





**NOVEMBER 12, 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!





### 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 123:1-4

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master,

as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Our soul has had more than enough of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

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

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Words by Henry Lyte | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet thy tribute bring Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Who like me His praise should sing? Praise Him, praise Him, Praise Him, praise Him, Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor To our fathers in distress Praise Him still the same forever, Slow to chide, and swift to bless. Praise Him, praise Him, Praise Him, praise Him, Glorious in His faithfulness.

Frail as summer's flower we flourish Blows the wind and it is gone But while mortals rise and perish God endures unchanging on Praise Him, praise Him, Praise Him, praise Him, Praise the high eternal One.

Fatherlike He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He Knows. In His hands He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes. Praise Him, praise Him, Praise Him, praise Him, Widely as His mercy goes. **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 John Chrysostom, 3rd Century Church Father

O Lord, receive me in repentance; O Lord, leave me not; O Lord, save me from temptation; O Lord, grant me pure thoughts; O Lord, grant me tears of repentance, remembrance of death, and the sense of peace; O Lord, grant me mindfulness to confess my sins; O Lord, grant me humility, charity, and obedience; O Lord, grant me tolerance, magnanimity, and gentleness; O Lord, implant in me the root of all blessings: the fear of Thee in my heart;

O Lord, vouchsafe that I may love Thee with all my heart and soul, and that I may obey in all things Thy will; O Lord, shield me from evil persons and devils and passions and all other lawless matters; O Lord, Who knowest Thy creation and that which Thou hast willed for it; may Thy will also be fulfilled in me, a sinner, for Thou art blessed forevermore. Amen.

### SILENT CONFESSION

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

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

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

### The Reign of Mercy

Words and Music by Kate Bluett & Paul Zach | Integrity's Alleluia! Music ©2021

Oh may our world at last be just And hilltops echo with Your peace The harvest come from barren dust The reign of mercy never cease He comes as rain upon the grass High heaven's sun to earth descends Not as the seasons that will pass But with a light that never ends

Oh come to Him and find your rest Who saw the poor and came as one Who hears the cries of the oppressed And rules till all oppression's done Someday He'll come to reign as King And we will see His justice done Our souls will magnify and sing The Christ whose kingdom now is come

And all the mighty and the strong Will bow before Him on that day The silenced fill the world with song The poor and lowly He will raise And all our bitterness and tears Our violence and our endless wars Will end at last when He draws near Come soon, come soon O Christ our Lord **BAPTISM** | We celebrate the sacrament of baptism

Thomas Clayton Grabow

### Parental Vows

- 1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
- 2. Do you claim God's covenant promises in his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
- 3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

### **Congregational Vows**

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

Westminster Confession of Faith | Chapter 16: Good Works 1 & 3

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.

Believers get the ability to do good works entirely from the Spirit of Christ. In addition to the other particular effects of God's grace already received, believers must be directed by the Holy Spirit in order to will and to do what pleases God. However, they are not therefore to grow spiritually lazy, waiting for some special guidance from the Spirit before doing anything commanded by God. Rather, they should diligently attempt to identify what good works God has commanded in his word and then try their best to do all of them, praying earnestly and daily for the empowering and enabling of the Holy Spirit, who lives in them.

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

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Words and Music by Sandra McCracken & Joshua Moore | Drink Your Tea Music ©2015

We will feast in the House of Zion We will sing with our hearts restored He has done great things, we will say together We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire, He is the Lord our God We are not consumed by the flood. Upheld, protected, gathered up.

We will feast in the House of Zion We will sing with our hearts restored He has done great things, we will say together We will feast and weep no more.

In the dark of night before the dawn, My soul be not afraid For the promised morning O how long? O God of Jacob be my strength.

We will feast in the House of Zion We will sing with our hearts restored He has done great things, we will say together We will feast and weep no more.

Every vow we've broken and betrayed, You are the faithful one And from the garden to the grave, Bind us together bring shalom.

We will feast in the House of Zion We will sing with our hearts restored He has done great things, we will say together We will feast and weep no more.

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

#### **SCRIPTURE READING** | 2 Chronicles 36 | Eric Clay

The people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah and made him king in his father's place in Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Then the king of Egypt deposed him in Jerusalem and laid on the land a tribute of a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold. <sup>4</sup>And the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. But Neco took Jehoahaz his brother and carried him to Egypt. <sup>5</sup>Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the Lord his God. <sup>6</sup>Against him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and bound him in chains to take him to Babylon. <sup>7</sup>Nebuchadnezzar also carried part of the vessels of the house of the Lord to Babylon and put them in his palace in Babylon. <sup>8</sup>Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and the abominations that he did, and what was found against him, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah. And Jehojachin his son reigned in his place. <sup>9</sup>Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he became king, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. <sup>10</sup>In the spring of the year King Nebuchadnezzar sent and brought him to Babylon, with the precious vessels of the house of the Lord, and made his brother Zedekiah king over Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>11</sup>Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. <sup>12</sup>He did what was evil in the sight of the Lord his God. He did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke from the mouth of the Lord. <sup>13</sup>He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God. He stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the Lord, the God of Israel. <sup>14</sup>All the officers of the priests and the people likewise were exceedingly unfaithful, following all the abominations of the nations. And they polluted the house of the Lord that he had made holy in Jerusalem. <sup>15</sup>The Lord, the God of their fathers, sent persistently to them

by his messengers, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place. <sup>16</sup>But they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words and scoffing at his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord rose against his people, until there was no remedy. <sup>17</sup>Therefore he brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary and had no compassion on young man or virgin, old man or aged. He gave them all into his hand. <sup>18</sup>And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king and of his princes, all these he brought to Babylon. <sup>19</sup>And they burned the house of God and broke down the wall of Jerusalem and burned all its palaces with fire and destroyed all its precious vessels. <sup>20</sup>He took into exile in Babylon those who had escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and to his sons until the establishment of the kingdom of Persia, <sup>21</sup>to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its Sabbaths. All the days that it lay desolate it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years. <sup>22</sup>Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing: <sup>23</sup>"Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, 'The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever is among you of all his people, may the Lord his God be with him. Let him go up."

This is the Word of the Lord.

# Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Doug Tharp | End of Judah: A Heart Problem

# SERMON NOTES

1. Our Callous Hearts

2. God's Compassionate Heart

3. Christ's Captivating Heart

#### 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

## Cornerstone

Words and Music by Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan | Hillsong Music Publishing ©2011

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness I dare not trust the sweetest frame But wholly trust in Jesus' name

Christ alone, Cornerstone Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm He is Lord Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face I rest on His unchanging grace In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil My anchor holds within the veil

Christ alone, Cornerstone Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all Christ alone, Cornerstone Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all

When he shall come with trumpet sound Oh may I then in Him be found Dressed in His righteousness alone Faultless stand before the throne

Christ alone, Cornerstone Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all SENDING SONG | We are sent as God's people into the world as we trust His promises

# All Glory Be to Christ

Traditional Scottish Folk Tune | Auld Lang Syne | Dustin Kensrue | We Are Younger We Are Faster Music ©2012

Should nothing of our efforts stand No legacy survive Unless the Lord does raise the house In vain its builders strive To You who boast tomorrow's gain Tell me what is your life A mist it vanishes at dawn All glory be to Christ

All glory be to Christ our King All glory be to Christ His rule and reign we'll ever sing All glory be to Christ

His will be done His Kingdom come On Earth as is above Who is Himself our daily bread Praise Him the Lord of love Let living waters satisfy The thirsty without price We'll take a cup of kindness yet All glory be to Christ

All glory be to Christ our King All glory be to Christ His rule and reign we'll ever sing All glory be to Christ When on the day the Great I Am The faithful and the true The Lamb who was for sinner's slain Is making all things new Behold our God shall live with us And be our steadfast Light And we shall e'er his people be All glory be to Christ

All glory be to Christ our King All glory be to Christ His rule and reign we'll ever sing All glory be to Christ

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

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

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's Tenth Anniversary!

Save the date for Mercy's Ten Year Anniversary Jubilee! Join us as we celebrate the Lord's faithfulness to our church as we head into our tenth year together on Sunday, January 21, 2024 from 6-8pm at Communion Cooperative (514 Lockwood Dr., Richardson, TX 75080).

### Children's Ministry

Toddler Sunday School and Children's Church meet every Sunday. Elementary Sunday School (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade) meets from 9-10am on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays from 6-8pm. The next meeting is tonight, Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 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! Get ready for some fun at Turkey Touchdown 2023 on November 26<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday following Thanksgiving, from 2-4pm at Valley View Park in Dallas and for our Christmas Party on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm at the Morgan's Home (7051 Teakwood Dr., Dallas). Email youth@mercydallas.com with any questions you might have.

#### Women's Ministry

Registration for the Women's Retreat is open! Join us Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5pm through the morning of Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Prayer on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8-11am at Chris Thomas's Home (4079 Crown Shore Dr., Dallas).

### CALENDAR

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

Sunday, November 26 No Elementary Sunday School 2-4pm Youth Turkey Touchdown | Valley View Park

**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

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@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