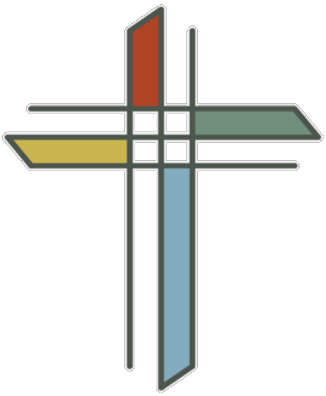


REDEEMER CHURCH

A COMMUNITY CHURCH FOR THE CITY

Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Rev. Zack Owens—November 22, 2026

"Difficult Subjects: Government"

1 Peter 2:13–17

Welcome & Announcements — Rev. Zack Owens, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care

Time of Greeting

*** Call to Worship** — *Psalm 47:1–2, 6–8* — Rev. Brian Gault, Assistant Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship

Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth...Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm! God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin — Rev. Brian Gault

Assurance of Pardon — *Isaiah 53:5* — Rev. Brian Gault

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed

*** Song of Preparation** — *"At The Cross"*

Alas! and did my Savior bleed and did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?

Refrain: *At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light,*
and the burden of my heart rolled away,
It was there by faith I received my sight, and now I am happy all the day!

Thy body slain, sweet Jesus, Thine—and bathed in its own blood—
While the firm mark of wrath divine, His Soul in anguish stood. ***Refrain***

Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree! ***Refrain***

Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut His glories in,
When Christ, the mighty Maker died, for man the creature's sin. ***Refrain***

Thus might I hide my blushing face while His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt my eyes to tears. ***Refrain***

*** Song of Praise** — *"Thank You Lord"*

Thank you Lord
Thank you Lord
Thank you Lord
I just want to thank you Lord

You've been so good
You've been so good
You've been so good
I just want thank you Lord

You saved my soul
You saved my soul
You saved my soul
I just want to thank you Lord

You brought me out
You brought me out
You brought me out
I just want to thank you Lord

You made a way
You made a way
You made a way
I just want to thank you Lord

New Testament Scripture Reading *Matthew 8:5–13* Rev. Brian Gault

When he had entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, appealing to him, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; let it be done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment."

Pastoral Prayer Mr. Herb Sanders
Ruling Elder

Worship in Giving Rev. Zack Owens

***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 *"I Want to Say Thank You"* Redeemer Choir

If I never live another day, If I never see a smiling face,
If I never breathe another breath, take another step. I wanna say thank You.

If I never hear what's to be heard, If I never speak another word,
If I never see another sight, take another bite, I wanna say thank You.

Chorus: *Thank You for all that You've done thus far.*
Thank You for being the God that You are. Thank You for food on my table.
I know You're able. I wanna say thank You.

If I never take another walk, If I never have another talk,
If I never hear another voice, make another choice, Lord, I wanna say thank You.

If I never scale the China wall, If I never see the Taj Mahal,
If I never find that special friend, over and back again. I just wanna say thank You. ***Chorus***

Prayer of Illumination Rev. Zack Owens

Sermon Text 1 Peter 2:13–17
Pew Bible p.1204

Sermon Title *"Difficult Subjects: Government"*

* **Hymn of Faith** *"Jesus Paid It All"*

I hear the Savior say, "Your strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in Me your all in all."

Refrain: *Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;*
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find Your power and Yours alone,
Can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone. ***Refrain***

* **Benediction** Rev. Zack Owens

* **Departing Song** *"Jesus Paid It All"*

And when, before the throne, I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat. ***Refrain***

Prayer Intercessor Team Mr. Herb Sanders & Mrs. Haley Arndt (8:00am)
Mr. Herb Sanders & Mrs. Mary Sanders (11:00am)

***Please Stand.**
(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #2579870)

Sermon Points

1. The Scandal of Subjection (vv. 13–15)
   a. Subjection
   b. Institution
   c. Doing Good: The Extra Mile

2. The Struggle Toward Freedom (vv. 16–17)
   a. Honor Everyone
   b. Love the Brotherhood
   c. Fear God
   d. Honor the Emperor

Sermon Questions

1. Is it difficult for you to hear Peter urge the church to submit to governing authorities? Why or why not? How does this look different in the United States than it would in the Roman Empire, or modern day China?

2. Verse 17 charges us to "honor everyone," with no exceptions included. Who comes to mind when you hear that? Is there someone whose actions or views make honoring them feel difficult, maybe even wrong? What makes that so challenging?

3. We honor everyone, and love the church. But Peter reserves fear for God. What does it look like when we fear an outcome, a leader, or an ideology more than we fear God? What would change if that fear were rightly placed?

4. When Pilate released Barabbas and condemned Jesus in his place, it pictures our justification. How does seeing your own standing before God in that Great Exchange (Christ's innocence for our guilt) change the way you think about extending honor to people who, by your own measure, haven't earned it?

5. In what ways can you extend love and honor to brothers and sisters in Christ who have a different view of government than you do?

SERMON NOTES

Rev. Zack Owens—November 22, 2026

"Difficult Subjects: Government"

1 Peter 2:13–17

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Rev. Zack Owens—November 22, 2026

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1 Peter 2:13–17

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 ***

- 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.

Birth

- *Ann "Annie" Frances York,* 11.10.26, Covenant Child of John Harrison & Ashleigh York

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

*** SEEKING TO SERVE ***

RED Christmas Deliveries, Dec 12, 10:00am-12:00pm
It's time for our Redeemer Engaging Disabilities Christmas deliveries! Come join us for a fun morning of delivering Christmas cheer and gifts to families in our church touched by disability. We will meet in the fellowship hall to enjoy treats and pray before dividing up into groups to go visit our families. We also need your help purchasing gifts. Whether you can join us for deliveries or help purchase gifts or do both, all are welcome! Sign up through the QR code.

*** CALLED TO CONNECT ***

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.

Christmas Cantata, Dec 13, 6:00pm
Come and savor the Advent season with an evening of music and celebration, followed by dessert and hot chocolate in the fellowship hall. Bring your family, invite a friend, and come early, seating fills quickly! Nursery will not be provided.

Advent Meditation Joint Sunday School: Advent Readings, Songs, and Spoken Word, Dec 20
Join us in the Sanctuary during the Sunday School hour as we celebrate the coming of Christ, the Light of the World. Through Old and New Testament Scripture readings, congregational Christmas hymns, poetry, and spoken word, we'll trace the promise of light in a darkened world, the arrival of Jesus Christ, and the glorious hope of the day when night will be no more. Children & Youth will be joining us!

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

Children's Church, Dec 6
On 1st and 3rd Sundays this fall, RedeemerKids ages 4-5 are invited to Children's Church during the 8:00am service. Look for Mr. Jajuan by the stairs following the offertory!

Upside Down, Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm
Upside Down has wrapped up for the fall semester. We'll resume on Jan 20.

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

Crossroads (6th-8th Grade), Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm
Crossroads has wrapped up for the fall semester. We'll resume on Jan 20.

Rooted (9th-12th), Sundays, 5:30-7:00pm
Rooted has wrapped up for the fall semester. We'll resume on Jan 24.

Adult Sunday School Classes
Block 2, Oct 11—Nov 29
9:45-10:45am

The Wisdom of Finding Wisdom: How to Interpret Proverbs
Location: Sanctuary
Teacher: Brian Gault, CL Pearce

Sharing Christ at Work
Location: Fellowship Hall
Teacher: Jerome Douglas

Redeemer Explored
Location: 109
Teachers: Elbert McGowan, Jr., Barry McCay

Winter '26-'27 Schedule
Joint Adult Sunday School
9:45-10:45am

- Dec 6: Fellowship Brunch
- Dec 13: Capital Campaign Presentation with Elbert McGowan, Karl Arndt, and Corrie Keplinger
- Dec 20: Advent Meditation
- Dec 27 & Jan 3: Joint Worship Services at 9:30, No Sunday School
- Jan 10: Prayer Brunch
- Jan 17: Healthy Church Membership with Brian Gault & Elbert McGowan
- Jan 24: Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers
- Jan 31: Serving Sunday School with Zack Owens & Rome Douglas
- Feb 7: Joint Anniversary Service, Installation of Officers

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 Nov 22
Dave Garner, 769.428.7405

Sunday, Nov 22
8:00am Worship Service
8:00am Livestream Available
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
5:00pm Thanksgiving Evening Service

Monday, Nov 23
Church Office Closed
6:00pm GriefShare

Tuesday, Nov 24

Wednesday, Nov 25

Thursday, Nov 26

Friday, Nov 27

Saturday, Nov 28
8:30am Men's Basketball

Sunday, Nov 29
8:00am Worship Service
8:00am Livestream Available
9:45am Fall Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service

redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday

STAFF

Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor
Zack Owens, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care
Brian Gault, Asst Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship
Jerome Douglas, Dir Neighborhood Outreach & Missions
Jajuan McNeil, Director of Children's Ministry
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
Corrie 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:

Dec 6: Communion Sunday
Dec 7: Session & Diaconate Meetings
Dec 13: Christmas Cantata
Dec 20: Baptism Sunday
Dec 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Dec 27: Combined Worship Service
Jan 3: Combined Worship Service
Jan 6: Session & Diaconate Meetings
Jan 17: Baptism Sunday
Jan 18: Church Office Closed
Jan 24: Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers