

WELCOME

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:

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 21

- 8:30 a.m. Adult Faith Development Committee Meeting - Zoom
- 9:00 a.m. Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)
- 9:45 a.m. Virtual Sunday Bible Studies
Contact Tamara Smathers or John Uldrick for links.
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups - Offsite

Monday, February 22

- FBC Serves Community Kitchen
- 10:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study - Chapel or Zoom
- 5:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study Lesson Prep - Zoom

Wednesday, February 24

- FBC Serves Community Kitchen
- 4:45 p.m. First Choice Curbside Meals *(Reservation Only)*
- 6:00 p.m. Churns Bible Study - Zoom
- FBC Kids Connect
- Prayer Meeting Time - Zoom
- Youth Wednesday Connection - Youth Room
- 6:20 p.m. Adult Book Study - Zoom

Thursday, February 25

- 5:45 p.m. Women's Small Group - Zoom

Friday, February 26

- FBC Serves Community Kitchen

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Nell Ansley Briley on the occasion of her birthday by Ansley and Dean Saville and Family.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

Following Jesus Through Mark, written by Dr. Joe Baskin, is a perfect companion to our Bible study focus in the Gospel of Mark. These guides are available through the church office for \$5.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Wednesday programming resumes February 24 at 6:00 p.m.

YOUTH SMALL GROUPS BEGIN

- All teenagers should have heard from a small group leader. Parents, please encourage them to PLUG IN! Reach out to John with questions or concerns.
- Youth Lent **Micropractices** - Each youth family is encouraged to get your **Micropractices** packet from the church to participate in the Lenten journey together.

FBC HABITAT HOUSE - DEDICATION - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28 AT 3:00 P.M.

541 Branham Avenue, Rome, GA 30161

You are invited to the dedication of Amelia's house. This is a beautiful service that is bathed in prayer, appropriate recognition and a turning over of the keys. Thanks to volunteers who have spent time working on this project since last July and I hope you each can find time to come celebrate with Amelia and First Baptist. The HVAC is being installed and the yard will be put in soon by Chip Hood and the youth of FBC.

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

HOLY VESSELS

A Lenten Season of Healing

First Baptist Church
Rome, Georgia



February 21, 2021

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.

GATHER

People gather around Jesus as His reputation becomes known from town to town. As we gather, we, too, are yearning for presence, for peace, for help.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude.....Joan Hill

*"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" ...arr. Paul Manz
(Please use this time to prepare your heart for worship.)*

Crossing the Threshold into Worship

Ves - sels, ho - ly and whole. Bro - ken, need-ing the One.
O - pen, bo - dy and soul. Come, gra-cious Heal - er, come.

APPROACH

People opened their lives to Jesus. We are drawn to the Healer—opening our hearts with honesty about our lives and finding assurance that offers peace.

A Prayer of Confession.....Keith A. Reaves

A Time for Silent Confession

Vessels, holy and whole....

Assurance of Forgiveness

BELIEVE

People were fortified by Jesus's words and deeds that revealed care for all—especially those marginalized. We strengthen our belief in the possibility for renewed health and vigor for all.

*Hymn of Praise No. 607HYFRYDOL

“I Will Sing the Wondrous Story”

I will sing the wondrous story Of the Christ who died for me.

How He left His home in glory For the cross of Calvary.

I was lost, but Jesus found me, Found the sheep that went astray,
Threw His loving arms around me, Drew me back into His way.

I was bruised, but Jesus healed me; Faint was I from many a fall;
Sight was gone, and fears possessed me, But He freed me from them all.

Days of darkness still come o'er me, Sorrow's paths I often tread,
But the Savior still is with me; By His hand I'm safely led.

The Reading of Holy Scripture.Matthew 8:5-13

Nina Lovel, Deacon, reader

⁵When He entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, appealing to Him

⁶and saying, “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress.”

⁷And He said to him, “I will come and cure him.”

⁸The centurion answered, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed.

⁹For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and the slave does it.”

¹⁰When Jesus heard him, He was amazed and said to those who followed Him,

“Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith.

¹¹I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven,

¹²while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

¹³And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.” And the servant was healed in that hour.

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

*Gloria Patri (Hymn 704)

(Children ages four through fourth grade may depart for Children's Worship.)

ASK

People who were healed by Jesus were not afraid to ask. And so we come before the Holy One, making our petitions and desires known, trusting in the work of the Spirit.

Musical Offering.Choral Ensemble

“I Am Thine, O Lord”...Darian Krimm/Douglas Nolan

Morning Prayer *(with the Lord's Prayer)*.Kristen Pope

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 and ever. Amen.

KNOW

The parting words Jesus gave to those He healed were often as much balm as the healing act itself. We hear words of encouragement from the one who makes beauty from brokenness.

Special MusicAshley Garner

“Come to Jesus”...Chris Rice

Sermon.Tamara Tillman Smathers

“Safe Keeping”

*Hymn of Commitment No. 493ADELAIDE

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Search me and try me, Savior today!

Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now, as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Wounded and weary, help me I pray!

Power, all power, surely is thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

RESPOND

Scriptural accounts of healing often end with responses from the “crowd” of witnesses. How will we proceed into the brokenness of this world and respond as the Body of Christ?

*Prayer of StewardshipJohn Uldrick

OffertoryJoan Hill, organ

“Dearest Jesus, At Your Word”...arr. Michael Burkhardt

The Work of the ChurchRev. Uldrick

*Pastoral BlessingRev. Smathers

*Hymn of Commissioning

Vessels, holy and whole. Broken, needing the One

Open, body and soul, come gracious Healer, come. . .

*Postlude.Joan Hill

“Grand Processional”...Dale Wood

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.

What Is Lent?

Lent is a season of preparation leading up to Easter. It is the forty days plus the six Sundays before Easter. For centuries, it has been observed as a special time of self-examination and penitence. Throughout Lent, the worship services of the church take on a simpler tone, appropriate to the season. The word “Alleluia” is not used in the words of the readings or hymns. This practice, and others, help us to mark this season of renewal as a special time in the church year. This season can be a meaningful time of reconciliation with God.

Children's Worship

Children ages four through fourth grade are invited to Children's Worship on the second floor of the Education Building. The children return to the sanctuary following worship.

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/Interim Pianist

Joan Hill, Organist