



REDEEMER CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Mr. Chael Williams—October 18, 2026

"The God who Pursues His Sinful People"

Hosea 3

Welcome & Announcements

Mr. Chael Williams
Director of Youth Ministry

Introit

"Isaiah 43"

RedeemerKids

*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. (Women echo). Repeat
For I am the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.*

*I am the Lord. (Women echo: Do not fear.)
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. (Unison.)*

*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***

* Call to Worship

Luke 15:17-24

Rev. Zack Owens
Assistant Pastor of Congregational Care

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Rev. Zack Owens

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 1:13-14

Rev. Zack Owens

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

*** Song of Preparation**

"O Come To The Alter"

*Are you hurting and broken within? Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?
Jesus is calling.*

*Have you come to the end of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the well?
Jesus is calling.*

Chorus: *O come to the altar, The Father's arms are open wide!
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.*

*Leave behind your regrets and mistakes, come today, there's no reason to wait.
Jesus is calling.*

*Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy. From the ashes, a new life is born.
Jesus is calling. **Chorus***

*Oh, what a Savior. Isn't He wonderful?
Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen!
Bow down before Him, for He is Lord of all.
Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen! **Chorus, repeat***

*** Song of Praise**

"Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me"

*What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer. There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom.
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace,*

*To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, for my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine", yet not I, but through Christ in me.*

*The night is dark but I am not forsaken, for by my side, the Savior He will stay.
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing for in my need, His power is displayed*

*To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me, through the deepest valley He will lead.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome, yet not I, but through Christ in me.*

*No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven, the future sure, the price it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon, and He was raised to overthrow the grave.*

*To this I hold, my sin has been defeated, Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free", yet not I, but through Christ in me*

*With every breath I long to follow Jesus; for He has said that He will bring me home.
And day by day I know He will renew me, until I stand with joy before the throne.*

*To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, all the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat: yet not I, but through Christ in me
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat: yet not I, but through Christ in me*

Baptism

Rev. Zack Owens

Lucy Katherine Newell, Covenant Child of Colin & Bliss Newell (8:00am)

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Kelle Menogan
Ruling Elder

Worship in Giving

Mr. Kelle Menogan

****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.*

Children's Church (Ages 4-5) 8:00am only

Parents: After worship in giving, you are welcome to send your child (4-5) to children's church before the end of special music.

Special Music

"Gentle & Lowly"

Ms. Eve Slay & Mr. Bear Vickery

*Lord, make us servants in your house
And consider others better than ourselves
Lord, make us humble, make us meek
Quick to hear, slow to speak*

Chorus: *Make us gentle and lowly in heart
That we might demonstrate who you are
For your yoke is easy, and your burden's not hard
Make us gentle and lowly as you are*

*Lord, take our burdens, and give us rest
That we might know the poor in spirit shall be blessed
Take our ambitions, take our dreams
Make us still enough for you to wash our feet* **Chorus**

*Make us lovers of the truth while loving others who do not trust in you
Give us courage not to be proud, to do the work that goes unnoticed by the crowds
Hide our right hand from our left, do not give us over to self-righteousness
If love is patient, if love is kind, if there's no greater love than laying down our lives* **Chorus**

Prayer of Illumination

Mr. Chael Williams

Sermon Text

Hosea 3
Pew Bible p. 893

Sermon Title

"The God who Pursues His Sinful People"

* Song of Faith

"Abide With Me"

*Abide with me: fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, abide with me.*

*Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile; And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee, On to the close Lord, abide with me.*

*I need thy presence every passing hour. What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and strength can be? Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.*

*I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless, ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if thou abide with me.*

*** Benediction**

Rev. Zack Owens

*** Departing Song**

"Abide With Me"

*Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes. Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

Prayer Intercessor Team

Mr. Kelle Menogan & Mrs. Helen Marshall (8:00am)
Mr. William Stackler & Ms. Diane Johnston (11:00am)

***Please Stand.**

(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #2579870)

Sermon Questions

- How does Hosea and Gomer's marriage image God's relationship with his covenant people?
- How does this passage speak to sin's consequences?
- What is idolatry? How are idolatry and desire related? Do you have any idols in your life that are keeping you from knowing the love of God?
- What is significant about Hosea "buying" Gomer back?
- How is Jesus Christ the ultimate example of God's pursuit of His unfaithful people?
- What is the hope for the unfaithful bride?
- Do you believe that God has pursued you with a love that was established before the foundation of the world? How would this truth change the way you live?

Why Do We Baptize the Children of Believers?

God's Covenant with His People

In the Reformed tradition, infant baptism is grounded in the Bible's unified teaching about God's covenant of grace. From the beginning, God has graciously committed himself to redeeming a people for himself through His promises. He has also given covenant signs to mark those who belong to his visible covenant community. The coming of Christ does not overturn this pattern; it fulfills it. God established his covenant with Abraham, saying, "I will establish my covenant between you and me and your offspring after you throughout their generations... to be God to you and to your offspring after you" (Gen 17:7). The covenant sign was circumcision, given not only to believing adults but also to their infant sons (Gen 17:10–12). Circumcision pointed beyond itself to the righteousness that comes by faith (Rom 4:11).

Circumcision, Baptism, and Judgment

There is another important dimension to these covenant signs. Circumcision was a cutting that pictured the judgment and curse deserved by the covenant-breaker. It pointed to the seriousness of sin and the necessity of being delivered from its curse through God's provision. The same pattern helps us understand baptism. Throughout Scripture, water is associated with both judgment and salvation. The waters of the flood brought judgment upon the wicked, while God brought his people safely through the Red Sea. In baptism, these themes converge: the waters picture Christ's own passage through death and judgment on behalf of his people, and our identification with him in that judgment (Rom 6:3–4; 1 Pet 3:20–21).

Baptized into Christ

Baptism is, at its heart, a baptism into Christ—into his death, burial, and resurrection. The water itself does not wash away sin, regenerate a person, or guarantee salvation. Rather, baptism visibly proclaims the gospel: the way of salvation is not around judgment but through it, because Christ bore judgment in the place of his people. Baptism pictures our union with Christ in his death and resurrection. The sign points us away from ourselves and toward the Savior who died and rose again so that all who are united to him by faith might have life.

Why Baptize Infants?

Because God has not changed the covenantal pattern by which he addresses believers and their children. At Pentecost, Peter proclaimed, "The promise is for you and for your children" (Acts 2:39). The New Testament also records the baptism of households (Acts 16:15, 33; 1 Cor 1:16). These passages do not explicitly tell us that infants were present, but they fit the broader biblical pattern in which God includes the children of his people within the visible covenant community.

Infant baptism, therefore, is not a declaration that a child is already regenerate or certainly saved. Baptized children, like everyone else, must personally repent and believe in Christ. Baptism is a sign and seal of God's covenant promise, placing the gospel before the child from the beginning and calling him or her to embrace Christ by faith.

Look to Christ

When we witness a baptism at Redeemer Church, we should look first to Christ. Baptism reminds us that salvation comes through judgment because Christ endured judgment for his people. It points us to his death and resurrection, his covenant faithfulness, and the promise of eternal life for all who are united to Him by faith.

SERMON NOTES

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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 ***

- Ollie Roberson: As he recovers from an emergency appendectomy.
- Beth Lovelace: Unable to attend worship recently due to declining health.
- Donald Dorsey: Continued recovery from lengthy hospitalization and surgeries.
- Myah Lane: As she waits for a treatment plan for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.
- Thomas Eaves, son of Sterling & Lizzie Eaves: In remission from Leukemia.

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. 31 Days of Giving is planned by RedeemerKids, but it gives an opportunity for our entire church to have an opportunity 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. Questions? Contact Jajuan McNeil at mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com.

*** CALLED TO CONNECT ***

Children & Youth Sunday + Donuts with Deacons, Today, Oct 18

Twice a year, Children & Youth in our congregation help to lead us in worship as we praise the Lord and together and celebrate all He is doing in the young flock at Redeemer. Part of C&Y Sunday is donuts with Deacons during the Sunday school hour. Donuts with Deacons is an opportunity for our K4-5th grade children to interface with the leaders of our church. They'll visit classrooms and talk about what it means to be a deacon and empower our children to work alongside them. And, they'll bring donuts! Questions? Contact Jajuan McNeil at mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com.

Thanksgiving Evening Service, Nov 22, 5:00pm

Join us as we gather for our annual Thanksgiving service to practice gratitude. This evening of worship and reflection is a perfect way to pause, give thanks, and celebrate God's blessings. Nursery will not be provided.

*** NEWS TO NOTE ***

Joya McNeil Concludes Her Time in Children's Ministry

At the end of October, Joya McNeil will step down as Children's Ministry Assistant to serve full-time at The Redeemer's School as Director of Student Life, alongside her role as PE teacher. Joya joined the church staff in 2021 and has faithfully served RedeemerKids and their families, sharing her caring presence, robust affinity for crafts, and an enthusiasm that makes church life a joy for our kids. She lives up to her name. While we'll miss her deeply on staff, we're thankful she'll continue at The Redeemer's School and won't be far away. Join us in celebrating and thanking Joya as she enters this new season!



Now Accepting Children's Ministry Assistant Applications

With Joya now using her gifts full time at The Redeemer's School, we're now hiring a part-time Children's Ministry Assistant. Know someone who would be a good fit? Find the application and job description through the QR code, and contact Zack Owens at zowens@redeemerjackson.com for more information.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY **FALL** **FELLOWSHIP**



NOVEMBER 12 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Come enjoy a night of fellowship with the women of Redeemer at Jo Neel Vickery's home! Martha Turner will be leading us in line dancing. There will also be several fire pits to sit around and enjoy the fall weather and a watercolor craft we will use to encourage other Redeemer members.

Where: the address will be sent to you when you register — please register by using the QR code.

For any questions, contact Katie Drake
at kdrake@redeemerjackson.com



UPCOMING EVENTS:



JAN 30 Day Conference

MAR 20 Travel Event • Laurel, MS

APR 24 End of Year Event

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

Upside Down, Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm

Upside Down is our midweek discipleship time for kids k4-5th grade. It's like VBS for our kids once a week! This fall we will be studying the book of Joshua. Drop off in the Fellowship Hall, dinner provided.

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

High School Friendsgiving Feast, Nov 15, 5:30-7:00pm

Let's wrap up the fall semester with good food and great friends at our High School Friendsgiving Potluck at the McGowan's home. Sign up through the QR code to bring a dish to share, and check the GroupMe for the address—we hope you'll join us for a fun night together!

Middle School ThanksChristmas Party, Nov 18, 6:00-7:30pm

Calling all middle school students! Come celebrate the end of the fall semester at our ThanksChristmas Party with dinner, hot chocolate, festive games and activities, and plenty of holiday fun—bonus if you wear your tackiest Christmas sweater! We'll meet in the Youth Room.

Contact Stephanie Greer at sgreer@redeemerjackson.com for more info.

Crossroads, Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm

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 have a blast and would love to see you there!

Rooted, Sundays, 5:30-7:00pm

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. See you there!

Adult Sunday School Classes

Block 2, Oct 11—Nov 29

9:45-10:35am

The Wisdom of Finding Wisdom: How to Interpret Proverbs

Location: Sanctuary

Teacher: Brian Gault, CL Pearce

Join us for seven weeks as we explore the rich structure, interpretive approach, and practical message of the Book of Proverbs. This class will help participants understand how to read Proverbs thoughtfully, discerning the literary patterns, recurring themes, and instructional techniques that shape its teaching.

We will examine the interpretive principles needed to apply ancient wisdom to contemporary life, highlighting the fear of the Lord as the foundation of understanding. Through guided discussion, reflection, and group interaction, participants will discover how Proverbs equips believers to navigate moral choices, cultivate godly character, and live wisely in daily relationships. Engage with Scripture in a new way, and grow in both knowledge and practical application of divine wisdom.

Sharing Christ at Work

Location: Fellowship Hall

Teacher: Jerome Douglas

A 7-week practical training on bringing faith into the workplace with wisdom and courage. This would focus on helping people take intentional steps toward leading others to faith and encouraging fellow believers, equipping them to have natural, meaningful Gospel conversations and live as faithful witnesses in their daily work.

Redeemer Explored

Location: 109

Teachers: Elbert McGowan, Jr., Barry McCay

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.

Fall Children & Youth Sunday School

Aug 9—Nov 29

9:45—10:35am

Youth (6th-12th): Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion

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

Middle School Teachers: Chael Williams, Stephanie Greer, Jerome Douglas, Katie Drake, Lane Morgan, Goodness Adegbola, Oliver Hammond, Jake Garner

Location: Youth Room

This fall Redeemer Youth Sunday School will be working through *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion* by Rebecca McLaughlin. From the back of the book:

"Christianity is the most widespread global belief system, and promises to remain so well into the future. But for many educated westerners, biblical Christianity is a dangerous idea—challenging some of their deepest beliefs. Channeling state-of-the-art research, personal stories, and careful biblical study, *Confronting Christianity* explores 12 questions that keep many of us from considering faith in Christ. Look more closely, McLaughlin argues, and the reality of suffering, the complexity of sexuality, the desire for diversity, the success of science, and other seeming roadblocks to faith become signposts. Jesus becomes not a relic from the ancient world, but our modern world's best hope."

Children's (K4-5th): Exodus

K4- Room 209/211 - Teachers: Amanda McGuffey, Rachel Harbarger

K5- Room 208 - Teachers: Beth Clarke, Sarah Love Crawford, Rebekah Kettleman

1st Grade-Room 210 - Teachers: Claire Graves, Krisan Parish

2nd Grade-Room 207 - Teachers: Gene Everitt, KK Harrington, Rebecca Walker

3rd Grade - Room 205/206 - Teachers: Andrea Burkes, Page Callen, Christa Williams

4th Grade - Room 204 - Teachers: Latanya Frances, Alleen McClain, Sonya White

5th Grade - Teachers: Haley Arndt, Tyler Espinoza

This Fall, RedeemerKids will start to study the book of Exodus during the Sunday School hour. We will be using OneStory's curriculum to study God's word chapter by chapter.

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

Teachers: Olivia Akins, Chad Akins, Alexis Doty, Akida Mosby

Location: Nursery Wing

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.

THIS WEEK

Deacon on Call Week of Oct 18

Jaimar Scott, 601.720.2009

Sunday, Oct 18

Children & Youth Sunday

Baptism

8:00am Worship Service
8:00am Livestream Available
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
5:30pm Rooted
Various Sunday Growth Groups

Monday, Oct 19

12:00pm Men's Gathering
6:00pm GriefShare

Tuesday, Oct 20

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

Wednesday, Oct 21

5:30pm Families Count Class
6:00pm Upside Down
6:00pm Crossroads
6:00pm Women's Bible Study
6:00pm Hope & Relationships Class
6:00pm Officer Training

Thursday, Oct 22

12:00pm Women's Bible Study

Friday, Oct 23

Saturday, Oct 24

8:30am Men's Basketball
9:00am High School Fall Retreat

Sunday, Oct 25

8:00am Worship Service
8:00am Livestream Available
9:45am 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
Oliver Hammond, 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

*Sabbatical

DEACONS

Grafton Bragg
Philip Carter
Preston Denley
Davidson Forester*
Jon Fults
David Garner
Jake Garner*
Clayton Gressett
Reid Haygood
Detrick Johnson
Blaise King*
Jonathan Lancaster
Cody McCain
Lane Morgan
Greg Ross
Jaimar Scott
Seth Shannon
Jonathan Shull
Jeremy Smith
Ellis Tucker
Johnston Walker
Tamarco White

COMING UP:

Nov 1: Communion Sunday
Nov 2: Session & Diaconate Meetings
Nov 11: Church Office Closed
Nov 12: Women's Ministry Fall Fellowship
Nov 13-15: Middle School Encounter Retreat
Nov 15: Baptism Sunday
Nov 15: High School Friendsgiving Feast
Nov 18: Middle School ThanksChristmas Party
Nov 22: Thanksgiving Evening Service
Nov 23-26: Church Office Closed
Dec 6: Communion Sunday



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