summary of which is taught us in the articles of our universal and undisputed Christian faith.**

**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*

*This is My Father's World*

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

*Words by Maltbie Davenport Babcock | Music by Franklin Lawrence Sheppard*

This is my Father's world, And to my list'ning ears,  
All nature sings, and round me rings, The music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, The birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white, Declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget,  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world: The battle is not done;  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, And earth and heav'n be one.

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

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

**SCRIPTURE READING** | *Nehemiah 1:1-11*

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, <sup>2</sup>that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire." <sup>4</sup>As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. <sup>5</sup>And I said, "O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, <sup>6</sup>let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned. <sup>7</sup>We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses. <sup>8</sup>Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, <sup>9</sup>but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' <sup>10</sup>They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. <sup>11</sup>O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man." Now I was cupbearer to the king.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** | Rev. Ryan Tompkins | *Remembering the Covenant*

**SERMON NOTES**



## OFFERTORY

### 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 chapel on your way back to your seat after communion.*

### **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.*

*There is a Fountain Filled with Blood*

*Words and Music by William Cowper | Public Domain*

There is a fountain filled with blood  
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;  
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,  
Lose all their guilty stains:  
Lose all their guilty stains,  
Lose all their guilty stains;  
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,  
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see  
That fountain in his day;  
And there may I, though vile as he,  
Wash all my sins away:  
Wash all my sins away,  
Wash all my sins away;  
And there may I, though vile as he,  
Wash all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood  
Shall never lose its pow'r,  
Till all the ransomed Church of God  
Be saved, to sin no more:  
Be saved, to sin no more,  
Be saved, to sin no more;  
Till all the ransomed Church of God  
Be saved to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream  
Thy flowing wounds supply,  
Redeeming love has been my theme,  
And shall be till I die:  
And shall be till I die,  
And shall be till I die;  
Redeeming love has been my theme,  
And shall be till I die.

**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 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. What is the status of the Jews in Jerusalem?
2. Why does Nehemiah weep for Jerusalem? What role did Jerusalem (the land) play in the covenant?
3. What is Nehemiah's first response to the news? What role does prayer play in your life?
4. What about Nehemiah's prayer strikes you?
5. To what does Nehemiah appeal in his prayer (vv 8-10)? In light of the new covenant, to what might you appeal today?

## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

### **Sunday, March 27**

*Youth Volunteer Sunday*

### **Tuesday, March 29**

6:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Wednesday, March 30**

7-9pm

Women's Ice Cream Social | Nelson Residence

### **Sunday, April 3**

9am

Youth Group | Room 118 & 135

Elementary Sunday School | Room 200

### **Tuesday, April 5**

6:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Sunday, April 10**

Palm Sunday Worship | Chapel

### **Tuesday, April 12**

6:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Thursday, April 14**

7-8pm

Maundy Thursday Service | Chapel

### **Sunday, April 17**

*No Sunday School/Youth Group*

10am

Easter Sunday Worship | Sanctuary

### **Tuesday, April 19**

6:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Thursday, April 21**

12-1pm

Men's Lunch | Shake Shack | Preston/Royal

### **Sunday, April 24**

*Youth Volunteer Sunday*

### **Tuesday, April 26**

6:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Sunday, May 1**

9am

Youth Group | Room 118 & 135

Elementary Sunday School | Room 200

### **Tuesday, May 3**

6:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Sunday, May 8**

*Mother's Day*

### **Tuesday, May 10**

6:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Sunday, May 15**

9am

Youth Group | Room 118 & 135

Elementary Sunday School | Room 200

### **Tuesday, May 17**

6:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

### **Thursday, May 19**

12-1pm

Men's Lunch | TBD

### **Sunday, May 22**

*Youth Volunteer Sunday*

### **Tuesday, May 24**

6:30am

Final Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***Palm Sunday***

The children of Mercy will be participating in our Palm Sunday service by leading the congregation in singing *All Glory Laud and Honor*. Please take some time to practice the song with your children prior in the coming weeks. A link to the song can be found in the weekly email.

### ***Maundy Thursday***

Mercy will hold a Maundy Thursday service from 7-8pm on April 14<sup>th</sup> in the chapel.

### ***Infants and Children***

A mother's room is available for feeding and calming infants; it is located in the office space just outside the left exit door in the sanctuary.

Nursery is available for infants (Nursery Room) and toddlers (Room 135).

Children's Church (4 years-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade) meets weekly during the sermon in Room 200.

Elementary Sunday School (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade) meets on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays from 9-10am. They will not meet on Easter Sunday (April 17).

Contact Emily Freeman at [emily@mercydallas.com](mailto:emily@mercydallas.com) for more information.

### ***Youth Group***

**4/3, 5/1, 5/22**

Youth Group will not meet on Easter Sunday (April 17).

Youth Group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 9am. 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> in Room 118 and 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> in Room 135. Each 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, youth have the opportunity to serve as part of the Set Up or Welcome Team. For more information, contact Josh and Hannah Patch at [youth@mercydallas.com](mailto:youth@mercydallas.com).

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

The next social is this Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm at the Nelson's home (7150 Aberdeen Ave., Dallas, TX 75230). For questions about the women's ministry contact Joanna Dawson ([women@mercydallas.com](mailto:women@mercydallas.com)).

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

The Men's Bible Study meets Tuesday mornings from 6:30-7:30am at Cindi's Deli (11111 N US 75-Central Expy. 75243). The next men's lunch is Thursday, 4/21 from 12-1pm at Shake Shack at Preston/Rpyal. Contact [church@mercydallas.com](mailto:church@mercydallas.com) for further information.

### ***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 Nokes ([jessica@mercydallas.com](mailto:jessica@mercydallas.com)) for further information.

### ***Serve at Mercy***

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

### ***Interested In Joining Mercy?***

If you are interested in joining Mercy Presbyterian, please contact Jessica Nokes at [jessica@mercydallas.com](mailto:jessica@mercydallas.com) for information on next steps.

## 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](mailto: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](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.givingfire.com](http://www.mercydallas.givingfire.com).
- Mail a check to Mercy Presbyterian, P.O. Box 670035, Dallas, TX 75230

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#### **MINISTRY STAFF**

##### **Interim Pastor**

Rev. Ryan Tompkins | [ryan@mercydallas.com](mailto:ryan@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

Thomas and Katherine Walter

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

Jon Buell

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

Thomas Buerger

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