



REDEEMER CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—March 24, 2024

“Rocky Relationships, Relentless Grace”

—Genesis 29:31-30:24

Reflection Quote

The scene continues in Haran, covering a period of at least seven years, according to the terms of the marriage contract (29:27-30; 30:25, and 31:41). Whereas Jacob spent his first seven years of that contract unmarried, Jacob now has two wives, each with her own handmaid. Over the remaining seven years of his marriage contract, he begins to build his family. The birth of eleven sons and one daughter over seven years entails that the births are not successive and that two or more of the four mothers were pregnant at the same time. - Bruce K. Waltke

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Missions Moment

Delta Streets Academy

* Call to Worship

Isaiah 53:1-6

Mr. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.
Intern

Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 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. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Mr. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:1

Mr. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

* 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

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

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

I put my faith in Jesus My anchor to the ground
My hope and firm foundation
He'll never let me down

*** Song of Praise**

"Lord You're Mighty"

Say, Lord, You're mighty (Lord, You're mighty)
Lord, You're mighty (Lord, You're mighty)

Oh Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth You set Your glory above the heavens
and the earth When I think of all You've made, the sun, the moon and the stars
No praise is high enough to express how great You are

What a mighty God we serve, Mighty God we serve
Angels would bow before the mighty God we serve
What a mighty God we serve, Mighty God we serve
Let heaven and the earth adore the mighty God we serve

Hallelujah (Hallelujah)
All glory (all glory)
All honor (all honor)
All praise (all praise)
All praise (all praise)

Old Testament Scripture Reading

Ruth 4:9-17

Mr. Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon. Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day." Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem, and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring that the Lord will give you by this young woman." So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the Lord gave her conception, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him." Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her lap and became his nurse. And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Grant Callen, Ruling Elder

Worship in Giving

Mr. Grant Callen

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.

*** Choral Worship**

"Lord, You're Holy"

Redeemer Choir

Chorus: Lord You're holy, Lord You're holy and we lift You up, and magnify Your name.
Lord, You're holy, Lord You're holy and we lift You up, And magnify Your name.

As I look around and I see all the works that Your hands have made the awesomeness of You and how Your love will never fail. Mere words cannot express what I feel inside.

I can't describe Your glory divine.

But as a token of my love this is what I'll do, I lift my hands and cry holy. (Chorus)

There's not enough words that I can say to tell You how much I appreciate all the wonderful things You've given me. Your loving kindness. Your tender mercies. It's my desire to praise You and tell You how much I love You. You're worthy of all the honor Lord. You're worthy of all the praise.

I don't know how You can love me, how You could give me so much mercy.

You didn't have to suffer and die for me way back on Calvary.

I thank You, I thank You, I thank You.

Wonderful, Glorious, Holy, and Righteous, Victorious, Conqueror, Triumphant and Mighty Healer, Deliverer, Shield and Defense, Strong Tower and my Best Friend, Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Soon Coming King, Alpha, Omega, Lord of Everything. Holy, Holy, Holy is Your Name.

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Sermon Text

Genesis 29:31-30:24

Sermon Title

Rocky Relationships, Relentless Grace

*** Hymn of Faith**

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, Spring-time and harvest;
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above--
Join with all nature in manifold witness to
Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

*** Benediction**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Departing Song

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear Presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Prayer Intercessor Team

Mr. Jeremy Smith/Mrs. Alli Smith (8:00am)
Mr. Herb Sanders/Mrs. Mary Sanders (11:00am)

***Please Stand.**

(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #257987)

SERMON NOTES

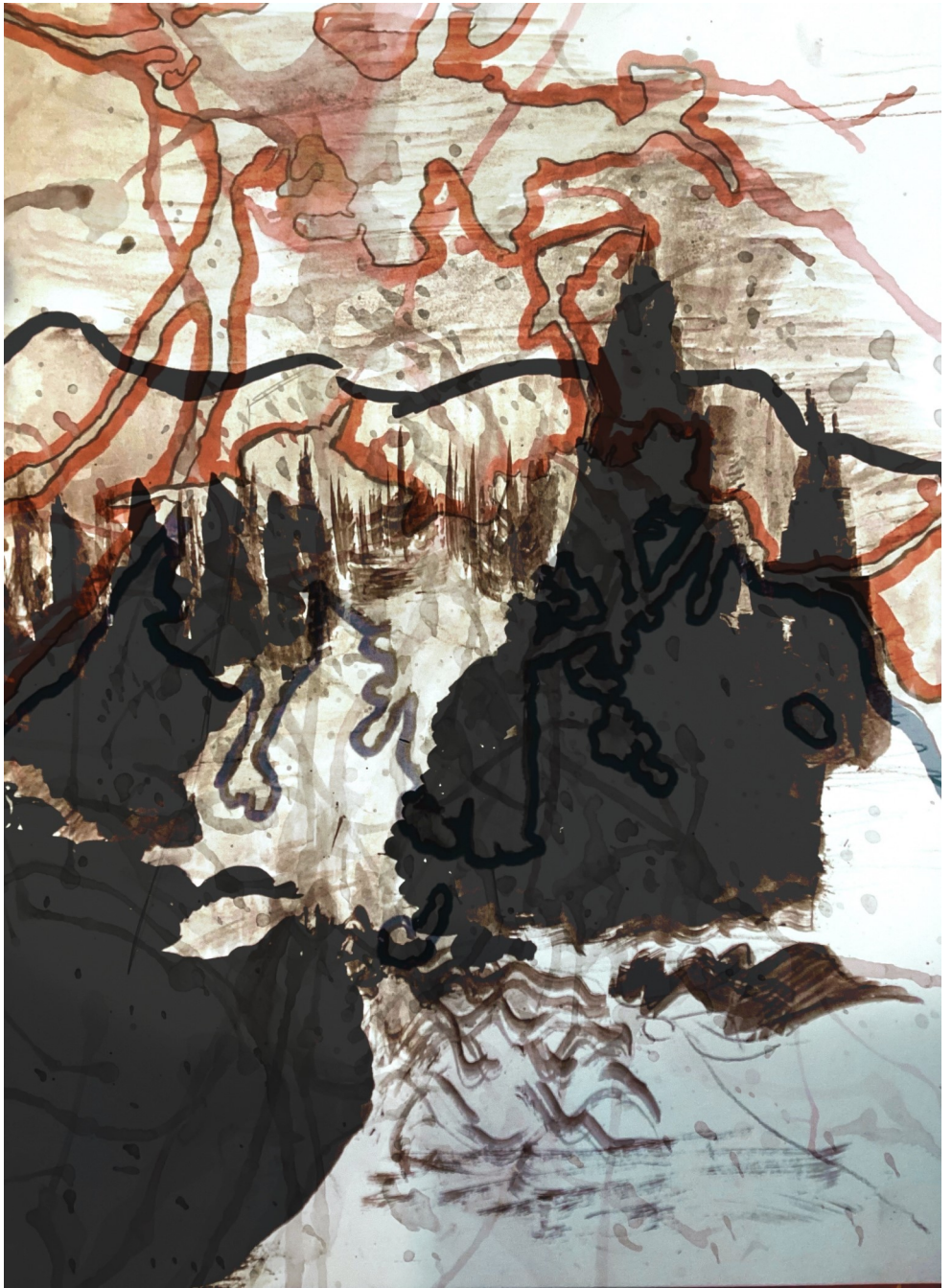
Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—March 24, 2024

“Rocky Relationships, Relentless Grace”

—Genesis 29:31-30:24

SERMON QUESTIONS

- What impacted you most from the sermon or the passage? What challenged you most from the sermon or the passage?
- We are hardwired for relationships. When have you noticed this? Where did this longing come from? Reflect on a time in your life when you became acutely aware of this truth.
- All relationships can be rocky. Consider each person in our passage. How are they causing pain? How are they being hurt? Why do you think God puts these dynamics in the Bible?
- When have you been hurt by others? When have you caused others pain? Is the Lord calling you, right now, to leave your gift at the altar and go to him or her to seek forgiveness and/or reconciliation?
- Paul Tripp and Tim Lane write, “Every painful thing we experience in relationships is meant to remind us of our need for God. And every good thing we experience is meant to be a metaphor of what we can only find in him.” Interact with this quote.
- God alone is able to bear the weight of meeting our relational needs. Look at the verbs credited to the Lord/God in this text. What are they? Why is this significant? How does God care for Leah, Rachel, Jacob and the servant-women either directly or by inference?
- On this side of the cross, we are aware that God has done even more for us. We were told that Leah, unlike Rachel who was beautiful in form and appearance, was unsightly. We are also told that Leah, not Rachel, gave birth to Judah. Someone else, from the line of Judah has come. He, like Leah, had no form or majesty, no beauty that we should desire him (see Isaiah 53). Yet, in love, he was crushed for our iniquities. How is Jesus the means, the evidence and the expression of God’s great love for you?
- Are you resting in Jesus this morning? How does receiving His grace and love satisfy us and transform us?



****Collaborative artwork by Bear Vickery & Elijah Norman****

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 ***

- Lydia Abraham: Mito Disease, Stage 4 Liver Cirrhosis, pain management and wisdom for doctors in her treatment. For updates on Lydia, please see QR Code.

BIRTHS

- Oliver Fields Berkompas, 3-20-2024, son of Ryan & Kelly Berkompas. See QR Code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for Take Them a Meal.

*** SEEKING TO SERVE ***

6 More Leaders Needed for Upside Down

We are in need of six additional leaders to serve at Upside Down with our 1st-3rd grade groups. Leaders will seek to disciple Redeemer Kids, and facilitate further learning of the weekly Bible lesson. Upside Down meets Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm in the Church Fellowship Hall. See the QR Code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information and to sign up.

*** CALLED TO CONNECT ***

Redeemer Explored Begins, Mar 31

If you are interested in joining Redeemer, we invite you to participate in Redeemer Explored, a Sunday School class that explores who we are and what we believe. Pastor Elbert leads this class during the Sunday School hour (9:45 - 10:35am), from Mar 31 - May 12.. See the QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information and to hold your seat in the class. Meets in room 109.

Communicants Class Begins, Mar 31

Communicants class starts on Sun, Mar 31 for kids in 3rd-8th grade. This 6-week course explains core Christian beliefs and participants who attend at least half the classes are given the opportunity to become Communing Members by giving a credible confession of faith to an elder. See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information and to sign up.

RYA Identity Seminar, Apr 26-27

Come grow in your identity in Christ with Redeemer Young Adults and Dr. Bob Smart for our Identity Seminar! We will cover topics including identity in Christ defined, warring interpretations over identity, and ample discussion around core lies that threaten our identity in Christ. In order to host this seminar, we need 20 people signed up by Apr 15. We'll gather at the church on Friday from 6:00-9:00pm and Saturday from 9:00am-3:00pm. See QR Code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information and to sign up.

Notes for 2024 High School Graduates

In just a few weeks we will be celebrating our 2024 graduates! We would love our church body to send in notes with advice, encouragement, and reminders of God's faithfulness for their senior notebooks. If you can write one, please email it to Stephanie Greer at sgreer@redeemerjackson.com by April 17.

Pick Up Invite Cards in the Narthex

Easter and Christmas are the two days each year that churches welcome the most visitors. Who could you invite to join us for our Easter Service on March 31? If you'd like a physical invite card as something to hand to someone you invite, you can pick them up in the narthex.

*** **NEWS TO NOTE** ***

New Redeemer Webpage: Service Page

Our website has undergone some renovations recently, and we wanted to let you know about some of the changes. This week, check out our new Service Page. Of course, we have leaders who serve with Growth Groups, Upside Down, Redeemer Blooms, and many other ministries—but this is a list of our ministries devoted to Service in the life of the church. We want EVERYONE to serve somewhere! See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday to view the new page.

Committees at Redeemer

Redeemer is an Elder-led and Committee-driven church. Six Committees (Administration, Children & Youth, Congregational Care, Discipleship Ministries, Missions & Outreach, and Worship), consisting of officers and lay people, help organize and support the ministries of the church in order to fulfill our mission and vision. See the QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information.

Now Accepting Applications for the Director of Music Ministry

Our search is underway for a Director of Music Ministry. This is a salaried, part-time position (targeting 25-30 hours/week) with potential to grow into full-time role. We are accepting applications through April 15. Know someone who might be interested? See the QR code for all the information about the Director of Music Ministry position and search process.

2024 Missions Moment Schedule

Each Sunday during Missions Month, we will have a Missions Moment where we hear from different missionaries we support. During this season, we encourage our members to support missions in three ways: PRAY, GIVE, GO. See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information.



March 24
Delta Streets Academy
Mississippi



March 31
Stuart & Meg Mills
Peru



April 7
Jae Yoo
South Korea

SPRING SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 - 10:35am

Spring Adult Sunday School, Block 1

Feb 11-Mar 24

Jesus is Building His Church in a Dechurching World: Fellowship Hall

Teachers: Brian Gault, Elbert McGowan, Jr., Barry McCay, Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

Forgiveness: Sanctuary

Teachers: Zack Owens, Tu Combs

Coming Up:

Adult Sunday School Block Two

Mar 31-May 12

Intimacy With God in The Psalms: Sanctuary

Teacher: Brian Gault

There are times when intimacy with God feels like chasing the wind. Intimacy is found at the intersection of longing and belonging, transparency and acceptance, abiding and beholding. In the Psalms, God takes the words of his saints and they become the word of God as a path to bring our whole self before him. The Psalms are full of raw honesty, overwhelming grief, and incomprehensible joy—all tools for the loving father to woo us into his presence. He says, “Bring your whole self. I want all of you.”

Brokenness and heartache, doubt and confidence, and anger and exaltation are all welcome in God’s presence. And as we walk the well-worn words of saints who have gone before, the path will emerge to bring our whole selves before the face of God. And that’s where intimacy begins.

Befriend: Creating Belonging in a Lonely & Isolated World: Fellowship Hall

Teachers: Karl Arndt, Grant Callen, Scott Marshall, Kelle Menogan, Zack Owens, William Stackler, Jermaine Van Buren, Jr.

Sometimes we find in seasons of life that busyness and social media have left a void of deep, intentional friendship. What ever happened to connection and belonging? Where can I know others and be known?

Using Scott Sauls’ book, *Befriend*, this class will make a case for building friendships that go beyond a digital, transactional, or one-dimensional nature and turn into relationships that are vulnerable, transparent, loving, and loyal. Sauls creates categories, each with a biblical foundation, for various types of friendship and gives us a different lens to see those we encounter day by day. He encourages us to befriend “the One in the Mirror,” “the ‘Other,’” “True Friends and Significant Others,” “the Poor and Empty-Handed,” “the Rich and Powerful,” and so many more. The end result is a paradigm for friendship that challenges us to love others the way Jesus did.

Redeemer Explored: Room 109

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, 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 (May 19 & 26).

SPRING SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 - 10:35am

Spring Youth Sunday School

Feb 11-Mar 24

Middle School, Worship at Redeemer: Youth Room

For those who have grown up in the church, Sunday mornings can become rote. We can be tempted to simply go through the motions. So, our Youth Sunday school will study "Worship at Redeemer." In the class, we will unpack the reason and rhythm of our Sunday morning worship service by explaining the elements of worship and seeing them expressed in the worship service. We will address questions like... "Why do we worship?" and "How can two churches look different, but still be faithful?"

High School, Evangelism: Youth Room

In this class, we are equipping students to engage their unbelieving friends and share the gospel with them. According to the Gallup Polls, 88% of people who visited church for the first time did so because they were invited by a friend. And according to The Great De-Churching, 86% of people who have left the church say they would re-visit the church if a friend invited them. By offering this class alongside "Worship at Redeemer", we hope to help students see that part of evangelism can be as simple as inviting their friends to church.

Spring Children's Sunday School

Feb 11-May 12

K4-1st Grade: Stories of the Bible

K4: Room 211

K5: Room 209

1st Grade: Room 207

2nd-3rd Grade: Biblical Themes & Building Blocks of the Faith

2nd Grade: Room 210

3rd Grade: Room 202

4th-5th Grade: Bible Survey

4th Grade: Room 206

5th Grade: Room 204

***** Redeemer Kids *****

K4-5th Grade

Mar 27: Upside Down

Mar 31: Communicants Class Begins

Apr 7: Children's Church (Ages 4-6, 8:00am only)

***** Redeemer Youth *****

6th-12th Grade

Mar 24: Rooted

Mar 27: Crossroads

Mar 28: High School Girls Bible Study

THIS WEEK

Deacon on Call for the Week Mar 24

Karl Arndt, 601.720.4727

Sunday, March 24

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

Monday, March 25

Tuesday, March 26

- 12:00pm The Men's Gathering
6:00pm GriefShare
7:30pm Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, March 27

- 9:00am Mom's Bible Study
6:00pm Upside Down
6:00pm Crossroads
6:00pm Women's Bible Study
6:00pm Hope Exchange Community Group

Thursday, March 28

- 12:00pm Women's Bible Study
4:15pm High School Girls Bible Study

Friday, March 29

- 6:00 pm Good Friday Service

Saturday, March 30

- 8:30am Men's Basketball

Sunday, March 31

- 8:00am Worship Service
Livestream Available
9:45am Sunday School: Adult Sunday School Block 2 begins
11:00am Worship Service

redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday

STAFF

Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor
Brian Gault, Asst Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship
Zack Owens, Asst Pastor of Congregational Care
Jajuan McNeil, Director of Children's Ministry
Joya McNeil, Children's Ministry Assistant
Velma Warner, Nursery Coordinator
Wilson Jamison, Asst Pastor of Youth Ministry
Stephanie Greer, Assistant Youth Director
Jermaine Van Buren, Jr., Intern, Youth Ministry Asst
Gabriel Garcia, Ministry Assistant
Daniel Covert, Ministry Assistant
Corrie Keplinger, Communications & Events Coordinator
Tina Collier, Administrative Assistant
Interim Music Ministry Team:
Joyce Hamme, Arthur Phillips, Kateri Gill, Akida Mosby

RULING ELDERS

Grant Callen
Tu Combs
Gene Dent
Scott Marshall
Barry McCay
Kelle Menogan, Sr.
Marculis Mosby
Herb Sanders
Andy Sauerwein
William Stackler
Shelby Watts

DEACONS

Karl Arndt
Grafton Bragg
Philip Carter
Davidson Forester
Jon Fults
David Garner
Jake Garner
Levi Gill
Reid Haygood
John Hooker
Detrick Johnson
Baskin Jones
Guin Kendrick
Blaise King
Cody McCain
Greg Ross
Jeremy Smith
Ellis Tucker
Johnston Walker
Thomas Wallace
Tamarco White

COMING UP:

Apr 1: Session & Diaconate Meetings
Apr 7: Mission Month Concludes
Apr 18: RYA Your Relationship to Relationships
Apr 20: Saturday Serve
Apr 24: Youth Senior Night
Apr 27: Redeemer Women's Meet & Greet
May 6: Session & Diaconate Meetings
May 30: Kids With a Mission

