



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Revelation

A Picturebook of Perseverance

AUGUST 11, 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

August 11, 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 19:1-6

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

**Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.**

Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

**In them he has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.**

Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

Let us praise the Lord!

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.

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.

from from Psalm 19:7-14

Gracious and heavenly Father, we know...

**The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure,
making wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure,
enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the Lord is clean,
enduring forever;
the rules of the Lord are true,
and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.
Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can discern his errors?
Declare me innocent from hidden faults.
Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;
let them not have dominion over me!
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

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

Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

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

Jesus, I Come

Words by William True Sleeper | Music by Greg Thompson | Greg Thompson Music ©2000

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

MERCY MOMENT | *The Nokes Family*

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *John Calvin's Catechism, 1560* | Q&A 46 + 47

Why do you call Him the only Son of God, seeing that God calls us all His children?

We are children of God not by nature, but only by adoption and by grace, in that God wills to regard us as such. But the Lord Jesus who was begotten of the substance of His Father, and is of one essence with Him, is rightly called the only Son of God for there is no other who is God's Son by nature.

You mean to say, then, that this honour is proper to Him alone, and belongs to Him by nature, but is communicated to us through a gracious gift, in that we are His numbers.

That is so. Hence in regard to this communication He is called elsewhere "the First-born among many brethren".

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.

Revelation Song

Words and Music by Jennie Lee Riddle | Gateway Create Publishing ©2004

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King

Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery

Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE READING | *Revelation 2:1-7* | Tate Nokes

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands. ²“I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. ³I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary. ⁴But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.’

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Rev. Doug Tharp | *Revelation: Letter to the Withdrawn Church*

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.

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Words and Music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa & Michael Bleecker | Bleecker Publishing ©2012

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living in His suff'ring
Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured love untold

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord He is alive
What a foretaste of deliv'rance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when He comes

Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me

Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, & Michael Farren | CityAlight Music ©2018

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer
There is no more for Heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Savior, He will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley, He will lead
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future's sure, the price, it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus, now and ever is my plea
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day, I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
"Yet not I, but through Christ in me"

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"Yet not I, but through Christ in me"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

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*

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

*Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us
and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your
hearts and establish them in every good work and word.*

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

Building Update

Inspections showed the building presenting well for its age, apart from needing two HVAC units and some minor repairs. **Mortgage** approval is expected by mid-August, at which point pledges will be funded. Due diligence period ends September 9th, with closing expected around October 9th. **Fundraising** has one-time gifts at \$1.324M, with \$176k needed for the goal of \$1.5M. Monthly gifts are at \$7,300, with \$3,800 needed for the goal of \$11,000. Join us in praising the Lord for his provision and praying for continued blessing as we process the administrative details and for full funding of our capital campaign.

Children's Ministry

This summer, we still need weekly volunteers in both the nursery and toddler rooms. If you are interested in getting your family plugged in to this ministry, contact Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)! Children's Church will meet every 2nd and 4th Sunday during the summer.

Youth Ministry

Youth Group will meet once a month this summer for Wednesday devo nights from 6-7:30pm, led by Nate and Cecile Foster. Guys will meet at the Foster's home (634 Scottsdale Dr., Richardson) and girls will meet at the Morgan's home (7051 Teakwood Dr., Dallas) from 6-7:30pm. Our last meeting will be on August 14th. Use the registration link in the Weekly Email to let us know you're coming! Questions? Email youth@mercydallas.com!

Fall Ministry Kickoff

While we are waiting to have our annual Fall Kickoff Party as a churchwarming at our new building, we are excited to launch our men's, women's, youth, & children's ministries, along with community groups on Sunday, September 8th! Toddler Sunday School and Children's Church will begin meeting on Sunday, September 8th. Men's and Women's studies will begin the week of September 9th. Youth Group begins on Sunday, September 15th with a parent meeting after church and Youth Group that evening. Elementary Sunday School will meet every Sunday, beginning September 22nd. It's going to be a great year!

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 11

9 - 9:50am

Communicant Class | The Boardroom

During Church

Children's Church | Room 207

Tuesday, August 13

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Summer Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, August 14

6 - 7:30pm

Youth Group Girls | The Morgan's Home

Youth Group Guys | The Foster's Home

Sunday, August 18

9 - 9:50am

Communicant Class | The Boardroom

Sunday, August 25

9 - 9:50am

Communicant Class | The Boardroom

During Church

Children's Church | Room 207

Tuesday, August 27

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Summer Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, September 1

NO Communicant Class

Sunday, September 8

9 - 9:50am

Communicant Class | Learning Center

Sunday, September 15

9 - 9:50am

Communicant Class | The Boardroom

Immediately following church

Youth & Parent meeting | TBD

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Sunday, September 29

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Sunday, October 13

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Sunday, October 27

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | 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 - May 31, 2024 Expenses

\$517,213

July 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024 Giving

\$503,702

Variance

(\$13,511)

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

Nate and Cecile Foster

Sevee Alaniz

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SESSION | church@mercydallas.com

Rev. Doug Tharp

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DEACONS | deacons@mercydallas.com

Thomas Buerger

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Adam Huebner

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter