



REDEEMER CHURCH

A COMMUNITY CHURCH FOR THE CITY
Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—Oct 26, 2025
“The Final Test Before Beautiful Reconciliation”
—Genesis 44

Reflection Quote: “Judah so feels for his father that he begs to sacrifice himself for a brother more loved than himself. Twenty-two years earlier, Judah engineered the selling of Joseph into slavery. Now, he is prepared to offer himself as a slave so that the other son of Rachel can be set free. Joseph has heard enough to know that the brothers have changed dramatically from the day they sold him. They have passed the test. They are even willing to offer their freedom for Rachel’s son Benjamin.”—Sidney Greidanus

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Time of Greeting

Call to Worship

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Rev. Zack Owens

Assistant Pastor of Congregational Care

I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Rev. Zack Owens

Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 2:4-5

Rev. Zack Owens

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

* Song of Preparation

“My God is Awesome”

My God is awesome, He can move mountains.
Keep me in the valley, hide me from the rain.
My God is awesome, heals me when I’m broken,
Strength where I’ve been weakened, forever He will reign. Repeat.

Chorus: My God is awesome, awesome, awesome, awesome.

My God is awesome, Savior of the whole world,
Giver of salvation, by His stripes I’m healed.
My God is awesome, today I am forgiven,
His grace is why I’m living, Praise, His holy name. Chorus

He’s mighty (He’s mighty), He’s mighty (He’s mighty)
He’s mighty (He’s mighty), He’s mighty, awesome, awesome.

He's holy (He's holy), He's holy (He's holy)
He's holy (He's holy), He's holy, awesome, awesome.

He's Great (He's Great), He's Great (He's Great),
He's Great (He's Great), He's Great, awesome, awesome.

Deliverer (Deliverer), Deliverer (Deliverer),
Deliverer (Deliverer), Deliverer, awesome, awesome.

Provider (Provider), Provider (Provider),
Provider (Provider), Provider, awesome, awesome.

Protector (Protector), Protector (Protector),
Protector (Protector), Protector, awesome, awesome

My God is awesome, He can move mountains,
Keep me in the valley, hide me from the rain.
My God is awesome, heals me when I'm broken,
strength where I've been weakened, praise His Holy Name.

*** Song of Praise**

"Who You Say I Am"

Who am I that the highest King Would welcome me?
I was lost but He brought me in, oh His love for me, oh His love for me!

Chorus: Who the Son sets free oh is free indeed,
I'm a child of God, yes I am!

Free at last, He has ransomed me, His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin Jesus died for me, yes He died for me!

Who the Son sets free oh is free indeed,
I'm a child of God, yes I am!
In my Father's house there's a place for me,
I'm a child of God, yes I am!

I am chosen not forsaken, I am who You say I am
You are for me, not against me, I am who You say I am! *Chorus.*

New Testament Scripture Reading *Galatians 2:20*

Rev. Zack Owens

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Gene Dent
Ruling Elder

Worship in Giving

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Please find the Connect Pad on your pew at this time to sign in and pass it down the row.

*Visitors: If you would like to be contacted by the church, please include your email address
Thank you to those giving online.*

Choral Worship

"Now I'm On My Way"

Redeemer Choir

Once I was lost, I was deep in despair,
Satan had me bound in my mind, everywhere
Jesus brought me out, turned my life around, now I'm on my way. *Repeat.*

Now I'm on my way!

Once I was lost, I was deep in despair,
Satan had me bound in my mind, everywhere
Jesus brought me out, turned my life around, now I'm on my way. *Repeat.*

With Jesus, running for Jesus, I'm on my way! I'm on my way!
Jesus brought me out, turned my life around, now I'm on my way.

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Sermon Text

Genesis 44
Pew Bible p. 44

Sermon Title

"The Final Test Before Beautiful Reconciliation"

***Hymn of Faith**

"Have Thine Own Way Lord"

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!

Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after Thy will,
while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!

Search me and try me, Master, today!
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
as in Thy presence humbly I bow.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!

Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power, all power, surely is Thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.

*** Benediction**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

***Departing Song**

"Have Thine Own Way Lord"

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!

Hold o'er my being absolute sway!

Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me.

Prayer Intercessor Team

Mr. Gene Dent & Mrs. Betty Marsha Dent (8:00am)
Mr. Gene Dent & Mrs. Betty Marsha Dent (11:00am)

***Please Stand.**

(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #2579870)

Sermon Points

- The final test for true repentance and faith
- The evidence that the seeds of true repentance and faith are present
- The fruit of true repentance and faith

SERMON NOTES

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—Oct 26, 2025
“The Final Test Before Beautiful Reconciliation”
—Genesis 44

ANNOUNCEMENTS

redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday

Connect Pad: Please find the Connect Pad on your pew and sign in. This helps us keep track of Members and Visitors alike.

More Information:

On the QR Code you'll find links to announcements and online giving.



*** PRAYER REQUESTS/UPDATES ***

- John Hooker: As he recovers from the loss and shock of a house fire.
- Dave Garner: As he grieves the loss of his mother.
- Alice Lusk & the Hollingsworth family: As they grieve the loss of Marshall.
- Myah Lane: As she undergoes treatment for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.
- Thomas Eaves, son of Sterling & Lizzie Eaves: In remission from Leukemia.
- Tu & Caroline Combs: As Caroline undergoes treatment for stage 4 breast cancer.

See QR Code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for updates and Take Them a Meal.

*** SEEKING TO SERVE ***

31 Days of Giving Food Drive

During the month of October we'll be gathering canned goods to benefit Hopeful Community Outreach. HCO houses a food pantry that benefits food insecure individuals in our parish and our city. Thirty-One Days of Giving is planned by RedeemerKids, but it gives an opportunity for our entire church to share Christ's love in word and deed. Help us reach our goal of 1,000 non-perishable canned goods! Donations can be dropped off upstairs by the RedeemerKids bulletin board. Contact Jajuan McNeil at mrcneil@redeemerjackson.com with any questions.

Community Garden Workday, Nov 8

Join Hope Exchange as we care for the veggies, vines, and fruit trees in the Art + Soil Community Garden. The garden is a space for community and collaboration, for creation care and soul care, and for learning and networking. Join us from 9:00am-12:00pm at the corner of Robinhood and Londonderry road behind the church. See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information and to sign up.

*** CALLED TO CONNECT ***

Church-Wide Prayer Brunch, Nov 2

Join us for our monthly congregation wide brunch during the Sunday School hour on Nov 2! We'll enjoy food and fellowship, then spend the last 10 minutes praying together as a church. Be sure and pick up your littles from the nursery before coming to brunch, we want everyone, including our diligent nursery workers, to be able to join us!

RYA Spiritual Formation Dinner & Discussion, Nov 6

Join RYA for our final panel discussion on Thurs, Nov 6 at the Dent's home (address in RYA GroupMe) from 6:30-8:00pm. We will be discussing how God's mission and evangelism aid in our spiritual formation. Pizza will be provided! Reach out to Chael Williams at cwilliams@rts.edu to RSVP or to join the RYA GroupMe.

*** NEWS TO NOTE ***

Accepting Applications for the Director of Music Ministry

Our search is continuing for a Director of Music Ministry. This is a salaried, part-time position (targeting 25-30 hours/week) with potential to grow into full-time role. We are accepting applications through **Dec 17**. Know someone who might be interested? See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information.

Fall Adult Sunday School **9:45-10:35am**

Fall Adult Sunday School Block 2
began Oct 12 and concludes Nov 30.

Foundations of Faith: A Study of the Westminster Confession (Chapters 1–7)

Teacher: Brian Gault
Location: Fellowship Hall

Over 7 weeks we will study Chapters 1–7 of the Westminster Confession of Faith, exploring foundational doctrines that have shaped Reformed theology for centuries. We will examine the nature and authority of Scripture, the attributes and decrees of God, creation and providence, the fall of man, and God's covenantal relationship with humanity.

Working chapter-by-chapter, each week will include guided reading, group discussion, and theological reflection aimed at deepening understanding and encouraging personal application. Whether you are new to the Confession or know it well, this course will provide a structured, thoughtful approach to the historic teachings of the Reformed faith. Join us as we grow in our knowledge of God and His Word through the lens of this timeless confession.

My Role in God's Rescue Plan

Teachers: Jerome Douglas, Brent Kooi, Barret Jones
Location: Room 109

Join us in exploring God's heart for the nations and our part in his mission. Together we'll look at what missions is, who missionaries are, and how each of us can participate - whether by going or sending. Each week will focus on a different aspect of God's rescue plan, concluding with a hands-on mission project. Come be inspired and equipped to play your role in God's global mission!

Redeemer Explored

Teachers: Elbert McGowan, Jr., Barry McCay
Location: Sanctuary

Would you like to know more about Redeemer Church? Are you interested in becoming a member? If so, you need to take this class. Pastor Elbert McGowan, along with the elders, will teach this 7-week introductory course on the ins and outs of Redeemer Church and how you can get involved.

If you are ready to join Redeemer or have further questions, you will have the opportunity to meet with an elder at the end of the class.

Fall Children & Youth Sunday School

**2025 Fall C&Y Sunday School
began Aug 10 and concludes Dec 14.**

Youth (6th-12th): Christian Friendship

High School Teachers: Wilson Jamison, Ian Deffenbaugh,
Anna Lois Callen, Cadden Christie

Middle School Teachers: Wilson Jamison, Rob Vickery, Lane Morgan & Team

Location: Youth Room

"Why is friendship hard?", "Why is it necessary?", "What does it take to be a good friend?", "How does belonging to Jesus shape our friendships?". This fall in Sunday school, Redeemer Youth will explore Christian Friendship using Ed Welch's *Side by Side*. Together, we'll see that humans are made for friendship—that it is rooted in God Himself, broken by sin, and redeemed in Jesus. We'll also learn practical skills for building and sustaining Christ-centered friendships.

Children's (K4-5th): Investigating God's Word

This fall, RedeemerKids is continuing through "Investigating God's Word." All classes K4-5th Grade will be working chapter by chapter through Matthew chapters 1-14.

K4: Room 208

Teachers:

Rachel Harbarger, Amanda McGuffey

2nd: Room 207

Teachers:

Gene Everitt, KK Harrington

K5: Room 209

Teachers:

Beth Clarke, Sarah Love Crawford

3rd: Room 206

Teachers:

Christa Williams, Page Callen,
Andrea Burks

1st: Room 210

Teachers:

Krisan Parish, Claire Graves,
Emmaline Smith

4th: Room 202

Teachers:

Angela Simpkins, Samuel Bolen

5th: Room 204

Teachers:

Haley Arndt, Liz Callen,
Tyler Espinoza

Nursery (2-3):

Exploring God's Word Through the Old Testament

This fall, our Nursery Sunday School will focus on teaching our young children the biblical foundation of God's creation and the early family of faith by covering key stories from the Book of Genesis, highlighting the life of Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Esau, Jacob, and Joseph and how they fit into God's plan of salvation.

***** Redeemer Kids *****

K4-5th Grade

Children's Church, Nov 2

Children ages 4-5 join us as we study Covenant Theology this fall. 8:00am service only, for ages 4-5.

Upside Down

Upside down is our weekly offering for our elementary aged students. We play games, eat, sing, and learn about God's word! Come join us on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30pm.

***** Redeemer Youth *****

6th-12th Grade

Crossroads

If you are in 6th-8th grade, come on out to Crossroads! Crossroads is our weekly youth group gathering where we eat dinner, play games, hear a lesson from the Bible and discuss it in small groups. We meet in the Youth room from 6:00-7:30pm. We have a blast and would love to see you there!

Rooted

High Schoolers, we hope you will join us on Sunday nights for Rooted! At Rooted we eat dinner, worship, hear a lesson from God's Word and then discuss it in small groups. We meet in the Youth room from 5:30-7:00pm. See you there!

THIS WEEK

Deacon on Call Week of Oct 26

Preston Denley, 662.231.3332

Sunday, Oct 26

8:00am Worship Service
Livestream Available

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service

6:30pm Rooted

Monday, Oct 27

12:00pm The Men's Gathering

Tuesday, Oct 28

7:00am Women's Bible Study

6:00pm GriefShare

7:00pm Choir Practice

7:30pm Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, Oct 29

9:00am Mom's Bible Study

5:30pm Families Count Class

6:00pm Upside Down

6:00pm Crossroads

6:00pm Work Life Class via
Hope Exchange

6:00pm Women's Bible Study

Thursday, Oct 30

Friday, Oct 31

Saturday, Nov 1

8:30am Men's Basketball

Sunday, Nov 2

8:00am Worship Service
Livestream Available

9:45am Church-Wide Prayer Brunch

11:00am Worship Service

5:30pm Rooted

Various Sunday Growth Groups

STAFF

Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor

Brian Gault, Asst Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship

Zack Owens, Asst Pastor of Congregational Care

Wilson Jamison, Asst Pastor of Youth Ministry

Stephanie Greer, Assistant Youth Director

Jajuan McNeil, Director of Children's Ministry

Joya McNeil, Children's Ministry Assistant

Jerome Douglas, Dir Neighborhood Outreach & Missions

Katie Drake, Director of Women's Ministry

Velma Warner, Nursery Coordinator

Corrie Keplinger, Coordinator of Communications

& Operations, Assistant to the Senior Pastor

Tina Collier, Administrative Assistant

Brandon Slay, Director of AV Ministries

Andre Warner, Audio/Visual Assistant

Josh Anderson, Intern

Joshua Coleman, Intern

Ian Deffenbaugh, Intern

Markese Lee, Intern

Chael Williams, Intern

Interim Music Ministry Team:

Joyce Hamme, Arthur Phillips, Meg Mills, Akida Mosby

RULING ELDERS

Karl Arndt

Grant Callen

Tu Combs

Gene Dent

Baskin Jones

Scott Marshall

Barry McCay*

Kelle Menogan, Sr.

Marculis Mosby

CL Pearce

Herb Sanders

Andy Sauerwein

William Stackler

Rob Vickery

Trey Watkins

DEACONS

Grafton Bragg

Philip Carter

Preston Denley

Davidson Forester

Jon Fults

David Garner

Jake Garner

Levi Gill*

Clayton Gressett

Reid Haygood

John Hooker*

Detrick Johnson

Blaise King

Cody McCain

Lane Morgan

Greg Ross

Jaimar Scott

Seth Shannon

Jonathan Shull

Jeremy Smith

Ellis Tucker

Thomas Wallace*

Johnston Walker

Tamarco White

*Sabbatical

COMING UP:

Nov 3: Session & Diaconate Meetings

Nov 7: High School Fall Retreat

Nov 8: Community Garden Workday

Nov 20: RYA Friendsgiving

Nov 20: Community Garden Workday

Nov 23: Thanksgiving Evening Service

Nov 24-28: Church Office Closed



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