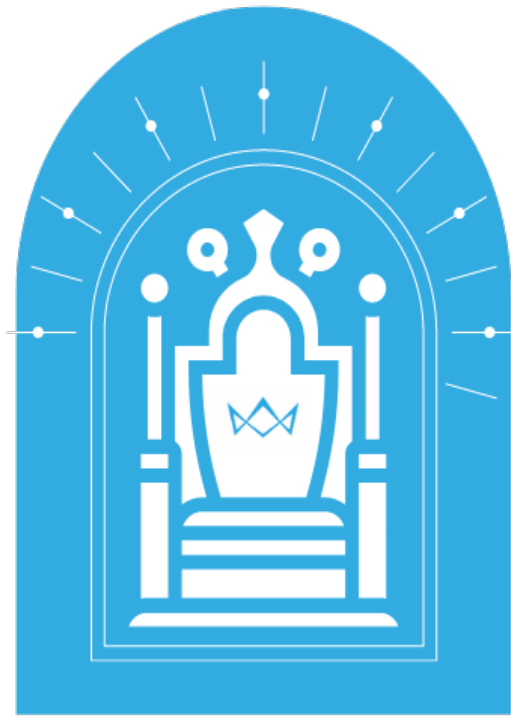




# MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# PORTRAITS

*a study in kings and chronicles*

# OF A KING

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

## **Welcome to Mercy Presbyterian Church**

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

### ***Our Worship***

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

### ***Parents of Young Children***

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





## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Lord's Day Worship | November 19, 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 117:1-2*

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Praise the Lord, all nations!**

**Extol him, all peoples!**

**For great is his steadfast love toward us,**

**and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.**

**Praise the Lord!**

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

*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

**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*

*from Christ-Centered Worship by Bryan Chapell, adapted from Psalm 51:15-17*

**O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths will declare your praise. You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; You do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

Our God tells us that the sacrifice he desires most is a broken and contrite heart. Let us bring him such sacrifice now in our prayers of confession.

**SILENT CONFESSION**

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

*Romans 8:15-17*

*For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.*

*O Love Incomprehensible*

*Words by Anne Steele, Augustus Montague Toplady | Music by Kevin Twit | Kevin Twit Music ©2001*

O Love incomprehensible  
That made Thee bleed for me  
The Judge of all has suffered death  
To set His prisoner free.

What pain what soul-oppressing pain  
The Great Redeemer bore  
While bloody sweat like drops of rain  
Distilled from every pore!

O Love incomprehensible  
That made Thee bleed for me  
The Judge of all has suffered death  
To set His prisoner free.

The spotless Savior lived for me,  
And died upon the mount  
The obedience of His life and death,  
Is placed to my account!

O Love incomprehensible  
That made Thee bleed for me  
The Judge of all has suffered death  
To set His prisoner free.

On Thee alone my hope relies,  
Beneath Thy cross I fall  
My Lord, my Life, my Sacrifice,  
My Savior and my All!

O Love incomprehensible  
That made Thee bleed for me  
The Judge of all has suffered death  
To set His prisoner free.

*Knox David Walter*

### 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?

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** | *We confess what we believe*

*Westminster Confession of Faith | Chapter 16: Good Works 1 & 5*

**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.**

**We cannot, of course, by our best works deserve to be forgiven for our sins and to receive eternal life from God. There is that great disproportion between our best works in this life and the glory which is going to be revealed in us, and there is the infinite distance between us and God, who does not profit from our best works and is not satisfied by them for the debt of our previous sins. When we have done all we can, we have only done our duty and are unprofitable servants. Since the goodness of our best works in fact proceeds from his Spirit and since, insofar as they are done by us, our best works are defiled and mixed with our weakness and imperfection, they cannot therefore even stand the scrutiny of God's judgment.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** | *Phil & Winsor Vanderhill*

**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*

*Psalm 73*

*Words by Kevin Twit and Mac Purdy | Music by Kevin Twit | Kevin Twit Music ©1995*

Surely God is good  
To all the pure in heart  
But as for me, my feet had almost slipped  
I nearly lost my grip  
For I envied, the arrogant  
They are free, from my burdens

Surely I, in vain,  
Have kept my, my heart pure  
And surely they are strong and free from trials  
While I am so confused  
Then I entered Your holy place  
Then I saw their destiny

Surely, they're cast down  
As those on slippery ground  
As dreams fade when we wake, so they become  
Completely swept away  
In my heart I was arrogant  
Like a beast before You

Yet always You are near  
You guide me by Your Word  
And always, my Lord God, You are my strength  
My portion You will be  
You're my refuge, my Sovereign Lord  
I will sing of Your awesome deeds  
You're my refuge, my Sovereign Lord  
I will sing of Your awesome deeds

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. <sup>4</sup>Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. <sup>5</sup>Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. <sup>6</sup>Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. <sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. <sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. <sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. <sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. <sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. <sup>13</sup>Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. <sup>14</sup>Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. <sup>16</sup>For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. <sup>17</sup>The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. <sup>18</sup>Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem; <sup>19</sup>then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 1. A Repenting King

2. A Believing King

3. A Fighting King

## 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.*

*The Christian's Hope Can Never Fail*

*Anonymous from The Gadsby Hymnal, 1838 | Music by Benj Pocta | Red Mountain Music ©2006*

We travel through a barren land,  
With dangers thick on every hand;  
But Jesus guides us through the vale;  
O, The Christian's hope can never fail.

Huge sorrows meet us as we go,  
And devils aim to overthrow;  
But vile infernals can't prevail;  
O, The Christian's hope shall never fail.

Sometimes we're tempted to despair,  
But Jesus makes us then His care;  
Though numerous foes our souls assail;  
O, The Christian's hope can never fail.

We trust upon the sacred word,  
The oath and promise of the Lord;  
And safely through each tempest sail;  
O, The Christian's hope can never fail.

*O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

*Words by George Matheson | Music by Christopher Miner | Christopher Miner Music ©1997*

O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
That in thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
And from the ground there blossoms red  
Life that shall endless be.



**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 Timothy 1:17*

*To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and 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

### ***Lessons + Carols***

Join us on the evening of Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> for our traditional Lessons + Carols service in the Chapel. We'll worship from 6-7pm and follow with a dessert reception in the Social Hall for adults, and a Christmas Party for children in the children's area, from 7-8pm.

### ***Mercy's Tenth Anniversary!***

This will be a year to celebrate as we look back on the last ten years and remember the Lord's faithfulness to our church. We'll have several touch points throughout the year, but will start with the Tenth Anniversary Jubilee Dinner - an evening of dinner and fellowship - on Sunday, January 21, 2024 from 6-8pm at Communion Cooperative (514 Lockwood Dr., Richardson). This celebration will be adults only, but we look forward to including our entire church family in other ways throughout the year.

### ***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 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](mailto:emily@mercydallas.com))!

### ***Youth Ministry***

Youth Group will not meet the *night* of November 26<sup>th</sup>, but get ready for some fun at Turkey Touchdown 2023 that afternoon, from 2-4pm at Valley View Park in Dallas! And, save the date for our Christmas Party on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm at the Morgan's Home (7051 Teakwood Dr., Dallas). Email [youth@mercydallas.com](mailto:youth@mercydallas.com) with any questions you might have.

### ***Women's Ministry***

Registration for the Women's Retreat is live! 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! Bible Study will resume with a new study on January 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

### ***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](mailto: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

### **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 | Chapel  
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

### **Tuesday, January 16**

6:30 - 7:30am  
Men's Study | Cindi's Deli  
9:30am - 11am  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

### **Wednesday, January 17**

7 - 8:30pm  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

### **Sunday, January 21**

6 - 8pm  
*Tenth Anniversary Jubilee | Communion*

**Tuesday, January 23**

6:30 - 7:30am  
Men's Study | Cindi's Deli  
9:30am - 11am  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Wednesday, January 24**

7 - 8:30pm  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Sunday, January 28**

9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

**Tuesday, January 30**

6:30 - 7:30am  
Men's Study | Cindi's Deli  
9:30am - 11am  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Wednesday, January 31**

7 - 8:30pm  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**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

**Tuesday, February 6**

6:30 - 7:30am  
Men's Study | Cindi's Deli  
9:30am - 11am  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Wednesday, February 7**

7 - 8:30pm  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Sunday, February 11**

9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Church's Home

**Tuesday, February 13**

6:30 - 7:30am  
Men's Study | Cindi's Deli  
9:30am - 11am  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Wednesday, February 14**

7 - 8:30pm  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Tuesday, February 20**

6:30 - 7:30am  
Men's Study | Cindi's Deli  
9:30am - 11am  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Wednesday, February 21**

7 - 8:30pm  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Sunday, February 25**

9 - 10am  
Elementary Sunday School | Room 207  
6 - 8pm  
Youth Group | The Church's Home

**Tuesday, February 27**

6:30 - 7:30am  
Men's Study | Cindi's Deli  
9:30am - 11am  
Women's Bible Study | TBD

**Wednesday, February 28**

7 - 8:30pm  
Women's Bible Study | 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:



<b>2023/2024 Budget</b>	<b>\$655,000</b>
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