



MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

JUNE 5, 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.

Overview of I Corinthians

Do you ever feel like there are so many diverging opinions in the church that it seems impossible to enjoy real unity? Sometimes people suggest this is a new problem - that pluralistic cultures rubbing against one another with different values are a product of postmodernity. That is not the case.

Corinth was a bustling city in 50 AD, about the time that Paul came as an apostle of Jesus Christ. It was a relatively new city - exploding with growth due to trade and cultural capital. One commentator likens Corinth to San Francisco during the gold rush. The city was composed of people from all over the Mediterranean world, which meant that the church was composed of people with very different views and opinions.

The church in Corinth became confused about how to handle a number of difficult cultural issues, and they ran into trouble when they allowed cultural values to shape their practice of Christianity. The church in Corinth wrote to Paul asking for clarity, and 1 Corinthians is Paul's response to their questions and struggles.

In his response, Paul returns again and again to the centrality of the cross, which is a demonstration of God's wisdom. "Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is folly with God." (3:18-19a). Paul calls the Corinthians, and therefore Mercy, to return to the cross in order to understand true wisdom. Together, we will pursue becoming fools in relation to the wisdom of this world so that we might know God's wisdom.



ORDER OF WORSHIP
The Lord's Day | June 5, 2022

REFLECTION

"Before we can begin to see the cross as something done for us, we have to see it as something done by us."

- John Stott

"And now brothers, I will ask you a terrible question, and God knows I ask it also of myself. Is the truth beyond all truths, beyond the stars, just this: that to live without him is the real death, that to die with him the only life?"

- Frederick Buechner

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

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

1 Corinthians 1:20-25

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.

For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom,

But we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,

But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

All Creatures of Our God and King

Words by Saint Francis Assisi | German Tune | Public Domain

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rushing morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening find a voice,
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All ye men of tender heart
Forgiving others take your part
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on Him cast your care
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness.
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, Three in One
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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 and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is nothing good in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to Your promises declared unto men in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of His name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

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

Jesus What A Friend For Sinners

Words by J. Wilbur Chapman | Music by Rowland Hugh Prichard | Public Domain

Jesus! What a friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in Him.
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my strength, my victory wins.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a help in sorrow!
While the billows o'er me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking,
He, my comfort, helps my soul.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! I do now receive Him,
More than all in Him I find.
He hath granted me forgiveness,
I am His, and He is mine.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

MERCY MOMENT | *PST Update & Crates for Ukraine*

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

The Heidelberg Catechism | Q35

What does it mean that he “was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary”?

That the eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God,

took to himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit, from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, a truly human nature so that he might also become David's true descendant, like his brothers and sisters in every way except for 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*

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Words & Music by Robert Robinson (1758) | Altered by Martin Madan (1760) | Public Domain

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 find my greatest treasure; 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

SCRIPTURE READING | *1 Corinthians 1:10-31*

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I

follow Cephas,” or “I follow Christ.” ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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 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*

Revelation 22:20-21

*He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen.
Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all. 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!**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Consider verse 10. What are divisions in the church today?
2. Why were people gravitating toward certain leaders in the church? What implication did this have for the church? Do you see this happening today?
3. Consider verse 18. How can the cross be both folly and wisdom? How is the cross wisdom in your life?
4. Consider verse 25. How do you rely on the wisdom of this world, only to realize that it is foolishness in God's sight?
5. Consider verses 26-31. How do you feel about Paul's characterization of the church? How does your life "boast in the Lord?"

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 5

5-7pm
VBS Kick-off Party | PCPC
7-9pm
Youth Group | Fesler's Home

Tuesday, June 7

9am-12pm
VBS @ PCPC | PCPC
6-8pm
Summer Series | Social Hall

Wednesday, June 8

9am-12pm
VBS @ PCPC | PCPC

Thursday, June 9

9am-12pm
VBS @ PCPC | PCPC

Friday, June 10

9am-12pm
VBS @ PCPC | PCPC

Sunday, June 12

7-9pm
Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, June 14

9am-12pm
Family Park Playdate | Heights Park

Sunday, June 19

7-9pm
Youth Group | Anderson's Home

Tuesday, June 21

9am-12pm
Family Park Playdate | Preston Hollow
Park

Saturday, June 25

5pm
Men's Night | Russo's Home

Sunday, June 26

Youth Volunteer Sunday
7-9pm
Youth Group | Klinefelter's Home

Monday, June 27

9am-11am
Mercy's Backyard Bible Club | TBD

Tuesday, June 28

9am-11am
Mercy's Backyard Bible Club | TBD

Wednesday, June 29

9am-11am
Mercy's Backyard Bible Club | TBD

Thursday, June 30

9am-11am
Mercy's Backyard Bible Club | TBD

Sunday, July 3

7-9pm
Youth Group | Tompkin's Home

Tuesday, July 5

9am-12pm
Family Park Playdate | Flagpole Hill
6-8pm
Summer Series | Social Hall

Tuesday, July 12

9am-12pm
Family Park Playdate | Cottonwood
Park

Sunday, July 17

7-9pm
Youth Group | Thomason's Home

Tuesday, July 19

9am-12pm
Family Park Playdate | Arbor Hills

Sunday, July 24

Youth Volunteer Sunday

Tuesday, July 26

9am-12pm
Family Park Playdate | Churchill Park

Tuesday, August 2

9am-12pm
Family Park Playdate | Watermark
Tree Fort

Tuesday, August 9

6-8pm
Summer Series | Social Hall

Sunday, August 21

7-9pm
Youth Group | Dawson's Home

Sunday, August 28

Youth Volunteer Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer is Here!

Family Night at Park Cities Presbyterian is tonight, June 5 from 5-7pm. This kick off party is a great opportunity for families to get a sneak peek at what the children will be learning and doing at both VBS and Back Yard Bible Club. There will be lots of food, games, bounce houses, and fun! All are welcome! Mercy's first ever *Backyard Bible Club* runs Monday, June 27 - Thursday, June 30. Family Park Playdates begin Tuesdays in June. Specific parks will be listed in the weekly email and the worship guide. Contact Emily (emily@mercydallas.com) for more information.

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 does not meet during the summer.

Contact Emily Freeman at emily@mercydallas.com for more information.

Youth Group

This Summer, youth will meet Sunday evenings at rotating houses. The schedule will be listed on the calendar. On the 4th Sunday of each month, youth have the opportunity to serve as part of the Set Up or Welcome Team. For more information about the youth ministry and schedule, contact Josh and Hannah Patch at youth@mercydallas.com.

Men's Ministry

The next men's event is at 5pm on Saturday, June 25th. Expect fellowship and good food at the Russo's home that night! Contact church@mercydallas.com with questions and look for an RSVP link in The Weekly Email.

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) for further information.

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.

Summer Series: Jerusalem and Athens

Have you ever felt like you don't belong in this world? Have you felt ill-equipped to respond intelligently to the cultural issues of our day? Do you know how to express the hope you have within you in the face of adversity? Join us for dinner, fellowship, and conversation at the Temple for our Summer Series as we discuss our citizenship in the city of God and the city of Man. We will meet from 6-8pm on June 7, July 5 and August 9. Dinner and childcare will be provided. Please RSVP for the June session by June 4, using the link found in the weekly email. Suggested age is 13+. Contact church@mercydallas.com with any questions.

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

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MINISTRY STAFF	SESSION session@mercydallas.com
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