



MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

JULY 17, 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 17, 2022

REFLECTION

Nothing whatever, whether great or small, can happen to a believer, without God's ordering and permission. There is no such thing as "chance," "luck" or "accident" in the Christian's journey through this world. All is arranged and appointed by God. And all things are "working together" for the believer's good.

- J. C. Ryle

God is always trying to give good things to us, but our hands are too full to receive them.

- Augustine

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 9:7-10

But the Lord sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice,

And he judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with uprightness.

The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.

HYMN OF ADORATION | *We sing praises to God*

O Day of Rest and Gladness

Words by Christopher Wordsworth | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright:
On Thee, the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,
Sing holy, holy, holy, to the great God Triune.

On Thee, at the creation, the light first had its birth;
On Thee, for our salvation, Christ rose from depths of earth;
On Thee, our Lord, victorious, the Spirit sent from heav'n,
And thus on Thee, most glorious, A triple light was giv'n.

Thou art a port protected, from storms that round us rise;
A garden intersected, with streams of paradise;
Thou art a cooling fountain, in life's dry dreary sand;
From Thee, like Pisgah's mountain, we view our promised land.

Today on weary nations, the heav'nly manna falls;
To holy convocations, the silver trumpet calls,
Where gospel light is glowing, with pure and radiant beams,
And living water flowing, with soul-refreshing streams.

New graces ever gaining, from this, our day of rest,
We reach the rest remaining, to spirits of the blessed.
To Holy Ghost be praises, to Father, and to Son;
The Church her voice upraises, to Thee, blessed Three in One.

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 sins and gives us grace*

Psalm 103:8-12

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

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

In Christ Alone

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend | Thankyou Music ©2002

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

**continued on the next page*

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied –
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine –
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

The Heidelberg Catechism | Q43

What further benefit do we receive from Christ's sacrifice and death on the cross?

By Christ's power our old selves are crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil desires of the flesh may no longer rule us, but that instead we may offer ourselves as a sacrifice of gratitude to him.

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*

Jesus Paid It All

Words by Elvina M. Hall | Music by John T. Grape | worshiptogether.com ©2006

I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in Me thine all in all."
Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; in had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Lord now indeed I find Thy pow'r and Thine alone
Can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone.
Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I whereby Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.
Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

And when, before the throne, I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save," My lips shall still repeat.
Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE READING | *Romans 8:18-23*

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected

it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Darwin Jordan | *The Great Glory Coming to God's Children*

SERMON OUTLINE

1. Your coming glory is great by comparison

2. Your coming glory is great in its comprehensiveness

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*

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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. Why is the suffering of this present time not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us?
2. Why was the creation subjected to futility?
3. How does the creation, and how do we, groan together in the pains of childbirth?
4. How does the hope of the redemption of our bodies inform our lives now?
5. How does the Spirit pray with and for us? How have you experienced this?
6. How do you apply the notion that God works all things for the good of those who love him?

CALENDAR

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

Crates for Ukraine

MTW missionaries Doug and Masha Shepherd have reached out to our Presbytery with a specific way we can help them minister in the midst of the war in Ukraine. They have sent us lists of supplies that we can pack and take to their team in Krakow, Poland, who will then distribute the aid to those most in need in Ukraine. To get involved or for more information, contact Elizabeth Cunningham (cunningham.maryelizabeth@gmail.com). Thomas Buerger is our next courier and will depart July 27th.

Summer is Here!

Family Park Playdate this week is Tuesday from 9am-12pm at Arbor Hills in Plano. Future parks are listed in the weekly email and the worship guide. Contact emily@mercydallas.com for more information.

Youth Group

This Summer, youth will meet Sunday evenings at rotating houses. The schedule is listed on the calendar. The next meeting is tonight at the Thomason's home. The 4th Sunday of each month (July 24th), 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.

Women's Ministry

The women's summer social is this coming Saturday, July 23 from 2-4pm at the Brunaugh's home: 9928 Acklin Dr, Dallas. Join us for a time of fellowship as we enjoy snacks and swap books! Bring some books you would like to trade out and learn more about what others have been enjoying reading lately. Any genre is welcome, kids books included. Or just come for the food and company! RSVP link can be found 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 August 9th. Dinner and childcare will be provided. Please RSVP for the August session by Thursday, August 4th, using the link found in the weekly email. Contact Jessica (jessica@mercydallas.com) with general questions or Ryan (ryan@mercydallas.com) for questions about content. Suggested age is 13+.

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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