



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



MAY 12, 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.

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

May 12, 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 138:1-3, 6, 8

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

**I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.**

On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.
For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.

**The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Words and Music by Martin Luther | Public Domain

A mighty fortress is our God, a Bulwark never failing;
Our Helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing;
For still our ancient Foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing;
Dost ask who that may be: Christ Jesus it is He;
Lord Sabbaoth His name, from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled, should threaten to undo us;
We will not fear for God hath willed, His truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him!
His rage we can endure, for lo his doom is sure
One little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'r, no thanks to them abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever!

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*

Heavenly Father, we have wandered from your arms this week. We have sought satisfaction in our sins, and have loved this world more than your grace. We have acted as those who have not tasted and known your love. Forgive us! Cleanse us from our unrighteousness, and renew a right spirit within us, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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

Matthew 11:28-30

"...Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Words by Bernard of Clairvaux | Music by Brian T. Murphy | Red Mountain Music ©2003

Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts
Thou fount of life, thou light of men,
From fullest bliss that earth imparts
We turn unfilled to thee again,
We turn unfilled to thee again.

Thy truth unchanged has ever stood,
Thou savest those that on thee call;
To them that seek thee, thou art good,
To them that find thee, all in all,
To them that find thee, all in all.

We taste thee, O thou living bread,
And long to feast upon thee still;
We drink of thee, the fountainhead,
And thirst our souls from thee to fill,
And thirst our souls from thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for thee,
Where'er our changeful lot is cast,
Glad that thy gracious smile we see,
Blest that our faith can hold thee fast,
Blest that our faith can hold thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,
Make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away,
Shed o'er the world thy holy light,
Shed o'er the world thy holy light.

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *We confess what we believe*

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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.

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

Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. ⁴I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession, saying, “O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁵we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules. ⁶We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. ⁷To you, O Lord, belongs righteousness, but to us open shame, as at this day, to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to all Israel, those who are near and those who are far away, in all the lands to which you have driven them, because of the treachery that they have committed against you. ⁸To us, O Lord, belongs open shame, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against you. ⁹To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him ¹⁰and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by walking in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets. ¹¹All Israel has transgressed your law and turned aside, refusing to obey your voice. And the curse and oath that are written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been poured out upon us, because we have sinned against him. ¹²He has confirmed his words, which he spoke against us and against our rulers who ruled us, by bringing upon us a great calamity. For under the whole heaven there has not been done anything like what has been done against Jerusalem. ¹³As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this calamity has come upon us; yet we have not entreated the favor of the Lord our God, turning from our iniquities and gaining insight by your truth. ¹⁴Therefore the Lord has kept ready the calamity and has brought it upon us, for the Lord our God is righteous in all the works that he has done, and we have not obeyed his voice. ¹⁵And now, O Lord our God, who brought your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and have made a name for yourself, as at this day, we have sinned, we have done wickedly.

¹⁶“O Lord, according to all your righteous acts, let your anger and your wrath turn away from your city Jerusalem, your holy hill, because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and your people have become a byword among all who are around us. ¹⁷Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy, and for your own sake, O Lord, make your face to shine upon your sanctuary, which is desolate. ¹⁸O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. ¹⁹O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Doug Tharp | *Confession & Assurance*

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.

Jesus Lover Of My Soul

Charles Wesley | Public Domain

Jesus Lover of my soul
Let me to Thy bosom fly
While the nearer waters roll
While the tempest still is high
Hide me O my Saviour hide
Till the storm of life is past
Safe into the haven guide
Oh receive my soul at last

Other refuge have I none
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee
Leave ah leave me not alone
Still support and comfort me
All my trust on Thee is stayed
All my help from Thee I bring
Cover my defenceless head
With the shadow of Thy wing

Thou O Christ art all I want
More than all in Thee I find
Raise the fallen cheer the faint
Heal the sick and lead the blind
Just and holy is Thy name
I am all unrighteousness
False and full of sin I am
Thou art full of truth and grace

Plenteous grace with Thee is found
Grace to cover all my sin
Let the healing streams abound
Make and keep me pure within
Thou of life the Fountain art
Freely let me take of Thee
Spring Thou up within my heart
Rise to all eternity

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*

Psalm 67:1-3

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!*

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

Installation of Officers

Join us during our usual worship service on Sunday, May 19th as Eric, Jeff, Clark, and Tim are installed as new ruling elders at Mercy. We will have a short celebration with cake and coffee during a short reception following the service in the social hall.

Promotion Sunday

Sunday June 2nd is Promotion Sunday! We will celebrate all that the children of Mercy have learned and the ways that the Holy Spirit has worked in them this year, as well as look forward for what is to come as they grow into the next grade/Sunday school class.

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 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)! The next Elementary Sunday School is May 12th.

Youth Ministry

Youth Group meets 2nd and 4th Sundays at alternating homes. Our next meeting is Sunday, May 12th. Questions? Email youth@mercydallas.com!

Summer Fun Happy Hour!

Save the date for a fun night with your Mercy friends on Wednesday, June 26th. Look for details on this adult only night in the coming weeks.

Intro to Mercy

Our next membership class is in the works for late May or early summer. If you are interested in joining the next class, email Jessica (jessica@mercydallas.com) for more information. The class will be held on a Sunday following church at the Tharp's home and lunch will be provided.

Summer Suppers

Registration is open for Summer Suppers! Join your Mercy Family for casual "get to know you" Summer Suppers! Your group can decide to host in homes, head to a restaurant, or even potluck at a park. Ideally, each group will gather two to three times over the summer months. You can choose a group with kids or without kids, no matter your age or stage of life. Find the link in the Weekly Email and contact Joanna Dawson with any questions (women@mercydallas.com).

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 12

Mother's Day

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

Sunday, May 19

10 - 11:30am

Worship Service & Officer Installation | Sanctuary

Immediately following the service

Installation Reception | Social Hall

Sunday, May 26

9 - 10am

Elementary Sunday School | Room 207

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Sunday, June 2

Promotion Sunday

10 - 11:30am

Worship Service | Sanctuary

Wednesday, June 26

6:30pm - 9:30pm

Happy Hour | TBD

Wednesday, July 31

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Family Worship Night | TBD

Sunday, September 8

10 - 11:30am

Worship Service | Sanctuary

12:30pm - 2:30pm

FALL KICKOFF | 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 - March 31, 2024 Expenses

\$436,941

July 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024 Giving

\$419,548

Variance

(\$17,393)

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