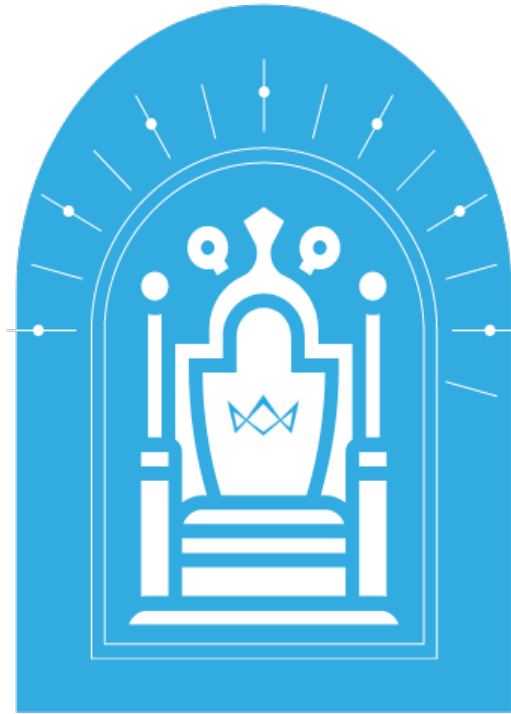




MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



PORTRAITS
a study in kings and chronicles
OF A KING

NOVEMBER 26, 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 26, 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 134:1-3

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
who stand by night in the house of the Lord!

**Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless the Lord!**

**May the Lord bless you from Zion,
he who made heaven and earth!**

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Words and Music by Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman | Shout! Publishing ©2011

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name

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;

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

from Confessions of Sin & Assurances of Pardon, a Pocket Resource, by Bobby Griffith

Holy Father, You see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of Your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from You and that to You all life returns. We have not sought to do Your will with our whole hearts. We have not lived as grateful children, nor lived as Christ loves us. Apart from You, we are nothing. Only Your grace can sustain us. Lord, in Your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin and restore us to the joy of Your salvation now and evermore. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

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

Romans 8:35-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

*“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Written by S. Trevor Francis | Music by Thomas Williams | Public Domain

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me,
Is the current of thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward,
To thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Spread his praise from shore to shore;
How he loveth, ever loveth,
Changeth never, nevermore;
How he watches o'er his loved ones,
Died to call them all his own;
How for them he intercedeth,
Watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Love of ev'ry love the best:
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'Tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory,
For it lifts me up to thee.

MERCY MOMENT | *Deacon's Offering*

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

Westminster Confession of Faith | Chapter 16: Good Works 1 & 6

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.

Nevertheless, since the persons of believers are accepted through Christ, their good works in this life are also accepted in him. It is not as though they were perfect in God's sight but that God, looking on them in his Son, is pleased to accept and reward what is sincerely done, even though accompanied by much weakness and imperfection.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE | *Rev. Robbie Mills*

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.

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 | *Isaiah 11:1-17* | Lillian Church

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious. ¹¹In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

We Gather Together

Music by Eduard Kremser | Words Translated by Theodore Baker | Public Domain

We gather together
To ask the Lord's blessing
He chastens and hastens
His will to make known
The wicked oppressing
Now cease from distressing
Sing praises to His name
He forgets not His own

Beside us to guide us
Our God with us joining
Ordaining maintaining
His kingdom divine
So from the beginning
The fight we were winning
Thou Lord wast at our side
All glory be Thine

We all do extol Thee
Thou Leader triumphant
And pray that Thou still
Our Defender wilt be
Let Thy congregation
Escape tribulation
Thy name be ever praised
O Lord make us free

King of Kings

Words and Music by Jason Ingram, Brooke Ligertwood & Scott Ligertwood | Hillsong Music Publishing ©2019

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming,
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation,
You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering,
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation,
Jesus for our sake You died

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death

And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings
Praise forever to the King of Kings

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*

Colossians 3:15-17

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

DISMISSAL | *God sends us out into the world*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lessons + Carols

Join us on the evening of Sunday, December 17th 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 6-9pm 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 (3rd - 5th grade) meets from 9-10am on 2nd and 4th 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)!

Youth Ministry

Youth Group will not meet *tonight*, but get ready for some fun at Turkey Touchdown 2023 this afternoon, from 2-4pm at Valley View Park in Dallas! Make plans to attend our Christmas Party on Sunday, December 10th from 6-8pm at the Morgan's Home (7051 Teakwood Dr., Dallas). \$10 limit and edible gifts only! Email youth@mercydallas.com with any questions you might have.

Women's Ministry

Registration for the Women's Retreat is live! 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. Registration closes on December 15th. We are looking forward to spending that weekend with you! Bible Study will resume with a new series on January 16th and 17th.

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. Join the Men of Mercy for Men's Prayer on Saturday, December 2nd from 8-11am at Chris Thomas's Home (4079 Crown Shore Dr., Dallas). Look for the RSVP link in the weekly email and let them know if you'll be there!

CALENDAR

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

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, 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 - 9pm
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:



| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 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