



REDEEMER CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Mr. Chael Williams—April 26, 2026
"The Hope of Restoration"
Joel 2:18-32

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Introit

"You Are Good"

RedeemerKids

Lord You are good, and Your mercy endureth forever.

Lord You are good, and Your mercy endureth forever.

People from every nation and tongue,

from generation to generation!

Chorus: We worship You, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

We worship You, For who You are!

We worship You, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

We worship You, for who You are!

* Call to Worship

2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Assurance of Pardon

Jeremiah 31:34

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

...for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

* Song of Preparation

"Blessed Be Your Name"

Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful,
where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place,
though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be Your name.

Chorus: Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.

When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,

"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name."

Blessed be Your name, when the sun's shining down on me,
when the world's all as it should, be blessed be Your name.
Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering.
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your name. *Chorus*

You give and take away, You give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, "Lord, blessed be Your name." *Chorus*

*** 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!

Chorus: 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 Acts 2:14-24, 32-33 Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: "'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it...this Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.

*** Choral Worship**

"More Than Anything"

I lift my hands in total adoration unto You.
You reign on the throne, for You are God and God alone.
Because of You my cloudy days are gone, I can sing to You this song
I just want to say that I love You more than anything.

Love me in Your Arms; You were my shelter from the storm.
When all my friends were gone, You were right there all along
I've never known a love like this before.
I just want to say that I love You more than anything.

I love You Jesus, I worship and adore You,
I just want to say that I love You more than anything.

Prayer of Illumination

Mr. Chael Williams

Sermon Text

Joel 2:18-32
Pew Bible p. 904

Sermon Title

"The Hope of Restoration"

***Hymn of Faith**

"Isaiah 43"

When you pass through the water I will be with you,
and the waves they will not overtake you.
Do not fear for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name, you are mine.

Chorus: For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God),
I am the Lord your God (I am),
The Holy One of Israel Your Savior.
For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God),
I am the Lord your God (I am),
The Holy One of Israel Your Savior.
I am the Lord (do not fear),
I am the Lord (do not fear),
I am the Lord (do not fear),
I am the Lord (do not fear).

*** Benediction**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

*** Departing Song**

"Isaiah 43"

When walk through the fire you'll not be burned,
and the flames they shall not consume you.
Do not fear for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name, you are mine. *Chorus*

Prayer Intercessor Team

Mr. Scott Marshall & Mrs. Helen Marshall (8:00am)
Mr. Scott Marshall & Mrs. Amy Stackler (11:00am)

***Please Stand.**

(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #2579870)

SERMON THEME & POINTS

There is hope in the Gospel for restoration from "the years that the locusts have eaten." (Joel 2:25)

1. Hope Promised, 18-27
2. Hope Realized, 28-29
3. Hope Expected, 30-32

SERMON QUESTIONS

1. Who is the original audience of Joel and why would this passage be an encouragement for them?
2. Have you ever been put to shame by your own sin? How have you seen God bring restoration in those areas?
3. Read Acts 2:14-41. How is the prophecy of Joel used by Peter in the New Testament?
4. How does our passage today find fulfillment in Jesus?
5. How will this passage one day be fulfilled entirely?
6. In what ways are you cultivating hope of the return of Jesus in your life? How can reflecting on our coming restoration affect your life and perspective today?

SERMON NOTES

Mr. Chael Williams—April 26, 2026

“The Hope of Restoration”

Joel 2:18-32

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 *****

- Emily & Markese Lee: For healing and restored vision in Emily's eye.
- Diane Johnston: As she recovers from a recent fall.
- Eva Jones: As she grieves the loss of her mother.
- Finn Roberson & Family: As Finn undergoes CT scans and surgery to remove a mass near his temporal bone, Cholesteatoma.
- Grace Marsh: Recovery and healing from health issues.
- Skipper & Sally Ann Jones: As Skipper struggles with complications in healing from a broken foot.
- Myah Lane: As she undergoes treatment for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.
- Thomas Eaves, son of Sterling & Lizzie Eaves: In remission from Leukemia.
- Caroline & Tu 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 *****

Help Lead Summer Children's Church, 1st & 3rd Sundays

In order for us to have children's church during the summer months, we will need at least 6 leaders to serve twice from June - Aug during the 8:00am service. If you would like to serve as a teacher or teacher assistant for children's church, please contact Jajuan McNeil at mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com

Summer Sunday School with RedeemerKids

During the summers, RedeemerKids shift from their usual curriculum and study the New City Catechism during the Sunday school hour. We need more leaders to pitch in and help to lead the littlest of members starting in June. Would you consider serving during the summer? Reach out to Jajuan McNeil at mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com

Community Garden Workday, May 9, 9:00am-12:00pm

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. Whether you're an experienced gardener or just want to put your hands in the dirt and learn, join us in the garden located at the corner of Robinhood and Londonderry. Questions or ideas? Contact Sylvia Leggette at artandsoilgarden@gmail.com.

***** CALLED TO CONNECT *****

Church-Wide Fellowship Brunch, Chael Williams Introduction, May 3

Join us for our monthly congregation wide brunch during the Sunday School hour on May 3! We'll enjoy food and fellowship and have the opportunity to hear from our new Director of Youth Ministry, Chael Williams. 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!

*** NEWS TO NOTE ***

Sabbatical for Brian Gault, May 31—July 31

We are thankful to share that Brian Gault will take a sabbatical this summer, granted by the session as part of our church's ongoing commitment to care and flourishing. Sabbaticals are a regular practice based on biblical rhythms of rest from labor after several years of sustained ministry. They provide an intentional space for rejuvenation, rest, and renewal both for pastors and their families, caring for their long-term health and thriving within our church family.



Brian, Leigh, and their six girls joined Redeemer in 2017. Since his ordination in 2018, Brian has brought his passion for the word of God and the growth of God's people into the image of Christ to his role as the Assistant Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship. Brian's intrinsic curiosity, passion for purposeful questions, delight in attuning to the spiritual needs of the flock, skill in creating elegant systems, winsomeness, and wisdom in instruction will be deeply missed this season.

During Brian's sabbatical, the rest of our pastoral staff will share his responsibilities, though the absence of his (in)famous dad jokes will certainly echo across the congregation. If you have any questions about what this season will look like, reach out to Brian and the pastoral staff. Join us in prayer that this season would be marked by deep Shalom for the Gaults.

Chael Williams Accepts Director of Youth Ministry Position, To Begin May 1

The search committee is thrilled to announce that Chael Williams was offered and has accepted the role of Director of Youth Ministry. Discerning a call to Pastoral Ministry, Chael, his wife Kate, and their corgi Teddy moved to Jackson in May 2023 for seminary. Their son, Charlie, joined the family this past Nov. Chael joined the church staff as an intern in 2024 and has served as Interim Youth Director for the past six months. He now steps into this full-time role while continuing his studies in the MDIV program at RTS, with plans to graduate in 2027. We are grateful for Chael's enthusiasm, wisdom, sense of wonder, deep care for Redeemer's youth, and his aptitude for creating a slip-n-slide. We rejoice in the gifts he brings to this role and look forward to what's ahead.



Thanks to the Director of Youth Ministry Search Committee

As we hire ministry staff at Redeemer, the Session forms a Search Committee to determine the job description, create the application, evaluate the applicants, and propose a candidate. The Director of Youth Ministry Search Committee is dismissed with thanks: Margot Christie, David Greer, Scott Marshall, Elbert McGowan, Sr., Joya McNeil, Zack Owens, Misty Slay, Emmaline Smith.

Come See Chastain, Apr 27, 5:00-6:00pm

Join us for an on-site for a peek inside the former Chastain school, visit the strategy studio, and learn more about The Redeemer's School plans. Meet the team Redeemer Community Development team, walk the space, and ask questions about the reimagined campus. Please RSVP to Elizabeth Fowler with at elizabeth@mbpcompanies.com.

Graduate Recognition

The Redeemer family would like to acknowledge all those graduating from high school, college, or post-graduate work in our membership. If you or someone you know is graduating this year, please email the church office at office@redeemerjackson.com.

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

Children's Church, May 3

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

Upside Down, K4-5th

Upside down, our weekly programming for elementary schoolers, is currently on break for the summer months and will return in the fall.

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

Senior Night, Apr 26, 5:30-7:00pm

Youth students, it's time to wrap up our Spring semester by celebrating our graduating Seniors! At Senior Night, we'll get to hear memories from our graduates' time in youth group and what they plan to do next. We will also enjoy dinner together, pot-luck style! Scan the QR code to let us know what food you can bring.

Crossroads, 6th-8th

Crossroads, our weekly youth group gathering for middle schoolers, is currently on break for the summer months and will return in the fall.

Rooted, 9th-12th

Rooted, our weekly gathering for high schoolers, is currently on break for the summer and will return in the fall.

Spring Adult Sunday School Block 2

9:45-10:35am

Redeemer Explored

Teachers: Elbert McGowan, Jr., Barry McCay

Location: Room 109

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, Jr., 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.

Generous Justice

Teachers: Brian Gault, Grant Callen

Location: Fellowship Hall

This seven-week Sunday School class explores the core themes of Tim Keller's *Generous Justice* and how they shape a lived, biblical vision of mercy, righteousness, and neighbor-love. Together we will examine the Scripture's call to *mishpat* (justice) and *tzadeqah* (righteousness) in daily life, learning how God's grace motivates compassion rather than guilt or duty.

Each week connects Keller's insights to practical areas such as caring for the poor, addressing social and racial inequities, cultivating cross-cultural relationships, and integrating personal responsibility with concern for systems that harm the vulnerable. Participants will engage in discussion, reflection, and real-life application, discovering how the gospel empowers believers to seek restoration in their communities and embody God's heart for justice with humility, wisdom, and generosity.

Covenant Theology

Teachers: Josh Anderson, Joshua Coleman,

Jonny Parker, Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

Location: Sanctuary

This class will explore the riches of covenant theology and how it shapes the way Reformed Christians read the Bible. Scripture repeatedly reveals God's covenant promise: "I will be your God, and you will be my people" (Ex 6:7).

Over seven weeks, we will trace this theme through the major covenants of the Bible using insights from J. V. Fesko's book *Signed, Sealed, Delivered*. The series will introduce the foundations of covenant theology and examine the covenant of redemption, the covenant of works, and God's covenant of grace in both the Old and New Covenants. We will also consider covenant signs and the relationship between covenant and the church. Our prayer is that this class will help participants see more clearly the beauty of Scripture and the richness of God's relationship with His people.

Spring Children & Youth Sunday School

9:45-10:35am

Youth (6th-12th): *Truths That You Can Trust*

High School Teachers: Chael Williams, Stephanie Greer, Rob Vickery,
Mary Kathryn Evans, Cadden Christie

Middle School Teachers: Chael Williams, Stephanie Greer,
Josh Anderson, Mary Kathryn Evans, Lane Morgan

Location: Youth Room

In a world that is constantly shifting and information that is always changing, it is important that we “build our houses on the rock.” This spring Redeemer Youth will be studying truths you can trust to remind us of the unchanging truth of God’s Word. Using Paul David Tripp’s *12 Truths Every Teen can Trust* as a resource, we will be learning together about core doctrines of the Christian faith serve as a firm foundation for living the Christian Life.

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

This spring, RedeemerKids is continuing through "Investigating God’s Word."

K4: Room 208

Teachers:

Rachel Harbarger, Amanda McGuffey

2nd: Room 207

Teachers:

Gene Everrit, KK Harrington,
Rebecca Walker

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, Tyler Espinoza,
Jake Garner

Nursery (2-3):

Exploring God’s Word Through the New Testament

This spring , our Nursery Sunday School classes will be looking at God’s Son. Our focus will be on exploring the New Testament as we study the birth and early years of Jesus. Each lesson is designed to help children discover and understand these foundational stories from Scripture. In every lesson, the children are continually directed to Jesus and encouraged to recognize their need for Him.

THIS WEEK

Deacon on Call Week of Apr 26

Reid Haygood, 769.233.3203

Sunday, Apr 26

8:00am Worship Service
8:00am Livestream Available
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
5:30pm Youth Senior Night

Monday, Apr 27

12:00pm Men's Gathering

Tuesday, Apr 28

7:00am Women's Bible Study
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:30pm Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, Apr 29

7:00pm Families Count Graduation

Thursday, Apr 30

Friday, May 1

Saturday, May 2

8:30am Men's Basketball

Sunday, May 3

8:00am Worship Service
8:00am Livestream Available
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
Various Sunday Growth Groups

STAFF

Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor
Brian Gault, Asst Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship
Zack Owens, Asst Pastor of Congregational Care
Jerome Douglas, Dir Neighborhood Outreach & Missions
Jajuan McNeil, Director of Children's Ministry
Joya McNeil, Children's Ministry Assistant
Chael Williams, Interim Youth Director
Stephanie Greer, Assistant Youth Director
Katie Drake, Director of Women's Ministry
Velma Warner, Nursery Coordinator
Coralie Keplinger, Coordinator of Communications
& Operations, Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Brandon Slay, Director of AV Ministries
Andre Warner, Audio/Visual Assistant
Josh Anderson, Intern
Joshua Coleman, 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:

May 4: Diaconate Meeting
May 9: Community Garden Workday
May 20: Community Garden Workday
May 28-30: Kids With a Mission
June 1: Session & Diaconate Meetings
June 13: Community Garden Workday
June 15-18: Vacation Bible School
June 22-26: Middle School RYM
July 3-7: High School RYM



redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday