



Celebrating God's Faithfulness as Gospel People

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. 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 to connect with us!





Lord's Day Worship | January 28, 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 96:7-13

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;[a] tremble before him, all the earth!

Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!
Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

HYMN OF ADORATION | We sing praises to God

Come Christians Join to Sing

Words by Christian Bateman | Traditional Spanish Folk Melody | Public Domain

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
Before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen! He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll condescend; His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen! Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen! On heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore, Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

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 | from The Worship Sourcebook

O gracious and gentle and condescending God, God of peace, Father of mercy, God of all comfort: we confess before you the evil of our hearts; we acknowledge that we are too inclined toward anger, jealousy, and revenge, to ambition and pride, which often give rise to discord and bitter feelings between others and us. Too often have we thus both offended and grieved you, O long-suffering Father. Forgive us this sin and permit us to partake of the blessing you have promised the peacemakers, who shall be called the children of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

John 16:33

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

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

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Words and Music by Stuart Townend | Thankyou Music ©1995

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything;
No gifts, no power no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

DEACON'S OFFERING

Since the earliest days of the New Testament church, the deacons have taken a special offering to provide for those in need both inside and outside the church. The Lord uses the generosity of His people to provide care that ministers to the whole person, meeting physical and mental needs while being attentive to the spiritual. Through this, we see God's mercy work through us to bless our church and community. Every 4th Sunday, our deacons will give Mercy an opportunity to give to this special offering.

MERCY MOMENT | Micah Cunningham

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 | Rev. Doug Tharp

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

All Glory Be to Christ

Traditional Scottish Folk Tune | Dustin Kensrue | We Are Younger We Are Faster Music ©2012

Should nothing of our efforts stand No legacy survive Unless the Lord does raise the house In vain its builders strive To You who boast tomorrow's gain Tell me what is your life A mist it vanishes at dawn All glory be to Christ

All glory be to Christ our King All glory be to Christ His rule and reign we'll ever sing All glory be to Christ

His will be done His Kingdom come
On Earth as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread
Praise Him the Lord of love
Let living waters satisfy
The thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
All glory be to Christ

All glory be to Christ our King
All glory be to Christ
His rule and reign we'll ever sing
All glory be to Christ
When on the day the Great I Am
The faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinner's slain
Is making all things new
Behold our God shall live with us
And be our steadfast Light
And we shall e'er his people be
All glory be to Christ

All glory be to Christ our King All glory be to Christ His rule and reign we'll ever sing All glory be to Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

SCRIPTURE READING | Galatians 2:1-14 | Andrea Thomason

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. 21 went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. ³But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek, 4Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery— 5to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. 6And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. ⁷On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised ⁸(for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), ⁹and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. ¹⁰Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do. 11But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12For before certain men came from James, he was eating

with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. ¹³And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Doug Tharp | Counterfeit Gospel

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.

COMMUNION HYMN | We celebrate the family meal of Christians

What Wondrous Love is This

American Folk Hymn | Old English Ballad | Public Domain

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb Who is the great "I Am";
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on, And through eternity I'll sing on.

SENDING SONG | We are sent as God's people into the world as we trust His promises

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Words by Elizabeth Cecelia & Douglas Clephane | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat,
And the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus,
Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form
Of One who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart
With tears two wonders I confess
The wonders of redeeming love
And my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow For my abiding place: I ask no other sunshine Than the sunshine of His face; Content to let the world go by To know no gain nor loss, My sinful self my only shame, My glory, all the cross.

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

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. 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!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Ministry

Toddler Sunday School and Children's Church meet every Sunday. Elementary Sunday School (3rd - 5th grade) meets from 9-10am on 2nd and 4th 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 February 11th.

Youth Ministry

Youth Group meets 2nd and 4th Sundays at alternating homes. This Sunday, we'll meet at Nate and Cecile Foster's home for a change of pace (634 Scottsdale, Richardson). This semester we are studying Romans - bring your Bible! Remember to eat dinner before you come and that friends are always welcomed! The **Mercy No Mercy Bowl** will return this season just ahead of the Super Bowl. Come play with us from 10am-12pm on Saturday, February 10th at Valley View Park in Dallas. More guestions? Email the Patches at youth@mercydallas.com.

Women's Ministry

Women's Bible Study begins this week with a new series on Romans 1-7. 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 23/24 through the 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

SAVE THE DATE for the Mercy Men's Retreat, April 12 (6-9pm) and April 13 (8am-4pm). We'll hear from Dr. Steven Foster on *Heelcatcher: The Story of Jacob*. On Tuesday mornings the men meet from 6:30am-7:30am at Cindi's Deli (11111 N Central Expy., Dallas). This semester we're studying Romans 1-7, meeting from January 23 through the 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 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

Tuesday, April 2

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Wednesday, April 3

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

Tuesday, April 9

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Wednesday, April 10

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

Friday, April 12

6 - 9pm

Men's Retreat | TBD

Saturday, April 13

8am - 4pm

Men's Retreat | TBD

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@mercydallascom).

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:



2023/2024 Budget	\$655,000
July 1, 2023 - November 30, 2023 Expenses	\$237,053
July 1, 2023 - November 30, 2023 Giving	\$181,786
Variance	(\$55,267)

MINISTRY STAFF

Senior Pastor

Rev. Doug Tharp | doug@mercydallas.com

Ministry Coordinator

Jessica Nokes liessica@mercvdallas.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