



# EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 9, 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**  
Easter Sunday | April 9, 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 1 Peter 1:3-5*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.

**He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

***Christ The Lord Is Risen Today (He Is Not Dead)***

*Words and Music by Charles Wesley, Kurtis Parks, Samuel Arnold | Integrity's Praise! Music ©2014*

Christ the Lord is risen today alleluia  
Sons of men and angels say alleluia  
Raise your joys and triumphs high alleluia  
Sing ye heavens and earth reply alleluia

Lives again our glorious King alleluia  
Where oh death is now thy sting alleluia  
Dying once He all doth save alleluia  
Where thy victory oh grave alleluia

He is not dead He is alive  
We have this hope in Jesus Christ

Love's redeeming work is done alleluia  
Fought the fight the battle won alleluia  
Death in vain forbids Him rise alleluia  
Christ has opened paradise alleluia

He is not dead He is alive  
We have this hope in Jesus Christ

Soar we now where Christ has led alleluia  
Following our exalted Head alleluia  
Made like Him like Him we rise alleluia  
Ours the cross the grave the skies alleluia

He is not dead He is alive  
We have this hope in Jesus Christ

**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*

*based on Hebrews 4:14, 16*

**Seeing that we have a great High Priest who has entered the inmost heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us therefore approach the throne of grace with fullest confidence, that we may receive mercy for our failures and grace to help in the hour of need. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.**

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

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

*Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."*

*God has made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.*

*Death is swallowed up in victory! O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!*

***Crown Him with Many Crowns***

*Words by Matthew Bridges & Godfrey Thring | Music by George Elvey | Public Domain*

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.  
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul and sing of Him Who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love, behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends His wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave,  
Who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing, Who died, and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, One with the Father known,  
One with the Spirit through Him giv'n from yonder glorious throne,  
To Thee be endless praise For Thou for us hast died;  
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days adored and magnified.

Crown Him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for Thou has died for me;  
Thy praise shall never never fail throughout eternity.

## 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.**

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

### ***Leaning on the Everlasting Arms***

*Words by E. A. Hoffman | Music by A.J. Showalter | Public Domain*

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning,  
Safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning,  
Safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms?  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning,  
Safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

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

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. <sup>4</sup>And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" <sup>5</sup>And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup>The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup>Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup>And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, <sup>12</sup>and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." <sup>13</sup>But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." <sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. <sup>16</sup>For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." <sup>17</sup>So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup>And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; <sup>19</sup>and taking food, he was strengthened.

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.*

***O Sacred Head Now Wounded***

*Words by Paul Gerhardt, Bernard of Clairvaux, & Prisca LeCroy | Music by Hans Leo Hassler | Public Domain*

O sacred Head, now wounded,  
With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded  
With thorns, Thine only crown;  
How pale Thou art with anguish,  
With sore abuse and scorn!  
How does that visage languish,  
Which once was bright as morn!

Stand guard you watching cherubim,  
Would you forsake your post;  
And leave the dying Son of Man,  
Who suffers best and most?  
And as a lamb is silent,  
So He speaks not a word;  
Till at His dying moment,  
His vict'ry cry is heard.

My burden in Thy Passion, Lord,  
Thou hast borne for me,  
For it was my transgression  
Which brought this woe on Thee.  
I cast me down before Thee,  
Wrath were my rightful lot;  
Have mercy, I implore Thee;  
Redeemer, spurn me not!

Then from my risen Savior,  
A gentle voice I hear,  
With tender words of favor,  
That cast away my fear.  
"Though thou didst cause my suffering,  
Thou must no longer weep.  
My child, if, thou lovest me,  
Go forth and feed my sheep."

***See What a Morning (Resurrection Hymn)***

*Words and Music by Stuart Townend & Keith Getty | Thankyou Music ©2003*

See what a morning, gloriously bright  
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;  
Folded the grave-clothes  
Tomb filled with light,  
As the angels announce Christ is risen!  
See God's salvation plan, wrought in love,  
Borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,  
Fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for He lives,  
Christ is risen from the dead!

See Mary weeping: 'Where is He laid?  
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;  
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name:  
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!  
The voice that spans the years,  
Speaking life, stirring hope,  
Bringing peace to us,  
Will sound till He appears,  
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,  
Through the Spirit  
Who clothes faith with certainty,  
Honour and blessing, glory and praise  
To the King crowned  
With power and authority!  
And we are raised with Him,  
Death is dead, love has won  
Christ has conquered;  
And we shall reign with Him,  
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

**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 Hebrews 4:14, 16*

*Seeing that we have a great High Priest who has entered the inmost heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us therefore approach the throne of grace with fullest confidence, that we may receive mercy for our failures and grace to help in the hour of need. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.*

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Mercy 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
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$25,481)</i>

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, April 9**

*Easter Sunday*

10 - 11:30am

Worship | Temple Shalom

*No Sunday School or Youth Group*

### **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