

We are honored you have chosen to join us in worship. There is a time in our service when we will welcome guests; we will not, however, ask you to stand, raise your hand or do anything that makes you feel awkward. We would like to know you were here, however. Please fill out the information request below and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or minister. We promise to use it only to contact you about our church.

This is my (our)...

First visit to First Baptist Church

Second (+) visit

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Code _____

E-mail _____

Marital Status

Married Single Widow(er)

Telephone _____

Children at Home (Name/Age/Grade)

I am new to Rome.

I am interested in knowing more about First Baptist Church.

I would like to talk with a minister.

I would like to know how to become a Christian.

I am a guest of:

Sunday, December 13

Hands of Christ Christmas Gifts Due

- 8:00 a.m. COVID Task Force - Zoom
- 8:30 a.m. Adult Faith Development Committee - Zoom
- 9:00 a.m. Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)
- 9:45 a.m. Virtual Bible Studies
Contact Tamara Smathers or John Uldrick for class links.
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 3:00 p.m. Cocoa with Ms. Kristen (drop-in until 5 p.m.) - Playground
- 4:00 p.m. 2014 "Christmas at First Baptist" Encore

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of John and Anna Bratton on the occasion of their 5th wedding anniversary and in honor of Kay on our 36th wedding anniversary, by Randy Bratton.

HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS

Gifts are due today! Please contact Kate Barron, Jennifer Uldrick, Amy Cox, or John Uldrick with questions.

COCOA WITH MS. KRISTEN TODAY

You are invited to come hang out on the playground, listen to Christmas music, enjoy some hot chocolate and do a fun holiday activity. Drinks will be provided by Java Joy Rome. This will be a drop-in event from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST CONCERTS

Today at 4 p.m. on Comcast Channel 44 and on the church website (click the box on the homepage) and church Facebook page we will rebroadcast the concert from 2014. A different concert will air each Sunday afternoon through Advent. The concert will be available to view all week on the website.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY - THE HOOD FARM

Sunday, December 20 from 4:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., 486 New Rosedale Road. Socially distanced ornament decoration, food and outdoor Christmas movie. Please RSVP at <https://forms.gle/mT1g63pU4hwexvw86>

CHRISTMAS CDS

Copies of the "Christmas at First Baptist" CD are available. The album may also be downloaded through iTunes. Cost is \$10. Contact Keith Reaves or Karen Garrett.

2021 DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

Year-long devotional books are in the Narthex or may be picked up in the church office. A limited number of large print issues are available.

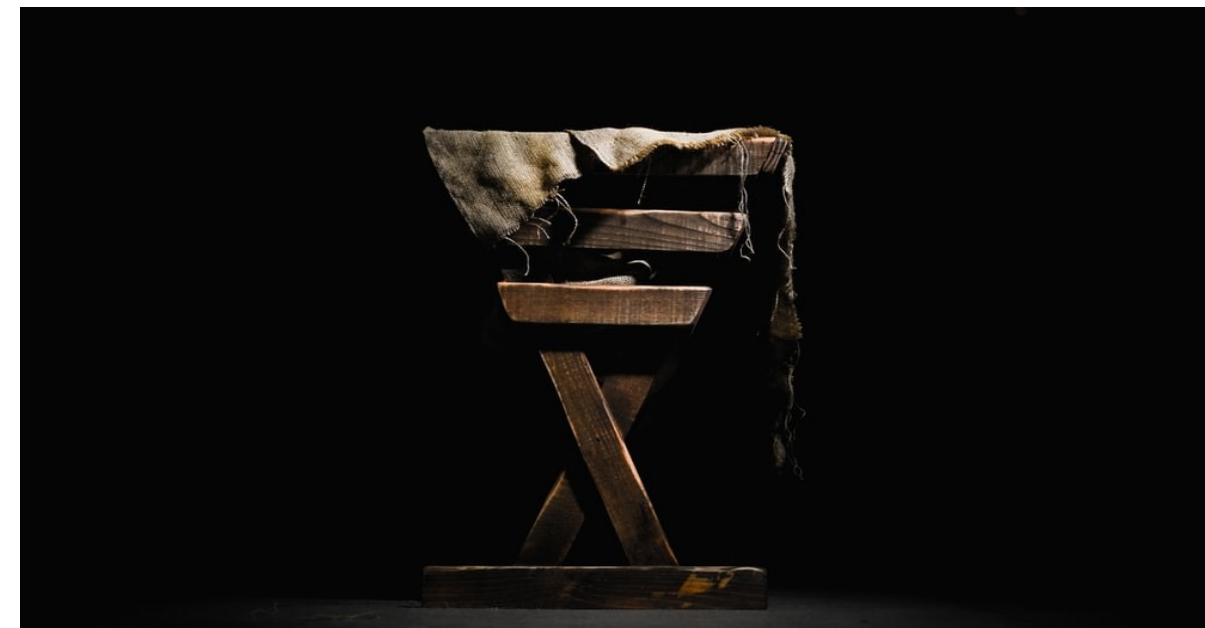
YOUTH ADVENT DEVOTION BOOKS

The FBC Youth Ministry mailed Advent booklets to homes. We encourage families to share this resource and make the journey together. Please let John know if you did not receive a booklet.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

We will meet in front of the church at 5 p.m. Please make reservations on the church website. The service will be televised on Comcast and livestreamed through the website.

First Baptist Church, 100 East Fourth Avenue, Rome, GA 30161
Phone: 706.291.6850 Website: www.fbcrome.org



He Comes to Us

First Baptist Church Rome, Georgia

The Third Sunday in Advent

December 13, 2020

11:00 a.m.

To help maintain a spirit of worship, please silence phones. We welcome a larger congregation through Comcast Channel 44 and through the livestream over the church website and Facebook.

Preservice Music. Beverly Harris, piano

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude Joan Hill/Beverly Harris
"Joy to the World" ...arr. Joel Raney

Welcome to Worship. John Uldrick

* Carol of Joy No. 122 I.N DULCI JUBILO
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today.
Ox and ass before Him bow and He is in the manger now;
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this.
He has opened heaven's door and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

Lighting the Advent Candle

Choral Introduction

"Christ, Be Our Light!" ...arr. Joel Raney
Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people, light for the world to see.
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in Your Church gathered today.

Advent is a time to awaken our spiritual senses.

We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!

Grant us vision to behold Your glory.

We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!

Quiet us so we may hear Your still, small voice.

We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!

Make us vessels of Your mercy, compassion and grace.

We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!

For all of us eagerly watching for Your glory in our midst:

Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Lighting the Candle of Joy . . . Jane Tucker

Congregational Response

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in Your Church gath-ered to - day.

*Reading of Holy Scripture.Kristen Pope
Psalms 126

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

²Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

³The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

⁵May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

⁶Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

* Advent Doxology
Praise God for gifts of hope and peace. Praise God for gifts of joy and love.
Praise God for sending Christ to dwell On earth for us - Emmanuel. Amen.

Carol of Joy No. 125 GLORIA
"Angels We Have Heard on High"

(During this hymn children ages four through fourth grade may depart for Children's Worship.)

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

Morning Prayer (with The Lord's Prayer).Matt DuVall
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. Choral Ensemble

"Glad Noel"arr. Jane Foster Knox/Mark Wilson

Sing we noel, there's a star in the heavens. Noel, Noel! Sing glad Noel!

Follow the star that is sent to guide us. Noel, Noel! Sing glad Noel!

Where is the child who was born to be king? We have followed His guiding star.

Treasure we bring to honor His name as we bow before Him!

Sing we noel for the King of Glory! Noel, Noel! Sing glad Noel!

Wise Men and prophets foretold Him. Searching, we come to behold Him!

Now, surely, all envy and conflict will cease, for His is a kingdom of love and of peace.

Sing we noel for the babe in the manger. Noel, Noel! Sing glad Noel.

Sing we noel, He is king for the ages. Noel, Noel! Sing glad Noel!

Here lies a child who's born to be king in a stable in Bethlehem.

Gift of love, we honor His name as we bow before Him!

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SermonRev. DuVall

"Come Home Shouting Joy"

*Carol of Commitment No. 102ANTIOCH

"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; Let all their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness,

And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,

And wonders, wonders of His love.

"Prayer of Stewardship Tamara Tillman Smathers

Offertory Beverly Harris, piano

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear/Oh, How He Loves You and Me"arr. Phillip Keveren

Meditation Text:

Look down upon thy servants with a patient eye....recreate in us the soul of service, the spirit of peace; renew in us the sense of joy.

—from *Prayers Written at Vailima* by Robert Louis Stevenson

The Work of the Church. Rev. Smathers

BenedictionRev. DuVall

Commissioning Hymn. "Christ Be Our Light!"

Dismissal

(After the hymn please exit the sanctuary through the narthex one row at a time, beginning with the back row and working to the front.)

PostludeJoan Hill

"While By Our Sheep"arr. Don Hustad

Worship Reminders

For those worshipping in the church building:

- Masks must be worn at all times.
- Please keep a social distance inside and outside the church building.
- For emergencies, restrooms are available in the narthex or by taking the stairs in the narthex to the Fellowship Hall.
- An offering will be received at the end of the service. Please bring your offering to the end of your pew and place it in the offering plate as the usher passes your pew.
- Listening devices are available for those who have hearing difficulties. See an usher for details.

Recording

All services are recorded and may be viewed on our website. If you would like a video or audio copy of today's service, please call the office.

Prayer Concerns

(Please place in offering plate or hand to an usher or minister.)

Matt DuVall, Pastor

Keith A. Reaves
Senior Associate/Minister of Worship

Tamara Tillman Smathers
Minister of Education/Administration

John H. Uldrick
Minister to Students and Missions

Kristen Pope, Minister of Faith Development

Gwen Stephens, Ministry Assistant

Beverly Harris, Pianist Joan Hill, Organist