



MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

Welcome to Mercy Presbyterian Church

Thank you for joining us in worship today. If you are visiting with us, we are delighted that you have chosen to be with us and our desire is to be a blessing to you. Our prayer is that God will transform our lives and enable us to live for His glory and the good of the world. We would love to get to know you better and answer any questions you may have. Please share your information with us by emailing us at church@mercydallas.com.

Our Worship

You will notice that we follow a thoughtful and connected rhythm in our worship, called liturgy. The order of our worship reflects the work of the gospel in our hearts. In worship, we come together to tell the story of the gospel by the structure of our worship, the content of our worship, and the way that we worship.

Parents of Young Children

We believe the church is for all people, young and old, and want Mercy to be a church where children are seen, heard, and loved. We invite you to involve your children in our service, help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say and sing parts of our worship service every week in order to help our young children to participate. Children's bulletins with coloring activities are available by the door to the sanctuary. Nursery is also available for babies and toddlers.

Series Overview - Life of David: A Man After God's Own Heart

Why did Israel need a king? Is not God Israel's king? After the period of the Judges, Israel voiced its desire for a king. In Scripture, this desire is seen as either a good idea or a bad idea, depending on the passage. It seems that the success of a monarchy depends on the heart of the monarch. After Saul failed as the first king, God called a shepherd from the country town of Bethlehem to be king. After being anointed by Samuel, David became the king who would unify Israel, centralize the government, and provide for the first permanent house for the worship of God.

There are two themes in the story of David that demand our attention. First, after David was anointed, he went on the run for years as Saul sought to put him to death. What does it look like to follow God faithfully when our experience does not match his promises? David will show us. Second, while David was celebrated for his commitment to God and sincerity in worship, he was also guilty of failing God, failing in leadership, and failing his family. What does it look like to repent from failure and move forward in faith? David will show us that, too.



ORDER OF WORSHIP
The Lord's Day | September 18, 2022

REFLECTION

And Samuel said, "Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams."

- 1 Samuel 15:22

At the timberline where the storms strike with the most fury, the sturdiest trees are found.

- Hudson Taylor

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

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

Psalms 102:12-17

But you, O Lord, are enthroned forever; you are remembered throughout all generations.

You will arise and have pity on Zion; it is the time to favor her; the appointed time has come.

For your servants hold her stones dear and have pity on her dust. Nations will fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth will fear your glory.

For the Lord builds up Zion; he appears in his glory; He regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer.

HYMN OF ADORATION | *We sing praises to God*

This is My Father's World

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.

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*

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

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

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Words by Edward Mote | Music by William B. Bradbury | Public Domain

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, his covenant, his blood,
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found:
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

MERCY MOMENT | *Missions Update*

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

The Heidelberg Catechism | Q54

What do you believe concerning “the holy catholic church”?

I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.

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.

Jesus, I Come

Words by William True Sleeper | Music by Greg Thompson | ©Greg Thompson Music 2000

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

SCRIPTURE READING | *1 Samuel 19:1-24*

And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted much in David. ²And Jonathan told David, "Saul my father seeks to kill you. Therefore be on your guard in the morning. Stay in a secret place and hide yourself. ³And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak to my father about you. And if I learn anything I will tell you." ⁴And Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Let not the king sin against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his deeds have brought good to you. ⁵For he took his life in his hand and he struck down the Philistine, and the Lord worked a great salvation for all Israel. You saw it, and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood by killing David without cause?" ⁶And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan. Saul swore, "As the Lord lives, he shall not be put to death." ⁷And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan reported to him all these things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as before.

⁸And there was war again. And David went out and fought with the Philistines and struck them with a great blow, so that they fled before him. ⁹Then a harmful spirit from the Lord came upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing the lyre. ¹⁰And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night. ¹¹Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him, that he might kill him in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, told him, "If you do not escape with your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." ¹²So Michal let David down through the window, and he fled away and escaped. ¹³Michal took an image and laid it on the bed and put a pillow of goats' hair at its head and covered it with the clothes. ¹⁴And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick." ¹⁵Then Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him." ¹⁶And when the messengers came in, behold, the image was in the bed, with the pillow of goats' hair at its head. ¹⁷Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me thus and let my enemy

go, so that he has escaped?” And Michal answered Saul, “He said to me, ‘Let me go. Why should I kill you?’ ” ¹⁸Now David fled and escaped, and he came to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and lived at Naioth. ¹⁹And it was told Saul, “Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.” ²⁰Then Saul sent messengers to take David, and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. ²¹When it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied. ²²Then he himself went to Ramah and came to the great well that is in Secu. And he asked, “Where are Samuel and David?” And one said, “Behold, they are at Naioth in Ramah.” ²³And he went there to Naioth in Ramah. And the Spirit of God came upon him also, and as he went he prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. ²⁴And he too stripped off his clothes, and he too prophesied before Samuel and lay naked all that day and all that night. Thus it is said, “Is Saul also among the prophets?”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Ryan Tompkins | *David on the Run*

SERMON NOTES

INTERLUDE

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER | *The family meal of Christians*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, making us in your image. We praise you for your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who by His death on the cross and rising to new life offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for His people. Therefore, we lift our voices to praise you, saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine, and pray that we who receive them, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, according to our Savior's word, may share in victory and eternal life.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Hallelujah! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Hallelujah!

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

The Lord's Supper, also called Communion or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who have believed the good news, have repented of their sins, and are baptized members in good standing in the Lord's Church. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the Church.

Please consider offering your tithes as a physical act of worship by placing your offering in the tithe box located at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer for Awakening

Lord Jesus, I have heard from the Bible for years, and have been in church for years, but very little of this seems real to me. Please show me the reality of what you are saying. Unnerve me with the badness of the bad news. Enthrall me with the goodness of the good news. Make what is familiar seem new. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Covenant Children

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling Against Sin

Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

The Sands of Time are Sinking

Words by Anne Cousin | Traditional Folk Tune | ©Philip Palmertree 2001

The sands of time are sinking, the dawn of heaven breaks;
The summer morn I've sighed for - the fair, sweet morn awakes:
Dark, dark had been the midnight but dayspring is at hand,
And glory, glory dwelleth in Emmanuel's land.

The king there in His beauty, without a veil is seen:
It were a well-spent journey, though seven deaths lay between:
The Lamb with His fair army, doth on Mount Zion stand,
And glory, glory dwelleth in Emmanuel's land.

O Christ, He is the fountain, the deep, sweet well of love!
The streams on earth I've tasted More deep I'll drink above:
There to an ocean fullness His mercy doth expand,
And glory, glory dwelleth in Emmanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garment, but her dear Bridegroom's face;
I will not gaze at glory But on my King of grace.
Not at the crown He giveth but on His pierced hand;
The Lamb is all the glory of Emmanuel's land.

O I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine!
He brings a poor vile sinner into His house of wine
I stand upon His merit - I know no other stand,
Not e'en where glory dwelleth In Emmanuel's land.

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*

Philippians 4:7

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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 did it mean for Jonathan, Saul's son, to side with David? Have you ever had to choose sides in order to honor God?
2. How does Jonathan "see" with eyes of faith? How is Saul blind? Where do you find it difficult to see with eyes of faith?
3. How do you understand the harmful spirit from the lord in verse 9?
4. How does Saul's blindness increase in verses 18-24? If Scripture is God's prophetic word to us, then how do we read it without having our hearts changed?
5. What is your takeaway from this passage?

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 18

11:30am - 1:30pm
Fall Kickoff | Temple Shalom

Tuesday, September 20

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, September 21

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Thursday, September 22

7pm
Meet the Tharps | Freeman's Home

Friday, September 23

7pm
Meet the Tharps | TBD Home

Saturday, September 24

1 pm
Meet the Tharps | Boland's Home
6pm
Meet the Tharps | TBD Home

Sunday, September 25

Youth Volunteer Sunday
9 - 9:45am
Elementary Sunday School | Room 120
11:45am-1pm
Intro to Mercy (1) | Temple Shalom
6 - 8pm
Youth Group | TBD
6pm
Meet the Tharps | Dawson's Home

Tuesday, September 27

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, September 28

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Sunday, October 2

11:45am - 1pm
Intro to Mercy (2) | Temple Shalom

Tuesday, October 4

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, October 5

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Sunday, October 9

9 - 9:45am
Elementary Sunday School | Room 120
6 - 8pm
Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, October 11

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, October 12

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

Sunday, October 16

11:45am - 1pm
Intro to Mercy (3) | Temple Shalom

Tuesday, October 18

No Men's Bible Study
No Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, October 19

No Women's Bible Study

Sunday, October 23

Youth Volunteer Sunday
9 - 9:45am
Elementary Sunday School | Room 120
11:45am - 1pm
Intro to Mercy (4) | Temple Shalom
6 - 8pm
Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, October 25

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Dallas
9:30 - 11am
Women's Bible Study | Dawson's Home

Wednesday, October 26

7 - 8:30pm
Women's Bible Study | Nelson's Home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meet and Greets with Doug Tharp

The Pastor Search Team has arranged several opportunities to meet Doug and Nicole Tharp when they visit Dallas from September 22nd through September 25th. These Meet & Greets will be the best way to interact with Doug and spend time with him before we vote at the congregational meeting on October 2nd. Please make every effort to attend one of these gatherings. An RSVP link is available in the Weekly Update email.

Weekly Updates

Our weekly email newsletter is the primary way we communicate announcements, information about church life, and details about upcoming events. Email jessica@mercydallas.com if you would like to receive our weekly email.

Intro to Mercy

Intro to Mercy classes resume this fall. Dates for the four-week class are 9/25, 10/2, 10/16, & 10/23. The class will meet Sundays after church in September and October in the conference room at Temple Shalom. We will provide lunch and childcare. Come hear about Mercy's vision, mission, core values, theology, and how to get involved. Contact Jessica for more information or sign up via the link in the weekly email. RSVP by 9/18.

Mercy Children

Nursery is available weekly for infants (Nursery Room). Sunday Schools and Children's Church return September 11th. Sunday School will be available for toddlers weekly during the service. Children (4 years-2nd Grade) will be dismissed from the service during the sermon for Children's Church and Elementary Sunday School (3rd-5th Grade) will meet at 9am on 2nd & 4th Sundays. Our Mother's Room is available during the service if you need a space to feed a baby or calm a little one who is feeling fussy. The office to the north of the sanctuary is a private space set with comfy chairs and a changing station. If you have any questions or would like to get involved with our children's ministry, please email Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com).

Youth Group

Youth Group meets 2nd & 4th Sunday evenings at rotating homes. The schedule will be listed on the calendar. The 4th Sunday of each month, youth have the opportunity to serve as part of the Set Up or Welcome Team as a group, though they are welcome to serve any week alongside their families. For more information about the youth ministry and schedule, contact Josh and Hannah Patch at youth@mercydallas.com.

Women's Ministry

Please join the women of Mercy for a seven-week Bible Study this fall. We will study Nancy Guthrie's book, *The Promised One: Seeing Jesus in Genesis*. Join us either Tuesday mornings (childcare available) or Wednesday evenings. You can find more info on the registration page, linked in the weekly email. We will start September 20th/21st and end November 1st/2nd. We look forward to studying God's Word with the women in our church family!

Men's Ministry

The Mercy Men's Bible Study resumes on Tuesday, September 13th, from 6:30-7:30am at Cindi's Deli in Dallas (southbound US 75 service road between Forest and Royal). We will study Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship*, which you can order from your preferred bookseller. Use the following ISBN numbers to ensure you purchase the correct edition: ISBN-10: 0684815001 or ISBN-13: 978-0684815008.

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.

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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