



MERCY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# Galatians

Celebrating God's Faithfulness as Gospel People

APRIL 7, 2024

## **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

April 7, 2024

### 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 100*

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!  
Serve the Lord with gladness!  
Come into his presence with singing!

**Know that the Lord, he is God!**  
**It is he who made us, and we are his;**  
**we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

**For the Lord is good;**  
**his steadfast love endures forever,**  
**and his faithfulness to all generations.**

**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.

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

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*taken from "Prone to Wander: Prayers of Confession and Celebration"*

*by Barbara Duguid & Wayne Duguid Houk*

**Heavenly Father and King, We come to you today as a people who would rather govern our own lives than submit to your rule and shepherding. Instead of bowing down in reverence, full of awe and wonder...we often treat you as a servant who should do our bidding and meet all our desires. Instead of honoring the wonderful and merciful Father that you are to us, we run from your goodness and love toward the false and dangerous hopes of our desires an idolatries. Our inability to discipline our wandering ways results in incredible brokenness in our lives and relationships: our families, friends, and coworkers have often become the recipients as well as the source of our sin and pain. Forgive us, we pray, as we confess to the true, one and only King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Amen.**

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

*Psalm 138:4-8*

*All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth,  
and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord,  
for great is the glory of the Lord.  
For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,  
but the haughty he knows from afar.  
Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve my life;  
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,  
and your right hand delivers me.  
The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.*

*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

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

*Westminster Confession of Faith | Chapter 17.1 & 2 | The Perseverance of the Saints*

**Those whom God has accepted in his Son and has effectually called and sanctified by his Spirit can never completely or finally fall out of their state of grace. Rather, they shall definitely continue in that state to the end and are eternally saved.**

**This endurance of the saints does not depend on their own free will but on God's unchangeable decree of election, flowing from his voluntary, unchangeable love. It also depends on the effectiveness of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ, on the indwelling Spirit and indwelling seed of God in the saints, and on the nature of the covenant of grace. All these establish the certainty and infallibility of their preservation.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** | *Jeff Dawson*

**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.**



*Jesus Paid It All*

*Words by Elvina M. Hall | Music by John T. Grape | worshiptogether.com ©2006*

I hear the Savior say,  
"Thy strength indeed is small,  
Child of weakness, watch and pray,  
Find in Me thine all in all."  
Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain,  
He washed it white as snow.

Lord now indeed I find  
Thy pow'r and Thine alone  
Can change the leper's spots  
And melt the heart of stone.  
Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain,  
He washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I  
Whereby Thy grace to claim;  
I'll wash my garments white  
In the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.  
Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain,  
He washed it white as snow.

And when, before the throne,  
I stand in Him complete,  
"Jesus died my soul to save,"  
My lips shall still repeat.  
Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain,  
He washed it white as snow.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**SCRIPTURE READING** | *Galatians 6:1-10* | *TBD*

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. <sup>2</sup>Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup>For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup>But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. <sup>5</sup>For each will have to bear his own load. <sup>6</sup>Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. <sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. <sup>8</sup>For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup>And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** | *Rev. Doug Tharp* | *How to Do Good*

**SERMON NOTES**



**OFFERTORY** | *Joyfully giving His tithes and our offerings in response to His grace*

**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.*

*Rock of Ages*

*Words by Augustus Toplady | Music by James Ward | James Ward Music ©1985*

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
From thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure;  
Save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfill thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone;  
Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to the cross I cling;  
Naked, come to thee for dress;  
Helpless, look to thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly;  
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When mine eyes shall close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee.

*Be Thou My Vision*

*Ancient Irish Hymn | Translated by Mary E. Byrne | Public Domain*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art!  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High king of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High king of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.



**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*

*Ephesians 3:20-21*

*Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask  
or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the  
church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, 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

### ***Elder Election***

Detailed information from the provisional session regarding the election of elders went out via email earlier this week. Important dates relating to their election can be found on the calendar on the next page. If you missed the email, or are not on the list to receive Mercy emails and would like to be added, email Jessica ([jessica@mercydallas.com](mailto:jessica@mercydallas.com)). Pastor Doug and the provisional session are happy to answer any questions you have regarding the process. An RSVP link will be sent out next Sunday afternoon for those interested in attending the town hall meeting on the evening of April 17<sup>th</sup> at Town North Presbyterian Church.

### ***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 weekly volunteers 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))! The next Elementary Sunday School is April 14<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Youth Ministry***

Youth Group meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at alternating homes. Our next meeting is Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. Questions? Email [youth@mercydallas.com](mailto:youth@mercydallas.com)!

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

Women's Bible Study meets on Tuesday mornings at the home of Joanna Dawson from 9:30-11am. The Wednesday evening study meets at Katherine Walter's home from 7-8:30pm. This study meets through the end of this month. Contact Joanna ([women@mercydallas.com](mailto:women@mercydallas.com)) with questions or for more information.

### ***Men's Ministry***

Registration is now open for Mercy Men's Retreat which is scheduled for Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> (6-9pm) at Clark Morgan's home and Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> (8am-4pm) at Park Cities Presbyterian Church. Registration information is available in the Weekly Email. We'll hear from Dr. Steven Foster on *Heelcatcher: The Story of Jacob*. On Tuesday mornings the men meet from 6:30am-7:30am at Cindi's Deli (11111 N Central Expy., Dallas). This semester we're studying Romans 1-7, meeting from January 23 through the end of April, with a break for Spring Break in March. Contact Doug ([doug@mercydallas.com](mailto:doug@mercydallas.com)) with questions or for more information.

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, April 7**

*Immediately following the service*

Property Purchase Congregational Meeting | Sanctuary

### **Tuesday, April 9**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

### **Wednesday, April 10**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

### **Friday, April 12**

6 - 9pm

Men's Retreat | The Morgan's Home

### **Saturday, April 13**

8am - 4pm

Men's Retreat | PCPC

### **Sunday, April 14**

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

10 - 11:30am

Worship Service | Chapel

*Immediately following the service*

Elder Candidate Panel | Chapel

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | TBD

### **Tuesday, April 16**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30 - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

**Wednesday, April 17**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

7 - 8pm

Town Hall Meeting with Provisional Session | Town North Presbyterian

**Tuesday, April 23**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

**Wednesday, April 24**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

**Sunday, April 28**

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

**Tuesday, April 30**

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Study | Cindi's Deli

9:30am - 11am

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

**Wednesday, May 1**

7 - 8:30pm

Women's Bible Study | The Walter's Home

**Sunday, May 5**

10 - 11:30am

Worship Service | Chapel

*Immediately following the service*

Congregational Meeting for the Election of Elders | Chapel

## 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 - February 29, 2024 Expenses	\$386, 261
July 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024 Giving	\$376, 809
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$9,452)</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