

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



PORTRAITS

1 Study in fineys and chronicles
OF A KING

OCTOBER 29, 2023

Welcome to Mercy Presbyterian Church

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

Our Worship

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

Parents of Young Children

We believe the church is for all people, young and old, and want Mercy to be a church where children are seen, heard, and loved. We invite you to involve your children in our service, help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say and sing parts of our worship service every week in order to help our young children to participate. Children's bulletins with coloring activities are available by the door to the sanctuary. Nursery is also available for babies and toddlers. A Mother's Room (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!





Lord's Day Worship | October 29, 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 46:1-7

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

HYMN OF ADORATION | We sing praises to God

A Mighty Fortress is our God

Words and Music by Martin Luther | Public Domain

A mighty fortress is our God, a Bulwark never failing; Our Helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing; For still our ancient Foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing; Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing; Dost ask who that may be: Christ Jesus it is He; Lord Sabbaoth His name, from age to age the same, And He must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled, should threaten to undo us; We will not fear for God hath willed, His truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him! His rage we can endure, for lo his doom is sure One little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'r, no thanks to them abideth; The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth; Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever!

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

Martin Luther's Theses #1 | Prayer of Confession by Martin Bucer

When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, "Repent" (Matthew 4:17), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.

Almighty and ever gracious God, since all our salvation depends upon your holy Word: therefore grant that our hearts may be set free from worldly things, so that we may with all diligence and faith hear your Word, rightly understand your gracious will, and in all sincerity live according to the same, to your praise and glory; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

2 Chronicles 7:14-15

... if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.

HYMN OF GRACE | We celebrate God's gift of grace

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, John Newton & Louie Giglio | Rising Springs Music @2006

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost but now I'm found Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

CONFESSION OF FAITH | We confess what we believe

Martin Luther's Larger Catechism: The Lord's Prayer, 1529

But what is the kingdom of God?

Nothing else than what we learned in the Creed, that God sent His Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, into the world to redeem and deliver us from the power of the devil, and to bring us to Himself, and to govern us as a King of righteousness, life, and salvation against sin, death, and an evil conscience, for which end He has also bestowed His Holy Ghost, who is to bring these things home to us by His holy Word, and to illumine and strengthen us in the faith by His power.

Therefore we pray here in the first place that this may become effective with us, and that His name be so praised through the holy Word of God and a Christian life that both we who have accepted it may abide and daily grow therein, and that it may gain approbation and adherence among other people and proceed with power throughout the world, that many may find entrance into the Kingdom of Grace, be made partakers of redemption, being led thereto by the Holy Ghost, in order that thus we may all together remain forever in the one kingdom now begun.

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.

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

Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

Words by William Williams | Music by Jeremy Casella | 2037 Music ©2002

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, Feed me now and evermore; Bread of heaven, Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
Strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee;
Songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

SCRIPTURE READING | 2 Kings 15:8-31; 17:1-6 | Clark Morgan

In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah king of Judah, Zechariah the son of Jeroboam reigned over Israel in Samaria six months. 9And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, as his fathers had done. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin. ¹⁰Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him and struck him down at Ibleam and put him to death and reigned in his place. ¹¹Now the rest of the deeds of Zechariah, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel. ¹²(This was the promise of the Lord that he gave to Jehu. "Your sons shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." And so it came to pass.) ¹³Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the thirtyninth year of Uzziah king of Judah, and he reigned one month in Samaria. ¹⁴Then Menahem the son of Gadi came up from Tirzah and came to Samaria. and he struck down Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria and put him to death and reigned in his place. ¹⁵Now the rest of the deeds of Shallum, and the conspiracy that he made, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel. ¹⁶At that time Menahem sacked Tiphsah and all who were in it and its territory from Tirzah on, because they did not open it to him. Therefore he sacked it, and he ripped open all the women in it who were pregnant. ¹⁷In the thirty-ninth year of Azariah king of Judah, Menahem the son of Gadi began to reign over Israel, and he reigned ten years in Samaria. ¹⁸And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. He did not depart all his days from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin. ¹⁹Pul the king of Assyria came against the land, and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that he might help him to confirm his hold on the royal power. ²⁰Menahem exacted the money from Israel, that is, from all the wealthy men, fifty shekels of silver from every man, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back and did not stay there in the land. ²¹Now the rest of the deeds of Menahem and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel? ²²And Menahem slept with his fathers, and Pekahiah his son reigned in his place. ²³In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and he reigned two years.

²⁴And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin. ²⁵And Pekah the son of Remaliah, his captain, conspired against him with fifty men of the people of Gilead, and struck him down in Samaria, in the citadel of the king's house with Argob and Arieh; he put him to death and reigned in his place. ²⁶Now the rest of the deeds of Pekahiah and all that he did, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel. 27In the fiftysecond year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and he reigned twenty years. ²⁸And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin. ²⁹In the days of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria came and captured lion, Abel-bethmaacah, Janoah, Kedesh, Hazor, Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and he carried the people captive to Assyria. 30 Then Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah and struck him down and put him to death and reigned in his place, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah. ³¹Now the rest of the acts of Pekah and all that he did. behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah, Hoshea the son of Elah began to reign in Samaria over Israel, and he reigned nine years. ²And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, yet not as the kings of Israel who were before him. ³Against him came up Shalmaneser king of Assyria. And Hoshea became his vassal and paid him tribute. ⁴But the king of Assyria found treachery in Hoshea, for he had sent messengers to So, king of Egypt, and offered no tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year. Therefore the king of Assyria shut him up and bound him in prison. ⁵Then the king of Assyria invaded all the land and came to Samaria, and for three years he besieged it. ⁶In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria, and he carried the Israelites away to Assyria and placed them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Doug Tharp Zechariah to Hoshea: The Violence of Kings			
SERMON NOTES			
1. What does God do about it? Promised Destruction of Israel's Kings.			

2.	Why does God do it? Personal Rejection of the King.	
3.	What hope is there? Peace of King Jesus.	

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.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION AND THANKSGIVING

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. While we are not worthy so much as to gather the crumbs under your table, we nonetheless come, gracious Lord, because we have been bought with a price. So we give thanks for our savior and shepherd Jesus Christ, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

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!

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

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Words and Music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa & Michael Bleecker | Bleecker Publishing ©2012

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living in His suff'ring
Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured love untold

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry Slain by death the God of life But no grave could e'er restrain Him Praise the Lord He is alive What a foretaste of deliv'rance How unwavering our hope Christ in power resurrected As we will be when He comes

SENDING SONG | We are sent as God's people into the world as we trust His promises

Be Thou My Vision

Ancient Irish Hymn | Translated by Mary E. Byrne | Public Domain

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art! Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always: Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High king of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High king of heaven, my victory won, May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus All the glory evermore to Him When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat: Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

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

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

DISMISSAL | God sends us out into the world

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Ministry

Toddler Sunday School and Children's Church meet every Sunday. Elementary Sunday School (3rd - 5th grade) meets from 9-10am on 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings in Room 207. We have a great year of learning ahead! We still need volunteers weekly in both the nursery and toddler rooms. If you are interested in getting your family plugged in to the children's ministry at Mercy or if you have a teen or pre-teen interested in helping, contact Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)!

Youth Ministry

Youth Group meets on 2nd and 4th Sundays from 6-8pm. The next meeting is Sunday, November 12th at the Church's Home (3970 Cobblestone Dr., Dallas). Bring your Bible and feel free to bring a friend! We'll have some snacks, but eat dinner before you arrive! Email youth@mercydallas.com with any questions you might have. Save the date for Turkey Touchdown 2023 on November 25th, the Saturday following Thanksgiving, from 2-4pm at Valley View Park in Dallas.

Women's Ministry

Save the date for the Mercy Women's Retreat from Friday, February 2nd at 5pm through Sunday, February 4th at 8am! We will be heading back to Gathering Oaks Retreat Center in Waco! The cost for the weekend is \$125; scholarships available. Registration opens November 5th and spots are limited. We are looking forward to spending that weekend with you!

Men's Ministry

Mercy Men meet Tuesday mornings at 6:30am to read and discuss *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis at Cindi's Deli in Dallas (11111 N Central Expy). Contact Doug (doug@mercydallas.com) for more information

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 29

Reformation Sunday

Tuesday, October 31

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

Wednesday, November 1

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

7 - 9pm

Intro to Mercy | The Tharp's Home

Tuesday, November 7

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

Wednesday, November 8

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

Sunday, November 12

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Church's Home

Tuesday, November 14

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Thomason's Home

Wednesday, November 15

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

Tuesday, November 21

No Men's Study

No Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 22

No Women's Bible Study

Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving Day

Saturday, November 25

2-4pm

Youth Turkey Touchdown | Valley View Park

Sunday, November 26

No Elementary Sunday School

No Youth Group

Tuesday, November 28

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, December 3

First Sunday of Advent

Tuesday, December 5

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, December 10

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Christmas Party | The Morgan's Home

Sunday, December 17

6 - 7pm

Lesson's + Carols | Chapel

7 - 8pm

Children's Party + Adult Reception | Social Hall

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

No Elementary Sunday School

No Youth Group

10 - 11:30am

Sunday Morning Worship | Sanctuary

6 - 7pm

Christmas Eve Service | Chapel

Sunday, December 31

New Year's Eve

10 - 11:30am

Sunday Morning Worship | Sanctuary

Sunday, January 14

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Church's Home

Sunday, January 21

Mercy's Tenth Anniversary Jubilee

Sunday, January 28

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

Friday, February 2

5pm

Women's Retreat | Waco, TX

Saturday, February 3

All Day

Women's Retreat | Waco, TX

Sunday, February 4

8am

Women's Retreat | Waco, TX

Sunday, February 11

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Church's Home

Sunday, February 25

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Church's Home

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@mercydallascom).

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:



2023/2024 Budget	\$655,000
July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023 Expenses	\$142,310
July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023 Giving	\$121,253
Variance	(\$21,057)

MINISTRY STAFF

Senior Pastor

Rev. Doug Tharp | doug@mercydallas.com

Ministry Coordinator

Jessica Nokes | jessica@mercydallas.com

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Emily Freeman | emily@mercydallas.com

Women's Ministry Coordinator

Joanna Dawson | women@mercydallas.com

Director of Music

Sal Bautista | music@mercydallas.com

Youth Group Leaders | youth@mercydallas.com Josh and Hannah Patch Nate and Cecile Foster Sevee Alaniz

INTERIM SESSION

Rev. Doug Tharp

Senior Pastor | Mercy Presbyterian Church

Rev. David Rogers

Senior Pastor | Town North Presbyterian Church

Rev. Robbie Mills

Associate Director | Mission to the World Western Hub

Eric Horan

Ruling Elder | Park Cities Presbyterian Church

DEACONS | deacons@mercydallas.com

Thomas Buerger Eric Clay Micah Cunningham Bryan Hatfield Adam Huebner Phil Vanderhill Thomas Walter