



REDEEMER CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—December 21, 2025

“Echoes of Advent at the End of Joseph’s Life!”

—Genesis 50:22-26

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Introit

“Highly Exalted”

Glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God in the highest praise.

You are the Lord, God Almighty,

You are highly exalted over all the earth.

You are great and glorious, ever watching over us,
majestic and so marvelous; highly exalted, highly exalted.

We declare You’re wonderful, passionate and powerful.

Father forever You are faithful; highly exalted, highly exalted.

Call to Worship

Titus 2:11-15

Mr. Chael Williams
Interim Youth Director

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Mr. Chael Williams

Assurance of Pardon

Proverbs 28:13

Mr. Chael Williams

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

* Song of Preparation

“O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus

Vast unmeasured, boundless, free!

Rolling as a mighty ocean,
in its fullness over me

Underneath me, all around me,

is the current of Thy love;

Leading onward, leading homeward,
to Thy glorious rest above

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus,
spread His praise from shore to shore!
How He loves us, ever loves us,
changeth never, nevermore.
How He watches o'er His loved ones
died to call them all His own;
How for them He intercedeth,
watching over them from the shore!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Love of every love the best!
'Tis is an ocean vast of blessing,
'tis a haven sweet of rest!
O the deep deep, love of Jesus,
'Tis a heaven of heavens to me;
and it lifts me up to glory,
For it lifts me up to Thee!

*** Song of Praise**

"O Taste and See (Psalm 34)"

I sought the Lord and He answered me,
and delivered me from every fear.
Those who look on Him are radiant,
they'll never be ashamed,
they'll never be ashamed.

This poor man cried and the Lord heard me,
and saved me from my enemies.
The Son of God surrounds His saints,
He will deliver them,
He will deliver them.

*Chorus: Magnify the Lord with me, come exalt His name together!
Glorify the Lord with me, come exalt His name forever!*

O taste and see that the Lord is good,
Oh blessed is he who hides in Him.
Oh fear the Lord, oh all you saints,
He'll give you everything,
He'll give you everything. *Chorus*

Let us bless the Lord every day and night,
never ending praise, may our incense rise. *Repeat as directed. Chorus.*

New Testament Scripture Reading *Hebrews 11:1-3,8-11,13-22* Mr. Chael Williams

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible...

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised...

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Karl Arndt
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.*

Congregational Song

"O Holy Night"

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
it is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
with glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
there came the wise men from Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger;
in all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger.
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
and in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Sermon Text

Genesis 50:22-26

Pew Bible p. 52

Sermon Title

"Echoes of Advent at the End of Joseph's Life!"

*** Hymn of Faith**

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.
field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

*** Benediction**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

***Departing Song**

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Mortals, join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Prayer Intercessor Team

Mr. Marculis Mosby & Mrs. Akida Mosby

***Please Stand.**

(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #2579870)

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 ***

- Family and friends of Charity Barnes: As they grieve the loss of Charity.
- 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.

*** CALLED TO CONNECT ***

9:30am Joint Service on Dec 21 & 28

Next week, Dec 28, instead of two services at 8:00am and 11:00am we will have ONE JOINT SERVICE at 9:30am. With the holidays, this gives us the opportunity for the whole congregation to be in one place at one time. We can't wait to worship together!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Dec 24, 5pm

Join us Christmas Eve as we sing carols and light candles to proclaim that Jesus is the light of the world. (Children often wear pajamas to this event!). See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information.

Church-Wide Prayer Brunch, Jan 4

Join us for our monthly congregation wide brunch during the Sunday School hour on Jan 4! 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!

A Pickleball Farewell to Wilson Jamison, Wed, Jan 7, 5:30-7:30pm

Have you seen Wilson on the pickleball court? Well, this is your last chance! You don't need to play pickleball or know Wilson--all are invited. Come and join us, try pickleball for the first time, or just hang out and fellowship. We'll be at **Parham Bridges** (\$4 per person to play) if it's warmer than 45 degrees and not raining.

Women's Ministry Spring Bible Study Kickoff, Jan 24

Women of Redeemer, join us for a teaching event by Dr. Miles Van Pelt, Professor of Old Testament and Biblical Languages at Reformed Theological Seminary, as he brings to life the book of Genesis and provides us with a rich overview to prepare us for the semester in our small group Bible Studies. If you are new to Redeemer or desire to attend a Bible Study for the first time, this is a great opportunity for you to jump in for the upcoming semester. This event will be on the campus of RTS from 8:30am-12:00pm. RSVP through the QR code, contact Katie Drake at kdrake@redeemerjackson.com for more information.

*** NEWS TO NOTE ***

Youth Director Search Committee

Please pray for the following people who will be serving as the search committee for our next Youth Director/Pastor: Zack Owens, Scott Marshall, Emmaline Smith, Joya McNeil, Big Elbert McGowan, Sr, David Greer, Margot Christie, and Misty Slay. May the Lord use their time and work to provide the right person going forward!

Redeemer's Identity & Mission, Joint Adult SS: Jan 11, 18, 25

Join us as the pastoral staff explores the Identity & Mission of Redeemer Church as we consider healthy membership. We will consider how worship forms us as a diverse yet unified people, how connecting in covenant relationships reflects the gospel's reconciling power, and how serving both the church and our community embodies Christ's love.

Through teaching and discussion, participants will see how these practices shape Redeemer's identity and mission, and discover practical ways to engage more deeply so that our congregation grows as a vibrant, healthy, Christ-centered community.

Advent Sunday School Posted

It's not quite the same as being there, but if you missed or want to revisit the Advent Sunday School on Dec 14, check it out on Redeemer's YouTube channel through the QR code. Special thanks to Akida, Stan, Andy, Jonny, Jermaine, Analise, Christopher, Corrie, and Sarah for sharing their gifts in this meditation on The Coming of the King.

Graduate Recognition

The Redeemer family would like to acknowledge those in our membership that are celebrating graduation this December:

- Graduate: Ashley Abraham, Doctor of Philosophy in Computational Data-Enabled Science and Engineering degree from JSU.

2025 Contribution Information

Please remember all giving for 2025 MUST BE in the church office, postmarked, or given through Breeze by Dec 31, 2025. Please email office@redeemerjackson.com or call 601.362.9987 with any questions you may have regarding your 2025 contributions or to request a hard copy of your statement. You will receive your official statement for tax purposes via email (if applicable) by Jan 16, 2026, or you can access your statement immediately through Breeze.

***** Redeemer Kids *** K4-5th Grade**

Upside Down Returns Jan 21

Upside Down, our weekly programming for K4-8th grade students, is currently on break and will return on Jan 21.

Save The Date: The Redeemer's Ball, Feb 7

Mark your calendars for our annual Redeemer's Ball! This joyful event will be a wonderful opportunity for parents, guardians, and children to come together, share in community, and enjoy a night of dancing, music, and celebration.

***** Redeemer Youth *** 6th-12th Grade**

Crossroads Returns Jan 21

Crossroads, our weekly programming for 6th-8th grade students, is currently on break and will return on Jan 21.

Rooted Returns Jan 25

Rooted, our weekly programming for 9th-12th grade students, is currently on break and will return on Jan 25.

THIS WEEK

Deacon on Call Week of Dec 21

Blaise King, 601.951.8116

Sunday, Dec 21

9:30am Worship Service
Livestream Available

Monday, Dec 22

Tuesday, Dec 23

Church Office Closed-Jan 1

Wednesday, Dec 24

5:00pm Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

Thursday, Dec 25

Merry Christmas!

Friday, Dec 26

Saturday, Dec 27

8:30am Men's Basketball

Sunday, Dec 28

9:30am Combined Worship Service
Livestream Available

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
Chael Williams, Interim 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
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
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
Johnston Walker
Tamarco White

*Sabbatical

COMING UP:

Jan 4: Church-Wide Prayer Brunch
Jan 12: Session & Diaconate Meetings
Jan 21: Upside Down Resumes
Jan 21: Crossroads Resumes
Jan 25: Rooted Resumes
Feb 1: Anniversary Service & Brunch
Feb 2: Session & Diaconate Meetings
Feb 7: The Redeemer's Ball



redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday