



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Year of Jubilee

Leviticus 25

JANUARY 7, 2024

## **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. A Mother's Room (the Blumen Room) is available during the service if you need a space to feed or calm a little one. The Blumen Room is a private space set with comfortable chairs and a changing station to the north of the sanctuary, and down the hall to the right.

### ***Connection Points***

If you are a visitor, regular attender or member, we would love the chance to connect with you outside of Sunday mornings! Use the QR code below to receive more information about community groups and other ministries, as well as to communicate changes to your personal information.

**Community Groups** are a vital part of Mercy's ministry and worship. **The Weekly Update** is our email newsletter and the primary way we communicate announcements, information about church life, and details about upcoming events. Your **Prayer Requests** matter to us! If there is any way that we can pray for you, we would love the opportunity to join you in lifting your needs before the Lord. Use the QR code below or email [church@mercydallas.com](mailto:church@mercydallas.com) to connect with us!





## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Lord's Day Worship | January 7, 2024

### WELCOME

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

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

*Psalm 108:1-6*

My heart is steadfast, O God!

I will sing and make melody with all my being!

Awake, O harp and lyre!

I will awake the dawn!

**I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;  
I will sing praises to you among the nations.**

For your steadfast love is great above the heavens;  
your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

**Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!  
Let your glory be over all the earth!  
That your beloved ones may be delivered,  
give salvation by your right hand and answer me!**

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

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

*Words by Edward Perronet & John Rippon | Music by Oliver Holden | Public Domain*

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe  
On this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall.  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

**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.

**CONFESSION OF SIN** | *We acknowledge our sin and ask for God's grace*

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*adapted from Valley of Vision*

**Holy Lord, we have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, of failure to find your mind in your Word, of neglect to seek you daily. Our transgressions and shortcomings present us with a list of accusations; but we bless you that they will not stand against us, for all have been laid on Christ. Go on to subdue our corruptions, and grant us grace to live above them. Let not the passions of the flesh nor lustings of the mind bring our spirits into subjection, but may you rule over us in liberty and power. Amen.**

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

*Joel 2:25-27*

*I will restore to you the years  
that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
my great army, which I sent among you.  
“You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
and praise the name of the Lord your God,  
who has dealt wondrously with you.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.  
You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
and that I am the Lord your God and there is none else.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.*

*God, Be Merciful to Me*

*Scottish Psalter | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997*

God, be merciful to me;  
On Thy grace I rest my plea  
Plenteous in compassion Thou,  
Blot out my transgressions now;  
Wash me, make me pure within;  
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess;  
Grief and guilt my soul oppress.  
I have sinned against Thy grace,  
And provoked Thee to Thy face.  
I confess Thy judgement just;  
Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

Gracious God, my heart renew,  
Make my spirit right and true.  
Cast me not away from Thee,  
Let Thy Spirit dwell in me;  
Thy salvation's joy impart,  
Steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me,  
And return, O God, to Thee  
Savior all my guilt remove,  
And my tongue shall sing Thy love  
Touch my silent lips, O Lord,  
And my mouth shall praise accord.

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

*The Apostles' Creed*

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

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

Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE 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*

*O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

*Words by George Matheson | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997*

O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
That in thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
And from the ground there blossoms red  
Life that shall endless be.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH**



“You shall count seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the time of the seven weeks of years shall give you forty-nine years. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall sound the loud trumpet on the tenth day of the seventh month. On the Day of Atonement you shall sound the trumpet throughout all your land. <sup>10</sup>And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when each of you shall return to his property and each of you shall return to his clan. <sup>11</sup>That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you; in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of itself nor gather the grapes from the undressed vines. <sup>12</sup>For it is a jubilee. It shall be holy to you. You may eat the produce of the field. <sup>13</sup>“In this year of jubilee each of you shall return to his property. <sup>14</sup>And if you make a sale to your neighbor or buy from your neighbor, you shall not wrong one another. <sup>15</sup>You shall pay your neighbor according to the number of years after the jubilee, and he shall sell to you according to the number of years for crops. <sup>16</sup>If the years are many, you shall increase the price, and if the years are few, you shall reduce the price, for it is the number of the crops that he is selling to you. <sup>17</sup>You shall not wrong one another, but you shall fear your God, for I am the Lord your God. <sup>18</sup>“Therefore you shall do my statutes and keep my rules and perform them, and then you will dwell in the land securely. <sup>19</sup>The land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill and dwell in it securely. <sup>20</sup>And if you say, ‘What shall we eat in the seventh year, if we may not sow or gather in our crop?’ <sup>21</sup>I will command my blessing on you in the sixth year, so that it will produce a crop sufficient for three years. <sup>22</sup>When you sow in the eighth year, you will be eating some of the old crop; you shall eat the old until the ninth year, when its crop arrives. <sup>23</sup>“The land shall not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is mine. For you are strangers and sojourners with me. <sup>24</sup>And in all the country you possess, you shall allow a redemption of the land.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** | Rev. Doug Tharp | *The Year of Jubilee*

**SERMON NOTES**





**OFFERTORY** | *Joyfully giving His tithes and our offerings in response to His grace*

**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.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

#### **PRAYER OF PREPARATION AND THANKSGIVING**

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. While we are not worthy so much as to gather the crumbs under your table, we nonetheless come, gracious Lord, because we have been bought with a price. So we give thanks for our savior and shepherd Jesus Christ, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

#### **ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE**

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!**

#### **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 Reign of Mercy*

*Words and Music by Kate Bluett & Paul Zach | Integrity's Alleluia! Music ©2021*

Oh may our world at last be just  
And hilltops echo with Your peace  
The harvest come from barren dust  
The reign of mercy never cease  
He comes as rain upon the grass  
High heaven's sun to earth descends  
Not as the seasons that will pass  
But with a light that never ends

Oh come to Him and find your rest  
Who saw the poor and came as one  
Who hears the cries of the oppressed  
And rules till all oppression's done  
Someday He'll come to reign as King  
And we will see His justice done  
Our souls will magnify and sing  
The Christ whose kingdom now is come

And all the mighty and the strong  
Will bow before Him on that day  
The silenced fill the world with song  
The poor and lowly He will raise  
And all our bitterness and tears  
Our violence and our endless wars  
Will end at last when He draws near  
Come soon, come soon O Christ our Lord

*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.

**BENEDICTION** | *God sends us out into the world with His blessing*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give  
you peace.*

**DISMISSAL** | *God sends us out into the world*

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior  
Jesus Christ. **Thanks be to God!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***Mercy's Tenth Anniversary!***

This will be a year to celebrate as we look back on the last ten years and remember the Lord's faithfulness to our church. We'll have several touch points throughout the year, but will start with the Tenth Anniversary Jubilee Dinner - an evening of dinner and fellowship - on Sunday, January 21, 2024 from 6-9pm at Communion Cooperative (514 Lockwood Dr., Richardson). This celebration will be adults only, but we look forward to including our entire church family in other ways throughout the year. Use the QR code on the invitation or the link in the Weekly Email to RSVP to this event!

### ***Children's Ministry***

Toddler Sunday School and Children's Church meet every Sunday. Elementary Sunday School (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade) meets from 9-10am on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday mornings in Room 207. We still need volunteers weekly in both the nursery and toddler rooms. If you are interested in getting your family plugged in to the children's ministry at Mercy or if you have a teen or pre-teen interested in helping, contact Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)! The next Elementary Sunday School is Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Youth Ministry***

Youth Group activities will pause during the Christmas holidays. We'll see you back on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> for our usual meeting from 6-8pm at the Church's Home!

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

Women's Bible Study resumes this month with a new series on Romans 1-7; look for registration information in the Weekly Email. The Tuesday morning study will be led by, and meet at, the home of Joanna Dawson from 9:30-11am. The Wednesday evening study will be led by Paige Buell at the home of Katherine Walter from 7-8:30pm. This study will meet from January 15/16 - end of April, with breaks for Spring Break and Holy Week. Contact Joanna (women@mercydallas.com) with questions or for more information.

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

Men's Bible Study resumes this month with a new series on Romans 1-7; look for registration information in the Weekly Email. The men meet on Tuesday mornings from 6:30am-7:30am at Cindi's Deli (11111 N Central Expy., Dallas). This study will meet from January 15 - end of April, with a break for Spring Break in March. Contact Doug (doug@mercydallas.com) with questions or for more information.

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, January 14**

9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Church's Home

### **Tuesday, January 16**

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

### **Wednesday, January 17**

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

### **Sunday, January 21**

6 - 9pm  
*Tenth Anniversary Jubilee | Communion*

### **Tuesday, January 23**

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

### **Wednesday, January 24**

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

### **Sunday, January 28**

9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

### **Tuesday, January 30**

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

### **Wednesday, January 31**

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

### **Friday, February 2**

5pm  
Women's Retreat | Waco, TX

### **Saturday, February 3**

*All Day*  
Women's Retreat | Waco, TX

### **Sunday, February 4**

8am  
Women's Retreat | Waco, TX

### **Tuesday, February 6**

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

### **Wednesday, February 7**

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

### **Sunday, February 11**

9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Church's Home

### **Tuesday, February 13**

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

### **Wednesday, February 14**

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

**Tuesday, February 20**

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

**Wednesday, February 21**

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

**Sunday, February 25**

9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

**Tuesday, February 27**

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

**Wednesday, February 28**

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

**Tuesday, March 5**

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

**Wednesday, March 6**

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

**Sunday, March 10**

9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Church's Home

**Tuesday, March 12**

No Bible Studies This Week | Spring Break

**Wednesday, March 13**

No Bible Studies This Week | Spring Break

**Tuesday, March 19**

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

**Wednesday, March 20**

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

**Sunday, March 24**

*Palm Sunday*  
9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

**Monday, March 25**

BreakFast Service | TBD

**Tuesday, March 26**

6:30 - 7:30am  
Men's Study | Cindi's Deli  
No Women's Studies This Week | HOLY WEEK

**Wednesday, March 27**

No Women's Studies This Week | HOLY WEEK

**Thursday, March 28**

Maundy Thursday Service | Chapel

**Sunday, March 31**

*Easter Sunday*

## FINANCIAL UPDATE AND GIVING

### ***Giving***

If you have questions about giving, expenses or budget at Mercy, or would like more information, contact Bryan Hatfield (bryan@mercydallas.com).

If you would like to give to the work and worship of Mercy Presbyterian Church, you can:

- Mail a check to: Mercy Presbyterian Church, 6930 Alpha Rd., Dallas, TX 75240
- Place checks or cash in the offering box located by the door as you exit the sanctuary.
- Give by scanning the QR code:



<b>2023/2024 Budget</b>	<b>\$655,000</b>
July 1, 2023 - October 31, 2023 Expenses	\$194,392
July 1, 2023 - October 31, 2023 Giving	\$143,711
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$50,687)</i>

### **MINISTRY STAFF**

#### ***Senior Pastor***

Rev. Doug Tharp | doug@mercydallas.com

#### ***Ministry Coordinator***

Jessica Nokes | jessica@mercydallas.com

#### ***Children's Ministry Coordinator***

Emily Freeman | emily@mercydallas.com

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

Joanna Dawson | women@mercydallas.com

#### ***Director of Music***

Sal Bautista | music@mercydallas.com

#### ***Youth Group Leaders*** | youth@mercydallas.com

Josh and Hannah Patch

Nate and Cecile Foster

Sevee Alaniz

### **INTERIM SESSION**

#### **Rev. Doug Tharp**

*Senior Pastor | Mercy Presbyterian Church*

#### **Rev. David Rogers**

*Senior Pastor | Town North Presbyterian Church*

#### **Rev. Robbie Mills**

*Associate Director | Mission to the World Western Hub*

#### **Eric Horan**

*Ruling Elder | Park Cities Presbyterian Church*

### **DEACONS** | deacons@mercydallas.com

Thomas Buerger

Eric Clay

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Adam Huebner

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter