



REDEEMER CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Rev. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.—July 19, 2026

“Who Do You Look To?”

Psalm 123

Reflection Quote

“It is not difficult in such a world to get a person interested in the message of the gospel; it is terrifically difficult to sustain the interest...many claim to have been born again, but the evidence for mature Christian discipleship is slim. In our kind of culture anything, even news about God, can be sold if it is packaged freshly; but when it loses its novelty, it goes on the garbage heap. There is a great market for religious experience in our world; there is little enthusiasm for the patient acquisition of virtue, little inclination to sign up for a long apprenticeship in what early generations of Christians called holiness.”—Eugene Peterson

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.
RUF Campus Minister at Jackson State University

Time of Greeting

* Call to Worship

Hebrews 12:18-19

Mr. Chael Williams
Director of Youth Ministry

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Mr. Chael Williams

Assurance of Pardon

1 John 1:9

Mr. Chael Williams

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

* Song of Preparation

“Promises”

*God of Abraham, You're the God of covenant, and of faithful promises.
Time and time again, You have proven You'll do just what You said.*

Pre Chorus: *Though the storms may come and the winds may blow I'll remain steadfast.
And let my heart learn, when You speak a word it will come to pass.*

Chorus: Great is Your faithfulness to me, great is Your faithfulness to me.
From the rising sun to the setting same, I will praise Your name,
great is Your faithfulness to me.

God from age to age, though the earth may pass away, Your word remains the same.
Your history can prove, there's nothing You can't do, You're faithful and true.

Pre Chorus, Chorus.

Bridge: I put my faith in Jesus,
my anchor to the ground.
My hope and firm foundation,
He'll never let me down. **Repeat, Chorus.**

*** Song of Praise**

"Thy Mercy My God"

*Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
the joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
has won my affection, and bound my soul fast.*

*Without Thy sweet mercy, I could not live here,
sin would reduce me to utter despair.
But through Thy free goodness, my spirit's revive,
and He that first made me, still keeps me alive.*

*Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
which wonders to feel its own hardness depart.
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
and weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.*

Hallelujah!

*Great Father of mercy, Thy goodness I own,
and the covenant love of Thy crucified Son.
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.*

Hallelujah! Repeat

New Testament Scripture Reading *Luke 5:17-26*

Mr. Chael Williams

On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal. And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. And when he saw their faith, he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you." And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the man who was paralyzed—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home." And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen extraordinary things today."

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Gene Dent
Ruling Elder

Worship in Giving

Mr. Gene Dent

****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.*

Special Music

"Be Thou My Vision" Mrs. Meg Mills, Ms. Eve Slay,
Mr. Tim Stanford, Mr. Bear Vickery

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, First in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.*

Prayer of Illumination

Rev. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

Sermon Text

Psalm 123
Pew Bible p. 612

Sermon Title

"Who Do You Look To?"

*** Hymn of Faith**

"Come Thou Fount"

*Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.*

*** Benediction**

Rev. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

*** Departing Song**

"Come Thou Fount"

*O, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.*

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 Questions

- **Open Reflection**—In your own words, what stood out to you when the passage was read?
- **Enjoying God**—What particular aspect of the sermon helped you to enjoy God (Father, Son, and Spirit) more deeply?
- What aspect of the gospel stood out to you in the sermon?
- How would you summarize this sermon to another believer?
- How was your understanding of the passage sharpened, clarified, or changed as you heard the word preached?
- What are practical action steps that you can take this week as we consider how to apply this to our lives?
- Where do you see struggles and/or victories in your life over doctrine and practice from today's passage and sermon?

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 ***

- Grace Marsh: As she deals with ongoing health issues due to anemia.
- Donald Dorsey: In the hospital with vascular issues.
- Myah Lane: As she undergoes treatment for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. Waiting for an appointment with a new provider to resume treatments.
- Thomas Eaves, son of Sterling & Lizzie Eaves: In remission from Leukemia.

Births

- G. Jerome "Trois" Douglas III, 7.7.26, Covenant Child of Jerome & Analise Douglas
- Lucy Katherine Newell, 6.30.26, Covenant Child of Colin & Bliss Newell

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

*** SEEKING TO SERVE ***

Community Garden Workday, July 21, 5:30-7:30pm

Whether you're an experienced gardener or just want to put your hands in the dirt and learn, join us in the garden as we tend the community garden space. Each work day includes maintenance, bed prep, planting, harvesting, and special projects. There is wholesome work for all ages and even a kids play area for the littlest ones! THE ART + SOIL COMMUNITY GARDEN grows organic food to share with the surrounding community. We provide information, education, and mentoring for new gardeners in an encouraging community. Contact Sylvia Legette at artandsoilgarden@gmail.com for more information.

Hope Exchange Volunteer Training, Aug 5, 6:00-8:00pm

This event is for any adult interested in helping people in practical ways. It's for people with a heart for mercy & justice. We are offering an essential training for anyone looking to invest in friendships across dividing lines of race, class, and culture. As an added bonus, it also equips you to serve as an ally with Hope Exchange! Together, we will: 1. Learn best practices in asset-based poverty alleviation, 2. Get prepared to invest in long-term relationships with people working to make positive changes, 3. Grow your church or organization's capacity to serve the most vulnerable in your community. The training will take place at Jackson Leadership Foundation downtown. Sign up through the QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday.

*** CALLED TO CONNECT ***

Summer Fellowship Potluck, July 22, 6:00pm

This summer we have Fellowship Potlucks planned to foster hospitality, connectedness, and belonging. During the summer, the calendar at Redeemer slows and we take a break from our regular rhythms to rest. Wednesday Fellowship Potlucks give us a simple and easy time together to stay connected. This is our final summer potluck! What do I bring? If your LAST NAME starts with...

A-I: bring a side

J-Q: bring a desert

R-Z: bring a main dish

Church-Wide Fellowship Brunch, Aug 2, 9:45-10:35am

Join us for our monthly congregation wide brunch during the Sunday School hour on Aug 2! We'll enjoy food and fellowship together as we enter the fall season. 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*****

Now Accepting Officer Nominations, July 12-Aug 9

The Session has voted to accept nominations for officers for four weeks. Qualified men will meet the standards set for Deacon or Elder in 1 Tim 3 and Titus 1, of the appropriate age (Deacon 25, Elder 35), and a member for at least one year as of Feb 2027. He should be someone who is already actively serving and connected in the life of the church, knows their Bible, and demonstrates spiritual maturity both personally and publicly. A candidate must receive two nominations (not from family members) to be a valid nominee. All officers must be able to receive and adopt our Confessional Standards and form of government. You can find more information and the nominations form on the nominations page through the QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday.

Sabbatical for Brian Gault, May 31—July 31

Brian Gault, Redeemer's Assistant Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship, is currently on Sabbatical. He will return to the church office the week of Aug 3.

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

Celebrating a Grand Time at Lake Forest Ranch

Our kids and volunteers had the best time at Lake Forest Ranch! Special thanks to Jajuan and Joya McNeil, Zack and Kristen Owens and Olivia Akins for caring for everyone who went.

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

Midweek Mix, July 29, 4:30pm

6th-12th graders, come on out to our last Midweek Mix! We'll have a snack, time to hang out with friends, and small group devotionals/discussion. Doors open at 4:30, small groups begin at 5:15.



Guest Speaker: Rev. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.
RUF Campus Minister | Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

Jermaine Van Buren Jr. is from Hattiesburg, MS and graduated from Oak Grove High School in 2016. After receiving a Bachelor of Science Communication Arts (Theatre) from Troy University, Jermaine then received his Master's of Divinity-Counseling Emphasis from RTS Jackson. Jermaine is married to Laurie Upchurch Van Buren (his best friend!); she is a Licensed Professional Counselor who primarily specializes in play therapy. The Van Buren's are longtime Redeemer members serving in various ways. They welcomed their son August Jermaine Van Buren in May of 2026.

Jermaine's favorite hobbies include playing card and board games, reading about Mississippi black history, going to the movies, bowling, pickleball, and listening to live music!



REDEEMER CHURCH

Fall WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Kickoff

ROMANS WITH DR. CHRIS STEVENS

This year in our weekly Bible Studies we will be studying the book of Romans, so our desire for this event is to be an introduction into Romans. We hope that through this event and throughout the year that you know God deeper through the study of his Word and become more connected with other women. If you aren't in a Bible Study or are new to Redeemer, this is a great event to attend. If you are already involved in a Bible Study, come learn more about Romans and enjoy the opportunity to be with the women of Redeemer.

August 15
8:00 AM - 12:30 PM

IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Registration begins at 8:00am, and we will begin promptly at 8:30am and conclude by 12:30pm. **Breakfast will be provided!**

More about our speaker: Dr. Chris Stevens is the Assistant Professor of New Testament at Reformed Theological Seminary. He holds a Master of Divinity from Westminster Seminary California and a Ph.D. in Christian Studies with a concentration in Biblical Studies and New Testament from McMaster Divinity College. He is passionate about helping students grow in their knowledge of Christ and their ability to faithfully interpret and proclaim God's Word. Dr. Stevens and his wife, Megan, have two sons.



DR. CHRIS STEVENS

If you have any other questions, contact Katie Drake at kdrake@redeemerjackson.com

Register through QR code.



Summer Sunday School:
9:45-10:35am
June 14—July 26

Joint Adult Sunday School: One Another 101

Teachers: Tu Combs, Jerome Douglas, Zack Owens, CL Pearce,
William Stackler, Chael Williams
Location: Sanctuary

A summer Sunday School meant to help Redeemer Church have confidence that *ordinary Christians* are God's primary means of care, and to encourage habits of simple, faithful "one anothering" in our church community.

Youth (6th-12th): Studying the Bible with the 7 Arrows

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

Middle School Teachers: Chael Williams, Stephanie Greer,
Lane Morgan, Goodness Adegbola, & Jake Garner

Location: Youth Room

This summer during Youth Sunday School we will be exploring tools of how to best study the Bible on our own and in community. We will be using the 7 Arrows questions and examining a number of passages individually and as a group using different Biblical genres such as Law, OT Narrative, Poetry, Gospels, Acts, and Epistles.

Summer Sunday School:
9:45-10:35am
June 14—July 26

Children's (K4-5th): New City Catechism

This summer, RedeemerKids are studying the New City Catechism questions 1-10 during the Sunday School hour. The New City Catechism offers newly written truths for old questions as we build a foundation for belief and understanding.

K4: Room 208

Teachers:

Rachel Harbarger, Amanda McGuffey,
Jajuan McNeil

2nd: Room 207

Teachers:

Gene Everrit, KK Harrington

K5: Room 209

Teachers:

Beth Clarke, Sarah Love Crawford,
Rebekah Kettlemen

3rd: Room 206

Teachers:

Andrea Burks, Page Callen, Christa Williams

1st: Room 210

Teachers:

Emily DeLashmet, Claire Graves,
Krisan Parish

4th: Room 202

Teachers:

Latanya Francis, Alleen McClain,
Kristen Owens

5th: Room 204

Nursery (2's & 3's): God's Faithfulness to His Promises

Teachers: Olivia Akins, Chad Akins, Amy Boyett,
Alexis Doty, Akida Mosby
Location: Nursery Wing

This summer, our Nursery Sunday School classes will be looking at God's faithfulness in the lives of his Old Testament saints from Moses to Daniel and God's fulfillment of his promises, especially the very best promise to send Jesus the Savior. In every lesson they will be pointed to Jesus and their need for Him.

THIS WEEK

Deacon on Call Week of July 19

Grafton Bragg, 601.624.1153

Sunday, July 19

8:00am Worship Service

8:00am Livestream Available

9:45am Summer Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service

Monday, July 20

Tuesday, July 21

Wednesday, July 22

6:00pm Summer Fellowship Potluck

Thursday, July 23

Friday, July 24

Saturday, July 25

8:30am Men's Basketball

Sunday, July 26

8:00am Worship Service

8:00am Livestream Available

9:45am Summer Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service

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, Director of Youth Ministry

Stephanie Greer, Assistant Youth Director

Katie Drake, Director of Women's Ministry

Velma Warner, Nursery Coordinator

Ellie Craven, Director of Music Ministry

Candace Robins, Assistant Director of Music Ministry

Brandon Slay, Director of AV Ministries

Andre Warner, Audio/Visual Assistant

Coralie Keplinger, Coordinator of Communications

& Operations, Assistant to the Senior Pastor

Mary Sanders, Administrative Assistant

Josh Anderson, Intern

Joshua Coleman, Intern

Markese Lee, Intern

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:

July 29: Redeemer Youth Midweek Mix

Aug 2: Church-Wide Fellowship Brunch

Aug 9: Fall Sunday School Begins

Aug 9: Officer Nominations Close

Aug 10: Session & Diaconate Meetings

Aug 15: Women's Ministry Fall Kickoff

Aug 16: Sunday Growth Groups Begin

Aug 19: Upside Down Begins

Aug 19: Crossroads Kickoff Game night

Sept 6: Church-Wide Prayer Brunch



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