



**REDEEMER CHURCH**

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

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—September 29, 2024

*“Blessed are The Poor in Spirit”*

—Matthew 5:1-3

## Reflection Quote

The followers of Jesus are to be different - different from both the nominal church and the secular world, different from both the religious and the irreligious. The Sermon on the Mount is the most complete description anywhere in the New Testament of the Christian counter-culture. And this Christian counter-culture is the life of the kingdom of God, a fully human life indeed but lived out under divine rule. The beatitudes describe Christian disciples, at least in the ideal; the qualities commended are spiritual qualities; and the blessing promised (as an unearned free gift) is the gloriously comprehensive blessing of God's rule, tasted now and fulfilled later, including the inheritance of both earth and heaven, comfort, satisfaction and mercy, the vision and the experience of being the children of God.  
—John Stott

## Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

## Missions Moment

Mr. Jerome Douglas

### \* Call to Worship

*Isaiah 2:1-5*

Rev. Brian Gault

Assistant Pastor of Shepherding and Discipleship

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

## Prayer of Invocation and Confession of Sin

Rev. Brian Gault

## Assurance of Pardon

*Psalms 103:11-12*

Rev. Brian Gault

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

## \* Song of Preparation

*“Oh the Blood of Jesus—There is Power in the Blood”*

○ the blood of Jesus, ○ the blood of Jesus,  
○ the blood of Jesus, It washes white as snow

○ the cross of Jesus, ○ the cross of Jesus,  
○ the cross of Jesus, His death brings life to me

○ the love of Jesus, ○ the love of Jesus,  
○ the love of Jesus, He freely gives to me

There is power, power, wonder working power, in the blood, of the lamb.  
There is power, power, wonder working power, in the precious blood of the lamb.

There is healing, healing, wonder working healing, in the blood, of the lamb.  
There is healing, healing, wonder working healing, in the precious blood of the lamb.

There is joy, joy, wonder working joy, in the blood, of the lamb.  
There is joy, joy, wonder working joy, in the precious blood of the lamb.

**\* Song of Praise**

*“Goodness of God/I Love You Lord”*

I love You, Lord For Your mercy never fails me  
All my days, I've been held in Your hands From the moment that I wake up  
Until I lay my head Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus: And all my life You have been faithful And all my life You have been so, so good  
With every breath that I am able Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice You have led me through the fire  
In the darkest night You are close like no other  
I've known You as a Father I've known You as a Friend  
And I have lived in the goodness of God (yeah) (Chorus)

'Cause Your goodness is running after It's running after me  
Your goodness is running after It's running after me  
With my life laid down I'm surrendered now  
I give You everything 'Cause Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me (oh-oh) (Repeat) (Chorus)

'Cause all my life You have been faithful And all my life You have been so, so good  
With every breath that I am able Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God  
Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God

I love You Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you  
Oh my soul rejoice, take joy my King in what you hear  
Let it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear

**Old Testament Scripture Reading** *Isaiah 61:1-2 & 66:1-2*

Rev. Brian Gault

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

Thus says the Lord: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest? All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the Lord. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

**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.*

**Congregational Song**

*“Before the Throne of God Above”*

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea, A great High Priest whose name is “Love,” Who ever lives and pleads for me. My name is graven on His hands, My name is written on His heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart, No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within, upward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free; For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me, to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness, the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace! One with Himself I cannot die, My soul is purchased by His blood; My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God, with Christ my Savior and my God.

**Prayer of Illumination**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

**Sermon Text**

Matthew 5:1-3  
Pew Bible p. 809

**Sermon Title**

Blessed are The Poor in Spirit

**\*Hymn of Faith**

*"I Surrender All"*

All to Jesus, I surrender; all to Him I freely give;  
I will ever love and trust Him, In His presence daily live.

Refrain: I surrender all, I surrender all, all to Thee,  
my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender; Humbly at His feet I bow,  
Worldly pleasures all forsaken; take me, Jesus, take me now. Refrain.

All to Jesus, I surrender; make me, Savior, wholly Thine;  
May Thy Holy Spirit fill me, may I know Thy pow'r divine. Refrain.

**\* Benediction**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.

**\* Departing Song**

*"I Surrender All"*

All to Jesus, I surrender; Lord, I give myself to Thee; Fill me with Thy love and power;  
Let Thy blessing fall on me. I surrender all, I surrender all, All to Thee,  
my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

**Prayer Intercessor Team**

Mr. Bill Wallace/Mrs. Alecia Wallace (8:00am)  
Mr. William Stackler/Mrs. Amy Stackler (11:00am)

**\*Please Stand.**

**(Redeemer Church, PCA, CCLI #257987)**

## SERMON QUESTIONS

- In a nutshell, the Sermon on the Mount envisions a life where God's people flourish under God's rule now that God's kingdom has invaded Earth in the person and work of Christ. How might this be a helpful way to view the Sermon on the Mount?
- It's tempting to ignore Matthew 5:1-2. Let's not do that. Read it slowly, envisioning the scene frame by frame. Who is in scene 1? Who takes the lead in scene 2? What does Jesus do in scene 3? What do the disciples do in scene 4? What does Jesus do in scene 5?
- Why is sitting at the feet of Jesus, by faith and in His word, a likely sign that we are flourishing (even when it does not feel that way)?
- Another mark of flourishing is poverty of spirit. In your own words, define this phrase.
- Why is poverty of spirit a counter-cultural value concerning many religions and the irreligious? How is Christianity radically different from both of them?
- When did you first experience your own poverty of spirit (conversion)? When have you experienced this since then?
- Jesus gives us a promise and blessing that all who are truly poor in spirit will experience in this present life. What is it?
- In your own words, what is the kingdom of heaven? Reflect on ways you've seen God's kingdom here on earth and in your own midst.

## **SERMON NOTES**

Pastor Elbert McGowan, Jr.—September 29, 2024

*“Blessed are The Poor in Spirit”*

—Matthew 5:1-3

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

[redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://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 undergoes treatment for stage 4 breast cancer.
- Katie Trotter: Comfort, hope, and peace in Christ through breast and bone cancer .See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for Take Them a Meal.
- Lydia Abraham: Mito Disease, Stage 4 Liver Cirrhosis, pain management and wisdom for doctors in her treatment. For updates on Lydia and the Abraham's Take Them a Meal, please see QR Code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday).

### **\*\*\*SEEKING TO SERVE\*\*\***

### **Serve with Life for Little Lambs at the Fair, Oct. 3-13**

Diane Johnston is gathering a team of people to share the Gospel at the MS State Fair. No training is required and there are three different shifts throughout each day. If you are interested in volunteering, text Diane at 303.895.5182.

### **Food Drive, Oct 1-Oct 31**

Join us this month as Redeemer Church partners with The Redeemer's School for a 31-day food drive, embodying our commitment to service, love, and generosity. You can drop canned goods (canned goods only) in the Narthex on Sunday mornings during October.

### **Second Saturday Serve: Community Garden Workday, Oct 12**

We will be harvesting veggies, pulling weeds, and performing routine maintenance in the garden. This event is open to all ages and levels of experience. Join us as we continue to cultivate and beautify our neighborhood garden as a way of loving our neighbors. The garden is located at the corner of Londonderry and Robinhood behind the church, and we'll gather from 9:00am-12:00pm. See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information and to sign up.

### **\*\*\* CALLED TO CONNECT \*\*\***

### **Men's Gathering, Oct 7, 12-1**

The Men's gathering began on Sept 23 and is next meeting on Oct 7. For 8 weeks this fall, gather with Redeemer men to meditate on and discuss scriptures on Jesus's Hospitality and Curiosity. The Gathering lasts 1 hour. This is a time to connect and pray with other men under the Word, sitting outside as weather permits. It is a place to know other men, be known, and practice the Christian life together. Register by emailing [bgault@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:bgault@redeemerjackson.com).

### **RYA Hospitality Discussion, Oct 3**

Young Adults, come join us as we continue our Hospitality Series with a discussion on Romans 12:9-13. Please bring a finger food or dessert to share! We'll gather at the Christie home (address in RYA GroupMe) from 6:30-8:30pm. To be added to the GroupMe for more information, text Markese Lee at 601.397.7585.

### **\*\*\* NEWS TO NOTE \*\*\***

### **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 Nov 15. Know someone who might be interested? See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information.

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

**Children's Church, Oct 6**

Intro to the Lord's Prayer: "And lead us not into temptation" 8:00am service only, ages 4-5.

**Upside Down (K4-5th), Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm**

Elementary students are invited to join us at Upside Down, our weekly time of fun, fellowship, and studying God's word! We meet in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday Evenings, Aug 21-Nov 6 (not Sept 25, Oct 2) from 6:00-7:00pm. Contact Jajuan McNeil at [mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:mrmcneil@redeemerjackson.com) for more information.

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

**Youth Game & Tournament Night, Oct 10**

6th-12th grade, come on out for a fun game night! We'll be bringing out some of the best games from Crossroads and Fall Retreat, play some knockout, and more. Bring a finger food and a friend! We'll be in the church Fellowship Hall from 5:30-7:00pm. See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information.

**High School Fall Retreat, Nov 15-16**

Registration is open for our High School Fall Retreat! At the retreat, we will get to hear teaching from God's Word by Jermaine Van Buren, Jr., play games, and enjoy time outside with new and old friends. We hope you'll join us! Registration closes Oct 31. See QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for more information and to register.

**Crossroads (6th-8th), Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm**

Join us for Crossroads, our weekly Youth Group gathering for Middle Schoolers. We play games, eat pizza, and get to study God's Word together! We meet on Wednesday's, Aug 21-Nov 6 (not Sept 25, Oct 2) from 6:00-7:30pm in the Youth Room. For more information contact Wilson Jamison at [wjamison@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:wjamison@redeemerjackson.com).

**Rooted (9th-12th), Sundays 5:30-7:00pm**

High Schoolers, we would love for you to join us for Rooted this semester. At Rooted, we get to unpack God's Word and enjoy fellowship together with some laughter (and food) along the way. We meet Sunday evenings, Aug 18-Nov 3 (not Sept 22, Sept 29) from 5:30-7:00pm in the Youth Room. For more information contact Wilson Jamison at [wjamison@redeemerjackson.com](mailto:wjamison@redeemerjackson.com).



## **Fall Sunday School Begins Sept 8**

**9:45-10:35am**

**2024 Fall Adult Sunday School, Block 1  
began on Sept 8 and conclude on Oct 20.**

### **The Book of Ruth**

**Teacher:** Brian Gault

**Location:** Fellowship Hall

The book of Ruth, set in the time of the Judges, revolves around a 'woman of worth (or strength, excellence)' (3:11) who is better to Naomi than 7 sons (4:15).

The story is one of heartache and loss with a famine that drives the family to a foreign land and with three funerals that leave Naomi and Ruth unprotected in a place that is not their home. We'll explore remarkable providences, unusual customs, and the thread of redemption—all of which show God at work in the midst of our grief.

In the Hebrew Bible, Ruth is found in the Writings, the section of the Old Testament devoted to 'covenant life.' The theme for this book is 'how to survive personal difficulties.' Join us as we learn from this woman of excellence.

### **7 Biblical Theologies**

**Teachers:** Zack Owens, Jermaine Van Buren Jr.,  
Andy Sauerwein, Wilson Jamison, Marculis Mosby,

**Location:** Sanctuary

Biblical Theology investigates the development of themes over the narrative arc of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, uniting and connecting the Old and New Testament.

In this class, we will look at 7 topics across 7 weeks: (1) biblical theology, (2) the temple of God, (3) music, (4) covenant, (5) exodus, (6) curses, and (7) the people of God.

Consider the temple. Biblical theology will consider how the Garden of Eden was the first sanctuary as we walked with God in the cool of the day, how the tabernacle and temple were special fulfillments of the promise of God's presence, how Jesus is the temple, how the church becomes the temple, and the fact that there is no temple in the New Heavens and New Earth in Rev 21.

Join us as we explore the depth of the Bible in the story of redemption.

### **Redeemer Explored**

**Teachers:** Elbert McGowan, Barry McCay

**Location:** Room 109

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 (Oct 27).

# **Fall Youth Sunday School Begins Sept 8**

**2024 Fall Children & Youth Sunday School begins on Sept 8  
and conclude Dec 8.**

## **New City Catechism**

**Location:** Youth Room

**HS Teachers:** Corrie Keplinger, Rob Vickery, Cadden Christie,  
Stephanie Greer, Wilson Jamison

**MS Teachers:** Wilson Jamison, Stephanie Greer, Corrie Keplinger,  
Hermes Tomas

Catechisms are a time-tested tool of discipleship. They are interactive by design, easy to memorize, rooted in the Bible, and theologically rich.

Catechisms were written:

1. To explain the gospel comprehensively. Catechisms sharpen our understanding of the gospel by building out biblical doctrines and investigating the Apostles' Creed, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer.
2. To counteract false beliefs. Catechisms lay out biblical doctrine to address contemporary cultural questions, errors, and false beliefs.
3. To cultivate communal holiness. Catechisms create a shared language of belief to cultivate a community that corporately reflects the character of Christ.

Written in 2017, the New City Catechism stands on the rich theological tradition of the Heidelberg Catechism (1563) and Westminster Shorter Catechism (1648) but uses modern language shaped to address contemporary questions.

## **Fall Children's Sunday School**

### **Investigating God's Word**

This fall, RedeemerKids will be transitioning to a new Sunday school material entitled "Investigating God's Word." All classes K4-5th Grade will be working chapter by chapter through Genesis 1-24.

#### **K4-K5: Room 209/211**

##### **Teachers:**

Morgan Barber, Sarah Love Crawford,  
Rachel Habarger

#### **3rd Grade: Room 205/206**

##### **Teachers:**

Andrea Burks, Page Callen,  
Christa Williams

#### **1st Grade: Room 210**

##### **Teachers:**

Claire Graves, Krisan Parish,  
Khambile Perry

#### **4th Grade: Room 204**

##### **Teachers:**

Samuel Bolen, Gabriel Garcia, Jake Garner,  
Angela Simpkins

#### **2nd Grade: Room 207**

##### **Teachers:**

Haley Arndt, Tyler Espinoza, Kristen Owens

#### **5th Grade: Room 202**

##### **Teachers:**

Liz Callen, Gene Everitt, Amanda McGuffey

**Fall Growth Groups**  
**SUNDAY GROWTH GROUPS**



**OZIER/PEARCE**  
5:00pm  
Place: Pearce  
Home, Madison



**CALLEN/  
MARSHALL**  
5:00pm  
Childcare provided  
(call ahead)  
Place: Callen Home,  
Madison



**LEWIS/MORGAN/  
SMITH/SMITH**  
5:00pm  
Childcare provided  
(call ahead)  
Place: Lewis Home,  
Belhaven



**EVANS/McGUFFEY  
LANCASTER/  
TRAMEL**  
5:00pm  
Childcare provided (call  
ahead)  
Place: Evans Home,  
Belhaven



**KING/McNEIL**  
5:30pm  
Place: Redeemer  
Church



**OWENS/DOWELL/  
DENLEY/DRAKE**  
5:00pm  
Childcare can be arranged  
(call ahead)  
Place: Owens Home,  
Jackson



**GAULT/TAYLOR**  
5:00pm  
No Childcare  
Place: Gault Home,  
Jackson



**SAUERWEIN/  
WAGNON**  
5:45pm  
No Childcare  
Place: Wagnon  
Home, Jackson

**WEDNESDAY GROWTH GROUPS**



**POLLARD/SLAY**  
6:30pm  
Childcare at the  
church with Wed  
night activities  
Place: Redeemer



**GARNER/WALLACE**  
6:30pm  
Place: Garner Home,  
Brandon

**Are you a part of a Growth Group?**

*Growth Groups are a place where we can plug into a smaller community to know others and be known, grow in the Christian life together under God's word, and pray with and for each other.*

*To visit a Growth Group to see if it's a fit for you, visit the QR code or [redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday) for each group's contact info.*

## THIS WEEK

### Deacon on Call Week of Sept 29

Levi Gill, 970.946.8467

### Sunday, Sept 29

8:00am Worship Service  
Livestream Available  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service

### Monday, Sept 30

### Tuesday, Oct 1

7:00am Women's Bible Study  
6:00pm GriefShare  
7:00pm Choir Practice  
7:30pm Women's Bible Study

### Wednesday, Oct 2

9:00am Moms Bible Study  
6:00pm Hope Exchange  
6:00pm Officer Training  
Various Wednesday Growth Groups

### Thursday, Oct 3

12:00pm Women's Bible Study  
6:30pm RYA Hospitality Discussion

### Friday, Oct 4

### Saturday, Oct 5

8:30am Men's Basketball

### Sunday, Oct 6

#### Communion

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

## STAFF

Elbert McGowan, Jr., Senior Pastor  
Brian Gault, Asst Pastor of Shepherding & Discipleship  
Zack Owens, Asst Pastor of Congregational Care  
Wilson Jamison, Asst Pastor of Youth Ministry  
Stephanie Greer, Assistant Youth Director  
Jajuan McNeil, Director of Children's Ministry  
Joya McNeil, Children's Ministry Assistant  
Jerome Douglas, Dir Neighborhood Outreach & Missions  
Velma Warner, Nursery Coordinator  
Ken Keplinger, Communications & Events Coordinator  
Tina Collier, Administrative Assistant  
Josh Anderson, Intern  
Ian Deffenbaugh, Intern  
Chael Williams, Intern  
Interim Music Ministry Team:  
Joyce Hamme, Arthur Phillips, Kateri Gill, Akida Mosby  
Haley Arndt, Women's Committee Chair

## RULING ELDERS

Grant Callen  
Tu Combs  
Gene Dent  
Scott Marshall  
Barry McCay  
Kelle Menogan, Sr.  
Marcus Mosby  
Herb Sanders  
Andy Sauerwein  
William Stackler  
Trey Watkins

## 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  
Greg Ross  
Jeremy Smith  
Ellis Tucker  
Johnston Walker  
Thomas Wallace  
Tamarco White

## COMING UP:

Oct 7: Session & Diaconate Meetings  
Oct 10: Youth Game & Tournament Night  
Oct 12: Community Garden Workday  
Oct 14: Church Office Closed  
Oct 17: RYA Hangout at Belhaven Town Center  
Oct 22: Community Garden Workday  
Oct 27: Children & Youth Sunday  
Nov 4: Session Meeting  
Nov 9: Community Garden Workday  
Nov 11: Diaconate Meeting  
Nov 7: RYA Hospitality Discussion  
Nov 13: Youth Friendsgiving Potluck  
Nov 15-16: High School Fall Retreat  
Nov 21: RYA Bowling Night

[redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday](http://redeemerjackson.com/this-Sunday)

