



MERCY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 6, 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

October 6, 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 108:1-6

My heart is steadfast, O God!
I will sing and make melody with all my being!

**Awake, O harp and lyre!
I will awake the dawn!**

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;
I will sing praises to you among the nations.

**For your steadfast love is great above the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!
Let your glory be over all the earth!

**That your beloved ones may be delivered,
give salvation by your right hand and answer me!**

Psalm 150 (Praise the Lord)

Words and Music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell | Getty Music ©2020

You made the starry hosts
You traced the mountain peaks
You paint the evening sky with wonders
The earth, it is Your throne
From desert to the sea
All nature testifies Your splendor

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Sing His greatness all creation
Praise the Lord, raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
Let everything that has breath
Praise the Lord

You reached into the dust
In love, Your Spirit breathed
You formed us in Your very likeness
To know Your wondrous works
To tell Your mighty deeds
To join the everlasting chorus

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Sing His greatness all creation
Praise the Lord, raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
Let everything that has breath
Praise the Lord

Let symphonies resound
Let drums and choirs ring out
All heaven hear the sound of worship
Let every nation bring

Its honors to the King
A roar of harmonies eternal
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Sing His greatness all creation

Praise the Lord, raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
Let everything that has breath
Praise the Lord

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

by Ambrose of Milan, 4th Century AD

O Lord, You who are all merciful, take away my sins from me and enkindle within me the fire of Your Holy Spirit. Take away this heart of stone from me and give me a heart of flesh and blood, a heart to love and adore You, a heart which may delight in You, love You, and please You, for Christ's sake. Amen.

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

Philippians 2:5-10

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

His Mercy Is More

Words and Music by Matt Boswell & Matt Papa | Getty Music Hymns and Songs ©2016

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
New every morn
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
New every morn
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
New every morn
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more

Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
New every morn
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more

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

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Words and Music by Stuart Townend | Thankyou Music ©1995

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything;
No gifts, no power no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

MERCY MOMENT | *Pastor Andrew Mwumvaneza* | Ministry Update

CONFESSION OF FAITH | *Westminster Confession of Faith (Modern English)* | Chapter 8:5 & 8.8

What is the work of Christ's mediation?

By his perfect obedience and sacrifice, offered up to God once and for all through the eternal Spirit, the Lord Jesus has completely satisfied the justice of his Father and purchased not only reconciliation but also an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven for everyone whom the Father has given to him.

Christ insures with absolute certainty that everyone for whom he purchased redemption actually accepts and receives it. He makes intercession for them, reveals the mysteries of salvation to them in and by the word, and effectively persuades them to believe and obey by his Spirit. He governs their hearts by his word and Spirit and overcomes all their enemies by his almighty power and wisdom in such ways as are most in agreement with his wonderful and unknowable administration of things.

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.

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. ¹⁴But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. ¹⁵But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, ¹⁶saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. ¹⁷But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” ¹⁸So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, ²⁰for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” ²¹And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. ²²For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

²³When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

““Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers were gathered together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed’—

²⁷for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” ³¹And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Pastor Andrew Mwumvaneza

SERMON NOTES

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

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.

How Great Thou Art

Written by Carl Gustav Boberg | Translated by Stuart K. Hine | Swedish Folk Melody | Stuart K. Hine Trust ©2014

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hands hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;

Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!"

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.

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;

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*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Intro to Mercy

Church membership is one of the ways people connect more deeply at Mercy as we are called to grow together, living out the gospel and the one another commands of scripture. Our Intro to Mercy class is a great way to learn more about the church, including our vision and what we believe. Taking the class is required for those seeking to join the church but does not compel anyone to join. It is a great place to meet others who are new as well as Pastor Doug. If you are interested in taking the class, send Alison an email at church@mercydallas.com to join. The next class is scheduled for Sunday, October 13th from 1-5pm.

Building Update

Due diligence is complete and closing is set for October 9, 2024. The trustees have negotiated a \$100,000 reduction in the purchase price to cover fixes to the Sanctuary HVAC, AV, and other miscellaneous maintenance items. **Fundraising** has one-time gifts at \$1.428M, with \$72k needed for the goal of \$1.5M. Monthly gifts are at \$7,790, with \$3,210 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. Fulfill your pledge or make a gift at <https://mercydallas.churchcenter.com/giving/>. Be sure to choose the appropriate giving type, "Building: One Time" or "Building: Monthly".

Children's Ministry

Nursery, Toddler Sunday School (during church), Children's Church (during the sermon) and Elementary Sunday School (before church) meet every week. Volunteers in this ministry are always needed. If you are interested in getting your family plugged in to this ministry, contact Emily Freeman (emily@mercydallas.com)!

Youth Ministry

Youth Group at Mercy is for 6th - 12th grades. Youth Group will meet on 2nd and 4th Sundays from 6-8pm. Check the calendar for locations. Youth Girls have an upcoming social on October 19th at the Dallas Arboretum at 10am. Details will be emailed soon! If you have questions or are interested in sharing your home, email youth@mercydallas.com!

CALENDAR

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

1 -5pm

Intro to Mercy | TBD

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | The Foster's Home

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

Saturday, October 19

10am

Youth Girl's Social | The Dallas Arboretum

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 | The Thomason's Home

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

Sunday, November 10

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | New Building

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

Sunday, November 24

6 - 8pm

Youth Group | New Building

Tuesday, November 26

No Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 27

No Women's Bible Study

Thursday, November 28

Thanksgiving Day

Tuesday, December 3

6:30 - 7:30am

Men's Bible Study | Cindi's Deli

Sunday, December 8

6 - 8pm

Carols & Cookies | 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:



2024/2025 Operating Budget	\$590,000
July 1, 2024 - July 31, 2024 Expenses	\$132,905
July 1, 2024 - July 31, 2024 Giving	\$90,798
<i>Variance</i>	<i>(\$42,107)</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

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Tim Thomason

DEACONS | deacons@mercydallas.com

Thomas Buerger

Micah Cunningham

Bryan Hatfield

Phil Vanderhill

Thomas Walter