



REDEEMER CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—May 12, 2024

“Wrestling with God”

—Genesis 32:22-32

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Time of Greeting

* Call to Worship

Isaiah 40:27-31

Rev. Wilson Jamison
Assistant Pastor of Youth Ministry

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Rev. Wilson Jamison

Assurance of Pardon

1 John 4:10

Rev. Wilson Jamison

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

* Song of Preparation

“Again I Say Rejoice”

Come bless the Lord, come bless the Lord Draw near to worship Christ the Lord.

And bless His name His holy name,
Declaring He is good (Repeat)

○ that men would praise Him,
○ that men would praise Him

Rejoice in the Lord always,
And again I say and again I say
Rejoice in the Lord always,
And again I say and again I say rejoice

○ that men would praise His name. Praise His name to the ends of the earth

* Song of Praise

“Holy Holy Holy (Praise Him and Lift Him up)”

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy is the Lord God Almighty
Worthy to receive glory
Worthy to receive honor
Worthy to receive all our praise today

Praise Him
Praise Him
Praise Him and life Him up
Praise Him
Exalt His name forever

Confessing the Faith

Heidelberg Catechism

Rev. Wilson Jamison

Q 26: What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

A: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ his Son. I trust him so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and he will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends me in this sad world. He is able to do this because he is almighty God; he desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.

Q 27: What do you understand by the providence of God?

A: God's providence is his almighty and ever present power, whereby, as with his hand, he still upholds heaven and earth and all creatures, and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.

Q 28: What does it benefit us to know that God has created all things and still upholds them by his providence?

A: We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and with a view to the future we can have a firm confidence in our faithful God and Father that no creature shall separate us from his love; for all creatures are so completely in his hand that without his will they cannot so much as move.

Pastoral Prayer

Mr. Marculis Mosby, Ruling Elder

Worship in Giving

Mr. Marculis Mosby

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

"Hallelujah, You're Worthy to be Praised"

Hallelujah, You're worthy to be praised. Hallelujah, You're worthy to be praised.

I lift my hands, I praise You, Lord. I bow my head, I honor You, Lord.

Hallelujah, you're worthy. Hallelujah, we praise Your name.

Hallelujah, so worthy, Hallelujah, Lord we lift You up.

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

Sermon Text

Genesis 32:22-32
Pew Bible p. 27

Sermon Title

Wrestling with God

***Hymn of Faith**

"O Love that will not Let me Go"

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

○ Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

*** Benediction**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

*** Departing Song**

“O Love that will not Let me Go”

○ Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

Prayer Intercessor Team

Mr. Bill Wallace/Mrs. Alecia Wallace (8:00am)
Mr. Marculis Mosby/Mrs. Akida Mosby (11:00am)

***Please Stand.**

(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #257987)

SERMON NOTES

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—May 12, 2024

“Wrestling with God”

—Genesis 32:22-32

SERMON QUESTIONS

- What impacted you most from the sermon?
- What might the Holy Spirit be calling you to repent of? What might He be calling you to believe more deeply this morning?
- Can you recall a time in your life when loss paved the way for spiritual gain? While it is not the only way God helps us to cherish Him above all things, it is a way he does this. Where else, in the Bible, is this dynamic in play?
- Jacob wrestles with God. We could also say that God picked a fight with Jacob. Numerous lessons can be learned from that wrestling match! What do we learn about God? What do we learn about Jacob? What do we learn about us? How is the Gospel portrayed in this scene?
- Jacob, after the loss and the wrestling match, is a new man. The sun is now rising. He has a new name and a new walk. What truths are communicated in those things?
- What might it look like for you to walk in the newness of life - with gospel humility, dependency and an even deeper love for Jesus?
- In Genesis 33, everything that was threatened is restored! Jacob and Esau are reunited. His family is safe, along with his possessions. How does this help us to grasp aspects of our future inheritance? In the end, because we are in Jesus, we will dwell with God and enjoy the beautiful restoration of all good things! Do you believe this?

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 ***

- Tu & Caroline Combs: As Caroline prepares to undergo treatment for stage 4 breast cancer.
- Katie Trotter: Healing of breast and bone cancer.
- 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.

Graduates

- **High School:** David Carter, Ella Combs, Hollis Dare, Gideon Franklin, Leah Hamme, Isabelle Jones, Karis McGowan, Pierce Newman, Lucy Stackler, Richana Stiff, Ronada Townsend, Susan Vickery
- **College:** Auburn Hamme, Matthew Hubele, Markese Lee, Jordan White
- **Graduate:** Victor Lennartz, William Palmer, Jermaine Van Buren, Jr., Erik Yeary

*** CALLED TO CONNECT ***

Mom's Summer Playdates

While Mom's Bible Study takes a pause for the summer months, we will be gathering weekly for playdates on Wednesday mornings, beginning in June. If you'd like to be added to our GroupMe for meeting information, contact Krisan Parish at krisanparish@gmail.com.

RCA ArtShare with Kenetic Etchings

Join Redeemer Community Arts for an ArtShare hosted by Kinetic Etchings Dance Project on May 17 from 6:30-8:30pm. We will meet at the Ballet Mississippi Dance Studio in the Arts Center of Mississippi (201 E. Pascagoula St. Jackson, MS 39201). Come ready to share what you've been working on (visual art, writing, music, dance, drama, handiworks, etc.), or just come and partake of the creative feast! Feel free to bring a side or dessert to share. See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information.

Fellowship Potluck, May 22

This summer, we have 6 Wednesday 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. We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall from 6:00-7:00pm on May 22, June 5, June 19, July 3, July 17, and Aug 17.

What do I bring? On May 22, we'll start this way. If your LAST NAME starts with...

A-I: bring a main dish

J-Q: bring a side

R-Z: bring a dessert

See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information.

*** NEWS TO NOTE ***

Spring Sunday School Wraps up, May 12

The last Spring Sunday School will meet on May 12. On May 19, we invite everyone to come to the Year in Review and Budget Update. Then we will take a break for 2 weeks (May 26 & June 2) before we return to a Joint Adult Sunday School on June 9.

Joint Sunday School, May 19

All Redeemer members (adults & children), join us in the sanctuary for our Year in Review and Budget Update during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:35). Pastor El will give us a look at the Year in Review for our Fiscal Year (which runs July-June) and a Budget update as we think about the horizon and upcoming dreams for next year as we pray about the Lord's direction. Nursery will not be available as we want all of our adults to be able to participate. Children are welcome to sit in!

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 May 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.

Officer Nominations, July 14-Aug 4

The Session has voted to accept nominations for officers for three 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 2025. He should be someone who is already actively serving and connected in the life of the church. See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday to view the webpage for more information. From July 14-Aug 4, you will find the nomination form on that page.

Officer on Sabbatical

On May 6, the Session approved a Sabbatical for Cody McCain. Cody has been a part of the Mercy Ministry team, as well as various other ministries in the church. Cody's gifts of hospitality, service, and relational wisdom will be missed in this season. Please pray for deep rest and renewal for Cody on his Sabbatical.



Daniel Covert Completes Internship

Daniel Covert finishes his internship in May and is putting his seminary studies on hold for a year to return home to work full time and save money in order to return and enroll in the Master of Arts in Counseling at RTS.

Daniel, thank you for your service at Redeemer--for your faithfulness in caring for our Children, Youth, and Young Adults, your love of Jesus, your ability to make others feel welcome, and your passion for people. May the Lord richly bless you in your year away!



SPRING SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 - 10:35am

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

Mar 31-May 12

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

May 30-June 1: Kids With a Mission

Kids With A Mission is for rising fourth and fifth graders and their parents. It gives the chance for our kids to lock hands with missions and missionaries in Jackson, we want to promote our families loving where we live! We'll engage in various activities from 10:00am-12:00pm, come for one day or all three! See QR code or redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday for more information and to sign up.

June 2: Children's Church

June 24-27: VBS (K4-5th)

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

6th-12th Grade

2024 High School Graduates

Congratulations to our Graduating High School Seniors! We are thankful for your years spent in Youth Ministry at Redeemer and are so excited to see where the Lord will lead you next!



THIS WEEK

Deacon on Call for the Week May 12

Levi Gill, 970.946.8467

Sunday, May 12

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

Monday, May 13

Tuesday, May 14

- 6:00pm GriefShare

Wednesday, May 15

Thursday, May 16

Friday, May 17

- 6:30pm RCA ArtShare

Saturday, May 18

- 8:30am Men's Basketball

Sunday, May 19

Baptism Sunday

- 8:00am Worship Service
Livestream Available
9:45am Joint SS-Year in Review
& Budget Update
11:00am Worship Service

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

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:

May 22: Fellowship Potluck
May 26: No Sunday School
May 27: Memorial Day-Church Office Closed
May 30-June 1: Kids With a Mission
June 2: No Sunday School
June 3: Session & Diaconate Meetings
June 5: Fellowship Potluck
June 9: Joint Adult Sunday School Begins
June 14-19: The Edge Middle School Retreat
June 19: Fellowship Potluck
June 24-27: VBS
July 3: Fellowship Potluck
July 14-Aug 4: Officer Nomination Period

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