



# PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 2, 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](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 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 | April 2, 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 Zechariah 9:9 and Psalm 118:26, 28-29*

Rejoice greatly, O people of Zion!  
Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem!  
Look, your king is coming to you.  
He is righteous and victorious,  
yet he is humble, riding on a donkey—  
even on a donkey's colt.

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

You are our God, and we will praise You!

**You are our God, and we will exalt You!**

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

**His faithful love endures forever!**

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

***Hosanna***

*Words and Music by Brooke Fraser Ligertwood | Hillsong Music Publishing ©2006*

I see the King of glory  
Coming on the clouds with fire  
The whole earth shakes  
The whole earth shakes

I see His love and mercy  
Washing over all our sin  
The people sing  
The people sing

Hosanna Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest

I see a generation  
Rising up to take their place  
With selfless faith  
With selfless faith

I see a new revival  
Stirring as we pray and seek  
We're on our knees  
We're on our knees

Hosanna Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest

Heal my heart and make it clean  
Open up my eyes to the things unseen  
Show me how to love  
Like You have loved me

Break my heart for what breaks Yours  
Everything I am  
For Your kingdom's cause  
As I walk from earth into eternity

Hosanna Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest

Hosanna Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest

Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna in the highest

**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*

**O Lord, who on this day entered the rebellious city that later rejected you: we confess that our wills are as rebellious as Jerusalem's, our faith is often more show than substance, our hearts are in need of cleansing. Have mercy on us, Son of David, Savior of our lives. Help us to lay at your feet all that we have and all that we are, trusting you to forgive what is sinful, to heal what is broken, to welcome our praises and to receive us as your own.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

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

*Based on Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17, NRSV*

*Hear the Word of the Lord from Psalm 118:*

*Let those who fear the Lord say, "His steadfast love endures forever." Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord. In Christ, God answers us and sets us free! In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.*

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

*Words by Theodulf, Bishop of Orléans (c.820) | Music by Melchior Teschner | Public Domain*

All glory, laud, and honor,  
To thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children,  
Made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and blessed One!

The people of the Hebrews,  
With palms before thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems,  
Before thee we present:  
To thee, before thy passion,  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises;  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King!  
All glory, laud, and honor,  
To thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children,  
Made sweet hosannas ring!

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

### *The Scottish Confession of Faith: Chapters 9 & 10*

*We believe that our Lord Jesus offered himself a voluntary sacrifice unto his Father for us, that he suffered contradiction of sinners, that he was wounded and plagued for our transgressions, that he, the clean innocent Lamb of God, was condemned in the presence of an earthly judge, that we should be absolved before the judgment seat of our God; that he suffered not only the cruel death of the cross, which was accursed by the sentence of God; but also that he suffered for a season the wrath of his Father which sinners had deserved.*

*But yet we avow that he remained the only, well beloved, and blessed Son of his Father even in the midst of his anguish and torment which he suffered in body and soul to make full atonement for the sins of his people. And we undoubtedly believe, since it was impossible that the sorrows of death should retain in bondage the Author of life, that our Lord Jesus crucified, dead, and buried, who descended into hell, did rise again for our justification, and the destruction of him who was the author of death and its bondage.*

## 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.**



*In Christ Alone*

*Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend | Thankyou Music ©2002*

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine –  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand:  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

**SCRIPTURE READING** | *John 12:12-19* | *Brad Cope*

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" <sup>14</sup>And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

<sup>15</sup>"Fear not, daughter of Zion;  
behold, your king is coming,  
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

<sup>16</sup>His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. <sup>17</sup>The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. <sup>18</sup>The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. <sup>19</sup>So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**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.*

***Rock of Ages***

*Words by Augustus Toplady | Music by James Ward | James Ward Music ©1985*

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
From thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure;  
Save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfill thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone;  
Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to the cross I cling;  
Naked, come to thee for dress;  
Helpless, look to thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly;  
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When mine eyes shall close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee.

*All Glory Be to Christ*

*Traditional Scottish Folk Tune | Auld Lang Syne | 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

**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*

*based on Philippians 4:7, NRSV 9*

*The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, remain with you always. 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

***Fasting, Prayer and The BreakFast Service***

Join us starting tonight at 6pm for 24 hours of prayer and fasting - times and places are listed in the calendar and the weekly email. Tomorrow we will end our fast with an evening of worship and dinner at the Thomason's home.

***Easter Egg Hunt***

This Saturday from 10am - noon, join us for a fun-filled morning at Huffhines Park (200 N. Plano Rd.) with an Easter Egg Hunt, bounce houses, snacks, fun and fellowship.

***Mercy Children***

Nursery is available weekly for infants (Nursery Room). Sunday School is available for toddlers during the service. Children (4 years-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade) are dismissed from the service during the sermon for Children's Church. Elementary Sunday School (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade) meets at 9am on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday evenings at rotating homes. Youth will meet next on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm at the Church's home. High school students should bring their catechism; all students should come with their Bibles! The date for the Progressive Dinner is Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the youth ministry and schedule, contact Josh and Hannah Patch at youth@mercydallas.com.

***Women's Ministry***

A book study of Hannah Anderson's, *Humble Roots: How Humility Grounds and Nourishes Your Soul*, meets on either Tuesday mornings or Wednesday evenings. 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).

<b>2022/2023 Budget</b>	
	<b>\$630,000</b>
July 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023 Expenses	\$455,256
July 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023 Giving	\$429,775
Variance	(\$25,481)

## HOLY WEEK CALENDAR

### **Sunday, April 2**

*Palm Sunday*

6 - 7pm

Prayer | The Freeman's Home

### **Monday, April 3**

Midnight - 1am

Prayer | The Bryant's Home

6 - 7am

Prayer | The Nelson's Home

Noon - 1pm

Prayer | The Boland's Home

6:30 - 8:30pm

BreakFast Service + Dinner | The Thomason's

### **Tuesday, April 4**

*No Women's Book Study*

### **Wednesday, April 5**

*No Women's Book Study*

### **Thursday, April 6**

*No Men's Bible Study*

6:30 - 7:30pm

Maundy Thursday Service | Chapel

### **Saturday, April 8**

10 - 11:30am

Easter Egg Hunt | Huffhines Park

### **Sunday, April 9**

*No Sunday School or Youth Group*

10 - 11:30am

Easter Sunday | Temple Shalom

## CALENDAR

### **Tuesday, April 11**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Book Study | The Dawson's Home

### **Wednesday, April 12**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Book 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 Book Study | The Dawson's Home

### **Wednesday, April 19**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Book 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 | The Church's Home

### **Tuesday, April 25**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Book Study | The Dawson's Home

### **Wednesday, April 26**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Book 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

**Tuesday, May 2**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Book Study | The Dawson's Home

**Wednesday, May 3**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Book Study | The Nelson's Home

**Thursday, May 4**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

**Thursday, May 11**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

**Sunday, May 14**

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6-8pm

Youth Group | The Thomason's Home

**Thursday, May 18**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

**Saturday, May 20**

10 - 11:30am

Blessing Brunch | The Swindell's Home

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.mercydallas.churchcenter.com/giving/to/general)
- Mail a check to Mercy Presbyterian, P.O. Box 670035, Dallas, TX 75230

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## MINISTRY STAFF

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Doug Tharp | [doug@mercydallas.com](mailto:doug@mercydallas.com)

### Ministry Coordinator

Jessica Nokes | [jessica@mercydallas.com](mailto:jessica@mercydallas.com)

### Children's Ministry Coordinator

Emily Freeman | [emily@mercydallas.com](mailto:emily@mercydallas.com)

### Women's Ministry Coordinator

Joanna Dawson | [women@mercydallas.com](mailto:women@mercydallas.com)

### Director of Music

Sal Bautista | [music@mercydallas.com](mailto:music@mercydallas.com)

### Youth Group Leaders | [youth@mercydallas.com](mailto:youth@mercydallas.com)

Josh and Hannah Patch

Nate and Cecile Foster

Thomas and Katherine Walter

## SESSION | [session@mercydallas.com](mailto:session@mercydallas.com)

Rev. Doug Tharp

Jon Buell

Dave Nelson

Tim Swindell

## DEACONS | [deacons@mercydallas.com](mailto:deacons@mercydallas.com)

Thomas Buerger

Brett Cast

Eric Clay

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Adam Huebner

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter