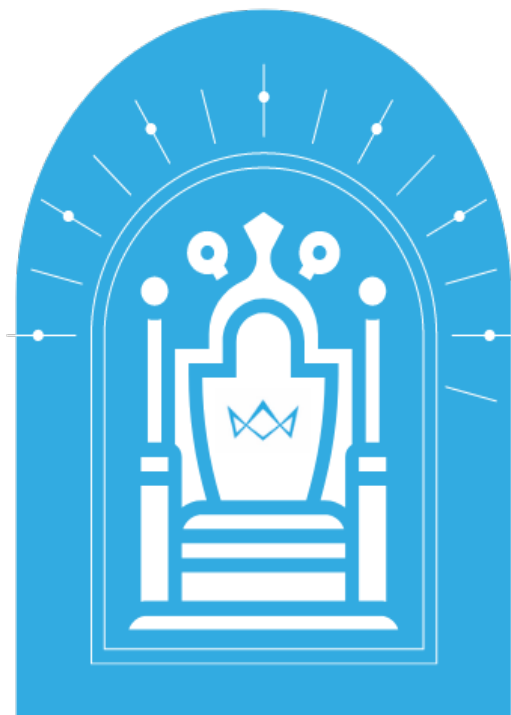




MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



PORTRAITS *a study in kings and chronicles* OF A KING

NOVEMBER 5, 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!





ORDER OF WORSHIP

Lord's Day Worship | November 5, 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 135:1-7

Praise the Lord!

**Praise the name of the Lord,
give praise, O servants of the Lord,**

who stand in the house of the Lord,
in the courts of the house of our God!

**Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good;
sing to his name, for it is pleasant!**

For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself,
Israel as his own possession.

**For I know that the Lord is great,
and that our Lord is above all gods.**

Whatever the Lord pleases, he does,
in heaven and on earth,
in the seas and all deeps.

**He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth,
who makes lightnings for the rain
and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.**

HYMN OF ADORATION | *We sing praises to God*

Jesus, Everlasting King

Words by Isaac Watts & Matthew S. Smith | Music by Matthew S. Smith | detuned radio music ©2003

Jesus, everlasting King,
Accept the tribute which we bring
Accept the well-deserved renown
And wear our praises as Your crown.

O send Your Spirit to impart
Rest and repentance to our hearts,
Like the dear hour when from above
We first received Your pledge of love.

Jesus, everlasting King,
Accept the tribute which we bring
Accept the well-deserved renown
And wear our praises as Your crown.

The gladness of redemption's day,
Our hearts would wish it long to stay,
Nor let our faith forsake its hold,
Nor comforts sink, or love grow cold.

Jesus, everlasting King,
Accept the tribute which we bring
Accept the well-deserved renown
And wear our praises as Your crown.

May every time of worship see
Your grace revealed more rich and free,
Till we are raised to sing Your name
At the great supper of the Lamb.

Jesus, everlasting King,
Accept the tribute which we bring
Accept the well-deserved renown
And wear our praises as Your crown.

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*

A Prayer of Martin Luther, 16th Century Reformer

Behold, Lord, I am an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust You altogether.

O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in You. In You I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; You are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; You are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in You is the of righteousness. Therefore I will remain with You, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

Micah 7:18-19

*Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.
He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.*

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Words by Robert Robinson | American Folk Tune | Public Domain

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by thy help I've come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it;
Seal it for thy courts above.

MERCY MOMENT | *Women's Retreat*

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

Westminster Confession of Faith | Chapter 16: Of Good Works

But what is the kingdom of God?

Good works are only those works identified as good by God and commanded by him in his holy word. They do not include other works, no matter how well-intentioned in design or zealously promoted by men.

These good works, done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruit and evidence of a true and living faith. By them believers show their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance of salvation, edify their brothers in the Lord, and become ornaments of all those who profess the gospel. Good works in believers silence the criticism of the enemies of the gospel. They also glorify God by showing that believers are the workmanship and creation of Jesus Christ, because their aim is that holiness of living which leads to eternal life.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE | *Dave Boland*

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*

We Are Not Overcome

Words and Music by Isaac Wardell & Robert Heiskell | Bifrost Arts ©2012

Flesh will fail and bones will break
Thieves will steal the earth will shake
Night will fall light will fade
The Lord will give and take away

Put no trust in the earth
In the sod you stand upon
Flowers fade into dust
The Lord will make a place for us

Because of His great Love
We are not overcome
Because of His great Love
We are not overcome

Have no fear for your life
Turn your cheek turn your cheek
Bear the yoke love and death
The Lord will give all life and breath

Because of His great Love
We are not overcome
Because of His great Love
We are not overcome

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath. ² And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in all the way of David his father, and he did not turn aside to the right or to the left.

¹Then the king sent, and all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem were gathered to him. ²And the king went up to the house of the Lord, and with him all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the priests and the prophets, all the people, both small and great. And he read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord. ³And the king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people joined in the covenant. ⁴And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second order and the keepers of the threshold to bring out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron and carried their ashes to Bethel. ⁵And he deposed the priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to make offerings in the high places at the cities of Judah and around Jerusalem; those also who burned incense to Baal, to the sun and the moon and the constellations and all the host of the heavens. ⁶And he brought out the Asherah from the house of the Lord, outside Jerusalem, to the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron and beat it to dust and cast the dust of it upon the graves of the common people. ⁷And he broke down the houses of the male cult prostitutes who were in the house of the Lord, where the women wove hangings for the Asherah. ⁸And he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had made offerings, from Geba to Beersheba. And he broke down the high places of the gates that were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of

the city, which were on one's left at the gate of the city. ⁹However, the priests of the high places did not come up to the altar of the Lord in Jerusalem, but they ate unleavened bread among their brothers. ¹⁰And he defiled Topheth, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, that no one might burn his son or his daughter as an offering to Molech. ¹¹And he removed the horses that the kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun, at the entrance to the house of the Lord, by the chamber of Nathan-melech the chamberlain, which was in the precincts. And he burned the chariots of the sun with fire. ¹²And the altars on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars that Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the Lord, he pulled down and broke in pieces and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron. ¹³And the king defiled the high places that were east of Jerusalem, to the south of the mount of corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Sidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. ¹⁴And he broke in pieces the pillars and cut down the Asherim and filled their places with the bones of men.... ²¹And the king commanded all the people, "Keep the Passover to the Lord your God, as it is written in this Book of the Covenant." ²²For no such Passover had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, or during all the days of the kings of Israel or of the kings of Judah. ²³But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was kept to the Lord in Jerusalem. ²⁴Moreover, Josiah put away the mediums and the necromancers and the household gods and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might establish the words of the law that were written in the book that Hilkiyah the priest found in the house of the Lord. ²⁵Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Doug Tharp | *Josiah: The Reformed King*

SERMON NOTES

1. Josiah: the Reforming King

2. Josiah: a Reformed Heart

3. Jesus: the Kingdom Re-formed

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.

Before the Throne of God Above

Words and Music by Charitie Lees Bancroft & Vikki Cook | Sovereign Grace Worship ©1997

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart,
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace.
One with Himself I cannot die;
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

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

This is My Father's World

Words by Maltbie Davenport Babcock | Music by Franklin Lawrence Sheppard | Public Domain

This is my Father's world,
And to my list'ning ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings,
The music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget,
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father's world:
The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heav'n be one.

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*

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

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 and for our Christmas Party on Sunday, December 12th from 6-8pm.

Women's Ministry

Registration for the Women's Retreat is now open! Join us Friday, February 2nd at 5pm through the morning of Sunday, February 4th at Gathering Oaks Retreat Center in Waco! The cost for the weekend is \$125; scholarships available. 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. Save the date for the Men's Advent Prayer on Saturday, December 2nd from 9-11am.

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 5

Registration for Women's Retreat opens

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

Saturday, December 2

8-11am

Men's Prayer | The Thomas's Home

Sunday, December 3

First Sunday of Advent

Tuesday, December 5

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, December 10

Second Sunday of Advent

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Christmas Party | The Morgan's Home

Friday, December 15

Registration for Women's Retreat closes

Sunday, December 17

Third Sunday of Advent

6 - 7pm

Lessons + 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

6 - 8pm

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@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:



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

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