



# MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



JANUARY 5, 2025

## ***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 (Room 109) is available during the service if you need a space to feed or calm a little one.

### ***Connection Points***

If you are a visitor, regular attender or member, we would love the chance to connect with you outside of Sunday mornings! Email [church@mercydallas.com](mailto:church@mercydallas.com) to connect with us and 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. Email [church@mercydallas.com](mailto:church@mercydallas.com) to connect with us!



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 5, 2025

### 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 108:1-6*

My heart is steadfast, O God!

I will sing and make melody with all my being!

Awake, O harp and lyre!

I will awake the dawn!

**I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;**

**I will sing praises to you among the nations.**

For your steadfast love is great above the heavens;  
your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

**Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!**

**Let your glory be over all the earth!**

**That your beloved ones may be delivered,**

**give salvation by your right hand and answer me!**

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

*O Worship the King*

*Words by Robert Grant | Music by Johann Haydn, arr. William Gardiner | Public Domain*

O worship the King, all glorious above,  
And gratefully sing His power and His love;  
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,  
Whose robe is the light, Whose canopy space,  
Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;  
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

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

*adapted from Valley of Vision*

**Holy Lord, we have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, of failure to find your mind in your Word, of neglect to seek you daily. Our transgressions and shortcomings present us with a list of accusations; but we bless you that they will not stand against us, for all have been laid on Christ. Go on to subdue our corruptions, and grant us grace to live above them. Let not the passions of the flesh nor lustings of the mind bring our spirits into subjection, but may you rule over us in liberty and power. Amen.**

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

*Joel 2:25-27*

*I will restore to you the years  
that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
my great army, which I sent among you.  
“You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
and praise the name of the Lord your God,  
who has dealt wondrously with you.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.  
You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
and that I am the Lord your God and there is none else.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.*

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

***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

*Oh 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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE | *Eric Clay*

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.**



## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*During the children's sermon, pass the clipboards to check in and let us know you were here today!*

## **CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

**SCRIPTURE READING** | *Jude 1:1-2* | Lydia Lippincott

Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James,

To those who have been called, who are loved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup>Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** | Rev. Doug Tharp | *What is a Christian?*

**SERMON NOTES**





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.**

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

*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

*Words by Henry Lyte | Music by Bill Moore | Bill Moore Music ©2001*

Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee.  
Destitute, despised, forsaken,  
Thou from hence my all shall be.  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought or hoped or known.  
Yet how rich is my condition!  
God and heaven are still my own.

Man may trouble and distress me,  
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.  
Life with trials hard may press me;  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.  
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me  
While Thy love is left to me;  
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,  
With Thy favor, loss is gain  
I have called Thee Abba Father,  
I have stayed my heart on Thee  
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;  
All must work for good to me.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.  
Heaven's eternal days before thee,  
God's own hand shall guide us there.  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,  
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,  
Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

*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

**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*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

**DISMISSAL** | *God sends us out into the world*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **2025 Vision Dinner**

Join us for our Annual Vision Dinner on January 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm in the Fellowship Hall. This will be an evening of food, fellowship, and sharing. We will have dinner by table (more info to come), sing worship songs, play a fun game, and also hear an update from 2024 and vision for 2025. It will be a joyous time of fun and fellowship. This event is for the adults of Mercy and childcare will not be provided. Use the Link in the Friday Email to RSVP!

### **Children's Ministry**

Nursery, Toddler Sunday School (during church), Children's Church (during the sermon) and Elementary Sunday School (before church) meet every week. Volunteers in this ministry are always needed. If you are interested in getting your family plugged in to this ministry, contact Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)!

### **Youth Ministry**

Youth Group at Mercy is for 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades and generally meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays in the Youth Room from 6-8pm. We will take a break for the Christmas season and resume meeting on the morning of January 12<sup>th</sup>, from 9am-9:50am instead of their usual evening time.

### **Women's Ministry**

Get ready to be excited and equipped to share your faith as the Women's Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> using Rico Tice's *Honest Evangelism*. There are both morning (9:30-11:am) and evening (7:30-8:45pm) options. Childcare will be available during the morning session, but not in the evenings. Let Joanna (women@mercydallas.com) know if you have any questions and look for the sign up in the Friday Email!

### **Women's Retreat**

We can't wait for you to join us for the Mercy Women's Retreat on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. We'll kick off Friday evening at 6pm with dinner and fellowship. On Saturday, we will hear words of encouragement from our very own Andrea Thomason. Look for a registration link in the Friday Email. We are excited to see you there!

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, January 5**

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

### **Sunday, January 12**

9am - 9:50am

Youth Group | Mercy Dallas

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

6 - 8pm

Annual Vision Dinner | Mercy Dallas

### **Sunday, January 19**

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

### **Sunday, January 26**

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | Mercy Dallas

### **Friday, January 31**

6pm

Women's Retreat | Mercy Dallas

### **Saturday, February 1**

Women's Retreat | Mercy Dallas

### **Sunday, February 2**

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

### **Wednesday, February 5**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Bible Study | Mercy Dallas

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | Mercy Dallas

### **Sunday, February 9**

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | Mercy Dallas

### **Wednesday, February 12**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Bible Study | Mercy Dallas

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | Mercy Dallas

### **Sunday, February 16**

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

### **Wednesday, February 19**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Bible Study | Mercy Dallas

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | Mercy Dallas

### **Sunday, February 23**

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | Mercy Dallas

### **Wednesday, February 26**

9:30 - 11am

Women's Bible Study | Mercy Dallas

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | Mercy Dallas

### **Sunday, March 2**

9:30 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 101

## 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, 12727 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75230
- Place checks or cash in the offering box located by the door as you exit the sanctuary.
- Give by scanning the QR code:



<b>2024/2025 Operating Budget</b>	<b>\$643,000</b>
July 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024 Expenses	\$284,794
July 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024 Giving	\$264,293
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$20,501)</i>

### MINISTRY STAFF

#### Senior Pastor

Rev. Doug Tharp | doug@mercydallas.com

#### Church Administrator

Alison Thomas | church@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

Nate and Cecile Foster

Sevee Alaniz

Blake and Lilly Edwards

### SESSION | church@mercydallas.com

Rev. Doug Tharp

Eric Clay

Jeff Dawson

Clark Morgan

Tim Thomason

### DEACONS | deacons@mercydallas.com

Thomas Buerger

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter