



MERCY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# Galatians

Celebrating God's Faithfulness as Gospel People

FEBRUARY 18, 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 | February 18, 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 66:1-5*

Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

**sing the glory of his name;  
give to him glorious praise!**

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies come  
cringing to you.

**All the earth worships you  
and sings praises to you;  
they sing praises to your name."**

Come and see what God has done:

**he is awesome in his deeds  
toward the children of man.**

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

*O Worship the King*

*Words by Robert Grant | Music by Johann Haydn, arr. William Gardiner | Public Domain*

O worship the King, all glorious above,  
And gratefully sing His power and His love;  
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,  
Whose robe is the light, Whose canopy space,  
Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;  
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

**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 Psalm 25*

**Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.  
Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;  
according to your steadfast love remember me,  
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!**

**For your name's sake, O Lord,  
pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

**Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
for I am lonely and afflicted.  
The troubles of my heart are enlarged;  
bring me out of my distresses.  
Consider my affliction and my trouble,  
and forgive all my sins.**

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

*Titus 3:4-6*

*But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior...*

*O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

*Written by S. Trevor Francis | Music by Thomas Williams | Public Domain*

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!  
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,  
Rolling as a mighty ocean  
In its fullness over me.  
Underneath me, all around me,  
Is the current of thy love;  
Leading onward, leading homeward,  
To thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!  
Spread his praise from shore to shore;  
How he loveth, ever loveth,  
Changeth never, nevermore;  
How he watches o'er his loved ones,  
Died to call them all his own;  
How for them he intercedeth,  
Watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!  
Love of ev'ry love the best:  
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,  
'Tis a haven sweet of rest.  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus!  
'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;  
And it lifts me up to glory,  
For it lifts me up to thee.

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

*Westminster Shorter Catechism Q&A 33-36*

What is justification?

**Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.**

What is adoption?

**Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges, of the sons of God.**

What is sanctification?

**Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.**

What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?

**The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification, are, assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end.**

## 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*

*We Are Not Overcome*

*Words and Music by Isaac Wardell & Robert Heiskell | Bifrost Arts ©2012*

Flesh will fail and bones will break  
Thieves will steal the earth will shake  
Night will fall light will fade  
The Lord will give and take away

Put no trust in the earth  
In the sod you stand upon  
Flowers fade into dust  
The Lord will make a place for us

Because of His great Love  
We are not overcome  
Because of His great Love  
We are not overcome

Have no fear for your life  
Turn your cheek turn your cheek  
Bear the yoke love and death  
The Lord will give all life and breath

Because of His great Love  
We are not overcome  
Because of His great Love  
We are not overcome

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH**



To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. <sup>16</sup>Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ. <sup>17</sup>This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. <sup>18</sup>For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise. <sup>19</sup>Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. <sup>20</sup>Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one. <sup>21</sup>Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. <sup>22</sup>But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. <sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. <sup>27</sup>For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** | *Rev. Robbie Mills* | Held in Trust

**SERMON NOTES**

1. Initiating Trust (vv. 15-18)

## 2. Safeguarding Trust (vv. 19-24)

### 3. Maturing Trust (vv. 25-29)

**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*

*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

*Words by Henry Lyte | Music by Bill Moore | Bill Moore Music ©2001*

Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee.  
Destitute, despised, forsaken,  
Thou from hence my all shall be.  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought or hoped or known.  
Yet how rich is my condition!  
God and heaven are still my own.

Man may trouble and distress me,  
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.  
Life with trials hard may press me;  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.  
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me  
While Thy love is left to me;  
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,  
With Thy favor, loss is gain  
I have called Thee Abba Father,  
I have stayed my heart on Thee  
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;  
All must work for good to me.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.  
Heaven's eternal days before thee,  
God's own hand shall guide us there.  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,  
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,  
Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

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

*We Will Glorify*

*Words and Music by Twila Paris | Singspiration Music/ASCAP ©1982*

We will glorify the King of kings  
We will glorify the Lamb  
We will glorify the Lord of lords  
Who is the great I am.

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty  
We will bow before His throne  
We will worship Him in righteousness  
We will worship Him alone.

He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth  
He is Lord of all who live  
He is Lord above the universe  
All praise to Him we give.

Hallelujah to the King of kings  
Hallelujah to the Lamb  
Hallelujah to the Lord of lords  
Who is the great I am.



**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*

*1 Timothy 1:16-17*

*But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and 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 (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 February 25<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Youth Ministry***

Youth Group meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at alternating homes. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at the Morgan's Home. Email the Patches at youth@mercydallas.com with any questions!

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

Women's Bible Study meets on Tuesday mornings at the home of Joanna Dawson from 9:30-11am. The Wednesday evening study meets at Katherine Walter's home from 7-8:30pm. This study will meet 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

### **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**

10am - 12pm

Easter Egg Hunt | Huffhines Park

**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@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 - December 31, 2023 Expenses	\$292,657
July 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023 Giving	\$258,086
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$34,571)</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