

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ROME, GEORGIA

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

(Recorded in the First Baptist Church Sanctuary March 18, 2020.)

March 22, 2020

11:00 a.m.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome to Worship..... Matt DuVall

Hymn of Praise.....FOUNDATION

## “How Firm a Foundation”

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word.  
What more can He say than to you He hath said  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled.

Fear not, I am with thee; oh be not dismayed.  
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie  
My grace all sufficient shall be thy supply.  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake

A Time of Prayer in a Time of Crisis *(adapted from a prayer by Kerry Weber)*

## “Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord” (Stanza 1)

1.Be still, for the pres-ence of the Lord, the Ho - ly One, is here.  
2.Be still, for the pow - er of the Lord is mov - ing in this place,  
Come, bow be - fore Him now, with rev - er - ence and fear. In Him no  
He comes to \_cleanse and heal, to min - is - ter His grace. No work too  
sin is found, we stand on ho - ly ground. Be still, for the  
hard for Him, in faith re - ceive from Him. Be still, for the  
pres-ence of the Lord, the Ho - ly One, is here.  
pow - er of the Lord is mov - ing in this place.

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

**Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.**

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

**Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.**

Jesus Christ, Healer, stay with us in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

**May those who have died with the virus be at rest with you in your eternal peace.**

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

**Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.**

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

**Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. Jesus Christ, heal us, and hear our prayers. Amen.**

*A Time for Silent Meditation and Confession*

*Extinguishing the Fourth Lenten Candle*

*(As the candle is extinguished, we acknowledge the darkness and pain in our world.)*

*Response. . . “Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord” (Stanza 2)*

Reading of Holy Scripture..... Psalm 23

Tamara Tillman Smathers, reader  
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

Moments for Children.....Kristen Pope

Morning Prayer (with The Lord's Prayer)..... John Uldrick

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Musical Offering..... Rev. Reaves

"Somebody Bigger Than You and I" ...arr. John Brimhall

Sermon..... Rev. DuVall

"Resting in the Valley"

Hymn of Response..... FOREST PARK

"My Lord Is Near Me All the Time"

In the lightning flash across the sky His mighty pow'r I see,  
And I know if He can reign on high, His light can shine on me.

*I've seen it in the lightning, heard it in the thunder,  
And felt it in the rain;  
My Lord is near me all the time,  
My Lord is near me all the time.*

When the thunder shakes the mighty hills and trembles ev'ry tree,  
Then I know a God so great and strong can surely harbor me.

When refreshing showers cool the earth and sweep across the sea,  
Then His rainbow shines within my heart, His nearness comforts me.

Prayer of Stewardship..... Gwen Stephens

Offertory.....Rev. Reaves

"Tis So Sweet" ...arr. Bethany McDonald

Meditation Text:

From wherever you stand, you have a future with God. That is not a polyester thread of synthetic optimism to tie around your finger for hard times. That is not a spoonful of religious sugar to make the bitter medicine of life go down. That is not a Sunday morning tune to whistle in the enormous darkness of pain and fear and despair. What it is, is the truth. —Charles E. Poole

Pastoral Blessing

Postlude.....Rev. Reaves

"Foundation" ...arr. Bonnie Barrett