



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Revelation

A Picturebook of Perseverance

AUGUST 25, 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 25, 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 135:1-7; 20b-21

Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord,
give praise, O servants of the Lord,
who stand in the house of the Lord,
in the courts of the house of our God!

**Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good;
sing to his name, for it is pleasant!**

For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself,
Israel as his own possession.
For I know that the Lord is great,
and that our Lord is above all gods.

**Whatever the Lord pleases, he does,
in heaven and on earth,
in the seas and all deeps.
He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth,
who makes lightnings for the rain
and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.**

You who fear the Lord, bless the Lord!

**Blessed be the Lord from Zion,
he who dwells in Jerusalem!
Praise the Lord!**

HYMN OF ADORATION | *We sing praises to God*

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Words by Edward Perronet & John Rippon | Music by Oliver Holden | Public Domain

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall.
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.

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*

from Jerome (342-420 AD)

**O Lord, show Your mercy to me
and gladden my heart.
I am like the man on the way to Jericho
who was overtaken by robbers,
wounded and left for dead.
O Good Samaritan,
come to my aid.
I am like the sheep that went astray.
O Good Shepherd,
seek me out and bring me home
in accord with Your will.
Let me dwell in Your house
all the days of my life
and praise You for ever and ever
with those who are there.**

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

Romans 4:7-9

*“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;
blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”*

Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness.

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

What Wondrous Love is This

American Folk Hymn | Old English Ballad | Public Domain

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb Who is the great "I Am";
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

DEACON'S OFFERING | *RUF at University of North Texas | Pastor Justin Smith*

Since the earliest days of the New Testament church, the deacons have taken a special offering to provide for those in need both inside and outside the church. The Lord uses the generosity of His people to provide care that ministers to the whole person, meeting physical and mental needs while being attentive to the spiritual. Through this, we see God's mercy work through us to bless our church and community. Every 4th Sunday, our deacons give Mercy an opportunity to give to this special offering.

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".

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.

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

BUILDING UPDATE

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

SCRIPTURE READING | *Revelation 2:12-17* | Chris Thomas

“And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: ‘The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword. ¹³“I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is. Yet you hold fast my name, and you did not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. ¹⁴But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality. ¹⁵So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth. ¹⁷He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.’

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

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.

This is My Father's World

Words by Maltbie Davenport Babcock | Music by Franklin Lawrence Sheppard | Public Domain

This is my Father's world,
And to my listing ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings,
The music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget,
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father's world:
The battle is not done'
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heaven be one.

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*

1 Thessalonians 5:23-25

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

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** has been approved! We are in the process of collecting pledges for funding. Due diligence period ends September 9th, with closing expected around October 9th. **Fundraising** has one-time gifts at \$1.328M, with \$172k needed for the goal of \$1.5M. Monthly gifts are at \$7,680, with \$3,420 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.

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! Read for details below!

Children's Ministry

School has started, but our summer schedule remains until September 8th, with our last Summer Children's Church on August 25th! For the Fall, Children's Church and Toddler Sunday School will resume meeting weekly on September 8th. Elementary Sunday School will meet weekly beginning September 22nd. If you are interested in getting your family plugged in to this ministry, contact Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)!

Youth Ministry

This fall, Youth Group begins on Sunday, September 15th with a parent meeting after church and Youth Group that evening. We are excited to share that Nate and Cecile Foster will lead our youth this year. Questions? Email youth@mercydallas.com!

Women's Ministry

Join us for Women's Bible Study this fall as we study *Romans 8-16 For You*, by Tim Keller. To get things started, there will be a social gathering on September 4th from 7:30-8:30pm at the Dawson's home. Regular meetings are on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:45pm, beginning September 18th, also at the Dawson's. Look for the link in the Weekly Email where you can sign up. Questions? Contact Joanna (women@mercydallas.com).

Men's Ministry

Join us for Men's Bible Study this fall as we study *Romans 8-16 For You*, by Tim Keller. We meet Tuesday mornings from 6:30-7:30am at Cindi's in Dallas. Look for the link in the Weekly Email where you can sign up. Questions? Contact Doug (doug@mercydallas.com).

CALENDAR

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

Wednesday, September 4

7:30-8:30am

Women's Study Kickoff | The Dawson's Home

Sunday, September 8

9 - 9:50am

Communicant Class | Learning Center

Tuesday, September 10

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, September 15

9 - 9:50am

Communicant Class | The Boardroom

Immediately following church

Youth & Parent meeting | TBD

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Morgan's Home

Tuesday, September 17

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, September 18

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Sunday, September 22

9 - 9:50am

Elementary Sunday School Begins | Room 207

Tuesday, September 24

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, September 25

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Sunday, September 29

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, October 1

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, October 2

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Tuesday, October 8

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, October 9

7:30 - 8:45pm

Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Sunday, October 13

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, October 15

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, October 16

7:30 - 8:45pm
Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Tuesday, October 22

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, October 23

7:30 - 8:45pm
Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Sunday, October 27

6 - 8pm
Youth Group | TBD

Tuesday, October 29

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, October 30

7:30 - 8:45pm
Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Tuesday, November 5

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, November 6

7:30 - 8:45pm
Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Tuesday, November 12

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, November 13

7:30 - 8:45pm
Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Tuesday, November 19

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Wednesday, November 20

7:30 - 8:45pm
Women's Bible Study | The Dawson's Home

Tuesday, November 26

No Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 27

No Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, December 3

6:30 - 7:30am
Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

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 - June 30, 2024 Expenses	\$575,396
July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 Giving	\$564,081
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$11,315)</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

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