



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Revelation

A Picturebook of Perseverance

SEPTEMBER 8, 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

September 8, 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*

1 Chronicles 16:23-27

Sing to the Lord, all the earth!
Tell of his salvation from day to day.

**Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!**

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,
and he is to be feared above all gods.

**For all the gods of the are worthless idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.**

Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and joy are in his place.

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Words and Music by Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman | Shout! Publishing ©2011

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name

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*

Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18

**Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!**

**For your name's sake, O Lord,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

**Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.
The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my distresses.
Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.**

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

Joel 2:23-27

*"Be glad, O children of Zion,
and rejoice in the Lord your God,
for he has given the early rain for your vindication;
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the latter rain, as before.*

*"The threshing floors shall be full of grain;
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
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.*

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

My Worth Is Not In What I Own (At The Cross)

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, & Graham Kendrick | Getty Music Publishing ©2014

My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love at the cross

My worth is not in skill or name
In win or lose in pride or shame
But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross

I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest treasure Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him no other
My soul is satisfied in Him alone

As summer flowers we fade and die
Fame youth and beauty hurry by
But life eternal calls to us at the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might
Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross

I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest treasure Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him no other
My soul is satisfied in Him alone

Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed my ransom paid at the cross

I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest treasure Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him no other
My soul is satisfied in Him alone

MERCY MOMENT | *Fall Ministry Launch*

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *Heidelberg Catechism* | Q&A 27 + 28

What do you understand by the providence of God?

The almighty and ever present power of God by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty— all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.

How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

We can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing in creation will separate us from his love. For all creatures are so completely in God's hand that without his will they can neither move nor be moved.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE | *Laura Murray*

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.

HYMN OF PREPARATION | *We prepare our hearts to hear God's Word*

Is He Worthy

Words and Music by Andrew Peterson & Ben Shive | Capitol ©2018

Do you feel the world is broken
We do
Do you feel the shadows deepen
We do
But do you know that all the dark
Won't stop the light from getting through
We do

Do you wish that you could see it all made new
We do

Is all creation groaning (it is)
It is
Is a new creation coming (it is)
It is
Is the glory of the Lord
To be the light within our midst (it is)
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this (it is)

Is anyone worthy, is anyone whole
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
The Lion of Judah, who conquered the grave
He is David's Root
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
Is He worthy, is He worthy

Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy of this
He is

Does the Father truly love us (He does)
He does
Does the Spirit move among us (He does)
He does
And does Jesus our Messiah hold forever those He loves
He does
Does our God intend to dwell again with us (He does)

Is anyone worthy, is anyone whole
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
From ev'ry people and tribe, every nation and tongue
He has made us a kingdom and priests
To God to reign with the Son
Is He worthy, is He worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy, is He worthy
Is He worthy of this
He is

Is He worthy, is He worthy
He is
He is

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY UPDATE

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

“I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. ²Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. ³Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. ⁴Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. ⁵The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. ⁶He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

COMMUNION HYMN | *We celebrate the family meal of Christians*

Mighty God We Thank and Praise You

Words by Wendell Kimbrough | Music by Ludwig van Beethoven | Wendell Kimbrough ©2012

Mighty God we thank and praise you
For this meal, this Bread of Life!
Precious blood and body, broken,
From your Son our Savior Christ.

In these myst'ries you assure us
We are members of your Son.
Heirs of your eternal Kingdom,
With all faithful people One.

Humbly now we ask you, Father,
In your grace to make us strong
That, with all the saints before us,
In good works we may press on!

Send us out to love and serve you!
Send us out to sing your praise!
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Pow'r and glory to your name!

SENDING SONG | *We are sent as God's people into the world as we trust His promises*

Holy, Holy, Holy

Words by Reginald Heber | Music by John Dykes | Public Domain

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert and art and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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 Timothy 1:17

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

DISMISSAL | *God sends us out into the world*

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 this week! Read for ministry specific details below!

Children's Ministry

For the Fall, Children's Church and Toddler Sunday School will resume weekly meetings 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, connect with Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)!

Youth Ministry

Youth Group at Mercy is for 6th - 12th grades. Come find out more about this ministry on Sunday, September 15th with a parent meeting after church in the sanctuary. Youth Group will also meet that evening at the Morgan's home (7051 Teakwood Dr., Dallas) from 6-8pm. The youth ministry is also looking for host homes for future meetings! If you have questions or are interested in sharing your home, 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. Regular meetings are on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:45pm, beginning September 18th at the Dawson's home (13760 Sprucewood Dr., Dallas). 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, 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 | Sanctuary

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:



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|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2024/2025 Budget | \$590,000 |
| July 1, 2024 - July 31, 2025 Expenses | \$92,525 |
| July 1, 2024 - July 31, 2025 Giving | \$46,964 |
| <i>Variance</i> | <i>(\$45,562)</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