



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Lamentations

Gifted Grief

OCTOBER 27, 2024

Welcome to Mercy Presbyterian Church

Thank you for joining us in worship today. If you are visiting with us, we are delighted that you have chosen to be with us and our desire is to be a blessing to you. Our prayer is that God will transform our lives and enable us to live for His glory and the good of the world. We would love to get to know you better and answer any questions you may have. Please share your information with us by emailing us at church@mercydallas.com.

Our Worship

You will notice that we follow a thoughtful and connected rhythm in our worship, called liturgy. The order of our worship reflects the work of the gospel in our hearts. In worship, we come together to tell the story of the gospel by the structure of our worship, the content of our worship, and the way that we worship.

Parents of Young Children

We believe the church is for all people, young and old, and want Mercy to be a church where children are seen, heard, and loved. We invite you to involve your children in our service, help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say and sing parts of our worship service every week in order to help our young children to participate. Children's bulletins with coloring activities are available by the door to the sanctuary. Nursery is also available for babies and toddlers. A Mother's Room (the Blumen Room) is available during the service if you need a space to feed or calm a little one. The Blumen Room is a private space set with comfortable chairs and a changing station to the north of the sanctuary, and down the hall to the right.

Connection Points

If you are a visitor, regular attender or member, we would love the chance to connect with you outside of Sunday mornings! Use the QR code below to receive more information about community groups and other ministries, as well as to communicate changes to your personal information.

Community Groups are a vital part of Mercy's ministry and worship. ***The Weekly Update*** is our email newsletter and the primary way we communicate announcements, information about church life, and details about upcoming events. Your ***Prayer Requests*** matter to us! If there is any way that we can pray for you, we would love the opportunity to join you in lifting your needs before the Lord. Use the QR code below or email church@mercydallas.com to connect with us!





ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 27, 2024

WELCOME

INVOCATION | *We pray for God's presence, power and blessing in worship*

CALL TO WORSHIP | *God invites us into His presence to worship Him*

Psalm 25:1-7

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.

**Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.

**Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.**

Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

**Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!**

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Words by Joachim Neander | Traditional German Melody | Public Domain

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty the King of creation!
O, my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord! Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth!
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth;
Hast thou not seen, how all your longings have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him
Let the Amen, sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him

CONFESSION OF SIN | *We acknowledge our sin and ask for God's grace*

Psalm 42:1-4

**As a deer pants for flowing streams,
so pants my soul for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.
When shall I come and appear before God?
My tears have been my food
day and night,
while they say to me all the day long,
“Where is your God?”
These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I would go with the throng
and lead them in procession to the house of God
with glad shouts and songs of praise,
a multitude keeping festival.**

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

Psalm 42:5-6

*Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my salvation and my God.*

*My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.*

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.

Psalm 130

Words by Martin Luther | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee
The voice of lamentation;
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me
And hear my supplication;
If Thou iniquities dost mark,
Our secret sins and misdeeds dark,

O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?)
O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?)

To wash away the crimson stain,
Grace, grace alone availeth;
Our works, alas! Are all in vain;
In much the best life faileth;
No man can glory in Thy sight,
All must alike confess Thy might,

And live alone by mercy (Live alone by mercy)
And live alone by mercy (Live alone by mercy)

Therefore my trust is in the Lord,
And not in mine own merit;
On Him my soul shall rest, His word
Upholds my fainting spirit;
His promised mercy is my fort,
My comfort and my sweet support;

I wait for it with patience (Wait for it with patience)
I wait for it with patience (Wait for it with patience)

Though great our sins and sore our woes
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows,
Our utmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free

From all their sin and sorrow (All their sin and sorrow)
From all their sin and sorrow (All their sin and sorrow)

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *Westminster Confession of Faith (Modern English)* | Chapter 8:5 & 8.8

What is the work of Christ's mediation?

By his perfect obedience and sacrifice, offered up to God once and for all through the eternal Spirit, the Lord Jesus has completely satisfied the justice of his Father and purchased not only reconciliation but also an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven for everyone whom the Father has given to him.

Christ insures with absolute certainty that everyone for whom he purchased redemption actually accepts and receives it. He makes intercession for them, reveals the mysteries of salvation to them in and by the word, and effectively persuades them to believe and obey by his Spirit. He governs their hearts by his word and Spirit and overcomes all their enemies by his almighty power and wisdom in such ways as are most in agreement with his wonderful and unknowable administration of things.

DEACON'S OFFERING

Since the earliest days of the New Testament church, the deacons have taken a special offering to provide for those in need both inside and outside of the church. The Lord uses the generosity of His people to provide care that ministers to the whole person, meeting physical and mental needs while being attentive to the spiritual. Through this, we see God's mercy work through us to bless our church and community. Every fourth Sunday, our deacons provide Mercy an opportunity to give to this special offering.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE | *Rev. Doug Tharp*

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

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

SCRIPTURE READING | *Lamentations 2* | *Amy Mosgrove*

“When anyone brings a grain offering as an offering to the Lord, his offering shall be of fine flour. He shall pour oil on it and put frankincense on it ²and bring it to Aaron's sons the priests. And he shall take from it a handful of the fine flour and oil, with all of its frankincense, and the priest shall burn this as its memorial portion on the altar, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the Lord. ³But the rest of the grain offering shall be for Aaron and his sons; it is a most holy part of the Lord's food offerings.

⁴“When you bring a grain offering baked in the oven as an offering, it shall be unleavened loaves of fine flour mixed with oil or unleavened wafers smeared with oil. ⁵And if your offering is a grain offering baked on a griddle, it shall be of fine flour unleavened, mixed with oil. ⁶You shall break it in pieces and pour oil on it; it is a grain offering. ⁷And if your offering is a grain offering cooked in a pan, it shall be made of fine flour with oil. ⁸And you shall bring the grain offering that is made of these things to the Lord, and when it is presented to the priest, he shall bring it to the altar. ⁹And the priest shall take from the grain offering its memorial portion and burn this on the altar, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the Lord. ¹⁰ But the rest of the grain offering shall be for Aaron and his sons; it is a most holy part of the Lord’s food offerings.

¹¹“No grain offering that you bring to the Lord shall be made with leaven, for you shall burn no leaven nor any honey as a food offering to the Lord. ¹²As an offering of firstfruits you may bring them to the Lord, but they shall not be offered on the altar for a pleasing aroma. ¹³You shall season all your grain offerings with salt. You shall not let the salt of the covenant with your God be missing from your grain offering; with all your offerings you shall offer salt.

¹⁴“If you offer a grain offering of firstfruits to the Lord, you shall offer for the grain offering of your firstfruits fresh ears, roasted with fire, crushed new grain. ¹⁵And you shall put oil on it and lay frankincense on it; it is a grain offering. ¹⁶And the priest shall burn as its memorial portion some of the crushed grain and some of the oil with all of its frankincense; it is a food offering to the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON NOTES

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER | *The family meal of Christians*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION AND THANKSGIVING

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.

Psalm 126

Words and Music by Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell, Orlando Palmer & Liz Vice | Bifrost Arts Music © 2012

Our mouths they were filled, filled with laughter
Our tongues they were loosed, loosed with joy
Restore us, O Lord
Restore us, O Lord

Although we are weeping
Lord, help us keep sowing
The seeds of Your Kingdom
For the day You will reap them
Your sheaves we will carry
Lord, please do not tarry
All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy

The nations will say, "He has done great things!"
The nations will sing songs of joy
Restore us, O Lord
Restore us, O Lord

Although we are weeping
Lord, help us keep sowing
The seeds of Your Kingdom
For the day You will reap them
Your sheaves we will carry
Lord, please do not tarry

All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy
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All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy

All Must Be Well

Words by Mary Bowley Peters, Matthew S. Smith | Music by Matthew S. Smith | Detuned Radio Music ©2007

Through the love of God our Savior,
All will be well
Free and changeless is His favor,
All is well
Precious is the blood that healed us
Perfect is the grace that sealed us
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us
All must be well

Though we pass through tribulation,
All will be well
Ours is such a full salvation,
All is well
Happy still in God confiding
Fruitful if in Christ abiding
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding
All must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow;
All will be well
Faith can sing through days of sorrow,
All is well
On our Father's love relying
Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying
All must be well

On our Father's love relying
Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying
All must be well

On our Father's love relying
Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying
All must be well

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;

BENEDICTION | *God sends us out into the world with His blessing*

Psalm 67:1-3

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!*

DISMISSAL | *God sends us out into the world*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Building Update

We are praising the Lord for His faithfulness and provision as the building purchase was finalized on Wednesday, October 9th. Thank you, Mercy, for your generous support. We ask for your continued prayers as we renovate and make improvements. Stay tuned for updates on our timeline for getting into the building.

Town Hall Meeting

Please plan to attend the Fall 2024 Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, November 10th from 6:30-8pm. Be sure to register via the link in the Weekly Email. The elders will provide updates on budget and finances, the shepherding plan, officer sabbatical policy, and a building update as needed. A summary of these updates will be sent out following the meeting. Contact Alison at church@mercydallas.com if you have any questions about attending.

Children's Ministry

Nursery, Toddler Sunday School (during church), Children's Church (during the sermon) and Elementary Sunday School (before church) meet every week. Volunteers in this ministry are always needed. If you are interested in getting your family plugged in to this ministry, contact Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)!

Youth Ministry

Youth Group at Mercy is for 6th - 12th grades. Youth Group will meet on 2nd and 4th Sundays from 6-8pm. Check the calendar for locations. The Girls trip to the Dallas Arboretum has been rescheduled for Saturday, November 2nd. Come and enjoy the Pumpkin Village and beautiful weather! Even if you already signed your daughter up, please sign up using the link in the Weekly Email for this new date. Contact youth@mercydallas.com with any questions!

Mercy Women

Join the Women of Mercy for a Pumpkins & Petals Craft Event this afternoon, October 27th from 2-4pm at The Dawson's Home! We'll be making Floral Pumpkins with pressed flowers that you will take home with you - a beautiful addition to your fall decor and we'll provide the pumpkins and flowers! The registration link is in the Weekly Email and if you want to bring something yummy to share, there is a place in the registration where you can let us know. Questions? Reach out to Joanna Dawson (women@mercydallas.com).

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 27

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

2 - 4pm

Mercy Women | The Dawson's Home

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Thomason's Home

Tuesday, October 29

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, October 30

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Saturday, November 2

10am - 1pm

Youth Girls | The Dallas Arboretum

Sunday, November 3

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

Tuesday, November 5

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, November 6

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Sunday, November 10

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | New Building

6:30 - 8pm

Town Hall Meeting | TBD

Tuesday, November 12

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, November 13

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Sunday, November 17

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

Tuesday, November 19

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, November 20

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Sunday, November 24

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | Mercy Dallas (12727 Hillcrest Rd.)

Tuesday, November 26

No Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 27

No Women's Bible Study

Thursday, November 28

Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, December 1

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

Tuesday, December 3

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, December 8

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Carols & Cookies | TBD

FINANCIAL UPDATE AND GIVING

Giving

If you have questions about giving, expenses or budget at Mercy, or would like more information, contact Bryan Hatfield (bryan@mercydallas.com).

If you would like to give to the work and worship of Mercy Presbyterian Church, you can:

- Mail a check to: Mercy Presbyterian Church, 6930 Alpha Rd., Dallas, TX 75240
- Place checks or cash in the offering box located by the door as you exit the sanctuary.
- Give by scanning the QR code:



2024/2025 Operating Budget	\$590,000
July 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024 Expenses	\$183,717
July 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024 Giving	\$151,450
Variance	(\$32,267)

MINISTRY STAFF

Senior Pastor
Rev. Doug Tharp | doug@mercydallas.com

Church Administrator
Alison Thomas | church@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
Nate and Cecile Foster
Sevee Alaniz
Blake and Lilly Edwards

SESSION | church@mercydallas.com

Rev. Doug Tharp
Eric Clay
Jeff Dawson
Clark Morgan
Tim Thomason

DEACONS | deacons@mercydallas.com

Thomas Buerger
Micah Cunningham
Bryan Hatfield
Phil Vanderhill
Thomas Walter