



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

MARCH 19, 2023

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 is available during the service if you need a space to feed or calm a little one. The office to the north of the sanctuary is a private space set with comfortable chairs and a changing station.



ORDER OF WORSHIP
Lord's Day Worship | March 19, 2023

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*

Based on Psalm 27 & John 4:23

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

We desire to live in God's house
and to seek God in his holy temple.

**We have come with shouts of joy,
to sing and to make music to the Lord.**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**Teach us your ways and make straight our paths
in this hour of worship and always.**

HYMN OF ADORATION | *We sing praises to God*

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Words by Henry Lyte | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me His praise should sing?
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor
To our fathers in distress
Praise Him still the same forever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise Him, praise Him,
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Fatherlike He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He Knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise Him, praise Him,
Widely as His mercy goes.

Angels help us to adore Him;
Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise with us the God of grace.

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*

Merciful God, for the things we have done that we regret,

forgive us;

for the things we have failed to do that we regret,

forgive us;

for all the times we have acted without love,

forgive us;

for all the times we have reacted without thought,

forgive us;

for all the times we have withdrawn care,

forgive us;

for all the times we have failed to forgive,

forgive us.

For hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid, for unfinished tasks
and unfulfilled hopes,

God of all time, forgive us and help us to lay down our burden of regret.

Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

Romans 8:1-4

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

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.

MERCY MOMENT | *Women's Ministry*

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 12, Of Adoption

All those that are justified, God vouchsafeth, in and for his only Son Jesus Christ, to make partakers of the grace of adoption: by which they are taken into the number, and enjoy the liberties and privileges of the children of God; have his name put upon them; receive the Spirit of adoption; have access to the throne of grace with boldness; are enabled to cry, Abba; Father; are pitied, protected, provided for, and chastened by him as by a father; yet never cast off, but sealed to the day of redemption, and inherit the promises, as heirs of everlasting salvation.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER | *We lift up our requests to God*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION | *We prepare our hearts to hear God's Word*

Psalm 73

Words by Kevin Twit and Mac Purdy | Music by Kevin Twit | Kevin Twit Music ©1995

Surely God is good
To all the pure in heart
But as for me, my feet had almost slipped
I nearly lost my grip
For I envied, the arrogant
They are free, from my burdens

Surely I, in vain,
Have kept my, my heart pure
And surely they are strong and free from trials
While I am so confused
Then I entered Your holy place
Then I saw their destiny

Surely, they're cast down
As those on slippery ground
As dreams fade when we wake, so they become
Completely swept away
In my heart I was arrogant
Like a beast before You

Yet always You are near
You guide me by Your Word
And always, my Lord God, You are my strength
My portion You will be
You're my refuge, my Sovereign Lord
I will sing of Your awesome deeds
You're my refuge, my Sovereign Lord
I will sing of Your awesome deeds

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold toward you when I am away!—²I beg of you that when I am present I may not have to show boldness with such confidence as I count on showing against some who suspect us of walking according to the flesh. ³For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, ⁶being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete. ⁷Look at what is before your eyes. If anyone is confident that he is Christ's, let him remind himself that just as he is Christ's, so also are we. ⁸For even if I boast a little too much of your authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you, I will not be ashamed. ⁹I do not want to appear to be frightening you with my letters. ¹⁰For they say, "His letters are weighty and strong, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech of no account." ¹¹Let such a person understand that what we say by letter when absent, we do when present. ¹²Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who care commending themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding. ¹³But we will not boast beyond limits, but will boast only with regard to the area of influence God assigned to us, to reach even to you. ¹⁴For we are not overextending ourselves, as though we did not reach you. For we were the first to come all the way to you with the gospel of Christ. ¹⁵We do not boast beyond limit in the labors of others. But our hope is that as your faith increases, our area of influence among you may be greatly enlarged, ¹⁶so that we may preach the gospel in lands beyond you, without boasting of work already done in another's area of influence. ¹⁷"Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." ¹⁸For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Doug Tharp | *Kingdom Warfare*

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 Church's One Foundation

Words by Samuel Stone | Music by Brian Moss | Parson John Publishing ©1996

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord,
She is His new creation, by water and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one over all the earth;
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish, her dear Lord to defend
To guide, sustain and cherish, is with her to the end
Though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale
Against a foe or traitor, she ever shall prevail.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
'Til, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blessed,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

King of Kings

Words and Music by Jason Ingram, Brooke Ligertwood & Scott Ligertwood | Hillsong Music Publishing ©2019

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming,
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation,
You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering,
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation,
Jesus for our sake You died

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings
Praise forever to the King of Kings

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*

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, 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

Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, April 2nd, the children of Mercy are invited to process into the sanctuary waving palms and singing at the beginning of the service. We will sing Hosanna by Hillsong. Since this may be a new song for some, please listen to and sing along with the song several times as a family over the coming weeks.

Mercy Children

Nursery is available weekly for infants (Nursery Room). Sunday School is available for toddlers during the service. Children (4 years-2nd Grade) are dismissed from the service during the sermon for Children's Church. Elementary Sunday School (3rd-5th Grade) meets at 9am on 2nd & 4th Sundays. 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. Youth will meet next on March 26th at 6pm. High school students should bring their catechism; all students should come with their Bibles! The date for the Progressive Dinner has changed to Saturday, April 29th. For more information about the youth ministry and schedule, contact Josh and Hannah Patch at youth@mercydallas.com.

Women's Ministry

The next Women's Social, hosted by the Vanderhill's Community Group, is a morning of easy yoga, smoothies and snacks on Saturday, March 25th from 10am - 12pm at the Church's home (3970 Cobblestone Cir.). A book study of Hannah Anderson's, *Humble Roots: How Humility Grounds and Nourishes Your Soul*, begins March 21st/22nd - look for details in your email. For questions regarding the women's ministry at Mercy, contact Joanna Dawson (women@mercydallas.com).

Men's Ministry

The men's Bible study meets Thursdays, from 6:30-7:30am, at Cindi's Deli (11111 N Central Expy), as usual. We are studying the book of Ephesians where Paul calls us to examine every area of our lives in light of the gospel, including marriage, family, and work. There is no text to order for this study; we will use some prepared questions and Bible study methods to work through the letter together.

Mercy Financial Update

For questions about giving, expenses or Mercy's budget, you can reach out to Brett Cast (brett@mercydallas.com) or Bryan Hatfield (bryan@mercydallas.com).

2022/2023 Budget	\$630,000
July 1, 2022 - January 31, 2023 Expenses	\$405,497
July 1, 2022 - January 31, 2023 Giving	\$393,849
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$11,648)</i>

CALENDAR

Tuesday, March 21

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

Wednesday, March 22

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Study | The Nelson's Home

Thursday, March 23

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Saturday, March 25

Women's Social | The Church's Home

Sunday, March 26

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6-8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, March 28

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

Wednesday, March 29

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Nelson's Home

Thursday, March 30

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday + Holy Week Begins

6 - 7pm

Prayer | The Freeman's Home

Monday, April 3

Midnight - 1am

Prayer | The Bryant's Home

6 - 7am

Prayer | TBD

Noon - 1pm

Prayer | The Boland's Home

6:30 - 8:30pm

BreakFast Service + Dinner | The Dawson's

Tuesday, April 4

No Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, April 5

No Women's Bible Study

Thursday, April 6

No Men's Bible Study

6:30 - 7:30pm

Maundy Thursday Service | Chapel

Saturday, April 8

10am - 12pm

Easter Egg Hunt | Huffhines Park

Sunday, April 9

10 - 11:30am

Easter Sunday | Temple Shalom

Tuesday, April 11

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

Wednesday, April 12

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Nelson's Home

Thursday, April 13

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Tuesday, April 18

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

Wednesday, April 19

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Nelson's Home

Thursday, April 20

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, April 23

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6-8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, April 25

9:30 - 11am

Women's Study | The Dawson's Home

Wednesday, April 26

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Nelson's Home

Thursday, April 27

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Saturday, April 29

Youth Progressive Dinner | TBD

CONNECTING

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.churchcenter.com/giving/to/general
- Mail a check to Mercy Presbyterian, P.O. Box 670035, Dallas, TX 75230

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

Glenn and Maci Lanier

Thomas and Katherine Walter

SESSION | session@mercydallas.com

Rev. Doug Tharp

Jon Buell

Dave Nelson

Tim Swindell

DEACONS | deacons@mercydallas.com

Thomas Buerger

Brett Cast

Eric Clay

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Adam Huebner

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter