



# MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MERCY TO US | MERCY THROUGH US

APRIL 23, 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 23, 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*

*Psalm 32:11; 33:1; 20-22*

Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!**  
**Praise befits the upright.**

Our souls wait for the LORD;

**he is our help and our shield.**

For our hearts are glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.

**Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,**  
**even as we hope in you.**

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

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

*Words by Edward Perronet & John Rippon | Music by Oliver Holden | Public Domain*

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe  
On this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall.  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

**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*

**Righteous Father, we who own more than we use, proclaim more than we experience, and request more than we need, come asking your forgiveness. We seek your salvation, then act like we save ourselves. We beg your forgiveness, then repeat our errors. We experience your grace, then act defeated. We rely on your power, but only in hard times. We have become confused and misguided. Forgive our every sin against you. Bring us to an unbroken commitment and a steady trust, through Jesus Christ, who is the way of hope, the truth of God, and the life of love, now and always. Amen.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

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

*Psalm 130:3-4; 7-8*

*If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
O Lord, who could stand?  
But with you there is forgiveness,  
that you may be feared.*

*O Israel, hope in the Lord!  
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
and with him is plentiful redemption.  
And he will redeem Israel  
from all his iniquities.*

*Jesus Whispers*

*Words by Joseph Hart | Music by Clint Wells & Brian T. Murphy | Red Mountain Music ©2005*

Lamb of God we fall before Thee  
Humbly trusting in Thy cross  
That alone be all our glory  
All things else are vain and loss

Thee we own a perfect Savior  
Only source of all that's good  
Every grace and every favor  
Comes to us through Jesus' blood

Jesus whispers this sweet sentence  
Son thy sins are all forgiven  
Faith He gives us to believe  
Hearing ears and seeing eyes

When we live on Jesus' merit  
Then we worship God aright  
Father Son and Holy Spirit  
Then we savingly unite

Jesus whispers this sweet sentence  
Son thy sins are all forgiven  
Faith He gives us to believe  
Hearing ears and seeing eyes

Hear the whole conclusion of it  
Great or good whate'er we call  
God or King or Priest or Prophet  
Jesus Christ is All in all

Jesus whispers this sweet sentence  
Son thy sins are all forgiven  
Faith He gives us to believe  
Hearing ears and seeing eyes

## 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*

***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

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

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



I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. <sup>2</sup>I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— <sup>4</sup>and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses— <sup>6</sup>though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. <sup>7</sup>So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. <sup>8</sup>Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup>For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. <sup>11</sup>I have been a fool! You forced me to it, for I ought to have been commended by you. For I was not at all inferior to these super-apostles, even though I am nothing. <sup>12</sup>The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works. <sup>13</sup>For in what were you less favored than the rest of the churches, except that I myself did not burden you? Forgive me this wrong! <sup>14</sup>Here for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be a burden, for I seek not what is yours but you. For children are not obligated to save up for their parents, but parents for their children. <sup>15</sup>I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less? <sup>16</sup>But granting that I myself did not burden you, I was crafty, you say, and got the better of you by deceit. <sup>17</sup>Did I take advantage of you through any of those whom I sent to you? <sup>18</sup>I urged Titus to go, and sent the brother with him. Did Titus take advantage of you? Did we not act in the same spirit? Did we not take the same steps? <sup>19</sup>Have you been thinking all along that we have been defending ourselves to you? It is in the sight of God that we have been speaking in Christ, and all for your upbuilding, beloved.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** | Rev. Doug Tharp | *Leaning on Our Weakness*

**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.*

**COMMUNION HYMN** | *We celebrate the family meal of Christians*

*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.

*The Sands of Time are Sinking*

*Words by Anne Cousin | Traditional Folk Tune | Philip Palmertree ©2001*

The sands of time are sinking,  
The dawn of heaven breaks;  
The summer morn I've sighed for -  
The fair, sweet morn awakes:  
Dark, dark had been the midnight  
But dayspring is at hand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth  
In Emmanuel's land.

The king there in His beauty,  
Without a veil is seen:  
It were a well-spent journey,  
Though seven deaths lay between:  
The Lamb with His fair army,  
Doth on Mount Zion stand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth  
In Emmanuel's land.

O Christ, He is the fountain,  
The deep, sweet well of love!  
The streams on earth I've tasted  
More deep I'll drink above:  
There to an ocean fullness  
His mercy doth expand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth  
In Emmanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garment,  
But her dear Bridegroom's face;  
I will not gaze at glory  
But on my King of grace.  
Not at the crown He giveth  
But on His pierced hand;  
The Lamb is all the glory  
Of Emmanuel's land.

O I am my Beloved's  
And my Beloved is mine!  
He brings a poor vile sinner  
Into His house of wine  
I stand upon His merit -  
I know no other stand,  
Not e'en where glory dwelleth  
In Emmanuel's land.

**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*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give  
you peace.*

**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 Thomason'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> - your RSVP will help our host homes plan for food at each stop! 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 - March 31, 2023 Expenses	\$500,149
July 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023 Giving	\$460,589
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$39,560)</i>

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, April 23**

9 - 9:45am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 120

6-8pm

Youth Group | The Thomason'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 | Various Homes

6 - 7pm

Appetizers | The Foster's Home

7:15 - 8pm

Dinner | The Nelson's Home

8:15 - 9pm

Dessert | The Tharp's Home

### **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

**Sunday, May 7**

6:30 - 8:30pm

Guys' Senior Sendoff | The Morgan's Home

**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