

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, February 28

- 8:30 a.m. Covid Task Force Team Meeting - Zoom
9:00 a.m. Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)
9:45 a.m. Virtual Sunday Bible Studies
11:00 a.m. Worship
3:00 p.m. Habitat House Dedication - 541 Branham Avenue, Rome 30161
4:00 p.m. Youth Girls Small Groups - Offsite
5:00 p.m. Youth Boys Small Groups - Offsite

Monday, March 1

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

Wednesday, March 3

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

Thursday, March 4

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

Friday, March 5

- 12:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting - Zoom

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Don Clements by the Clements 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.

YOUTH

- Parents, please encourage teenagers to PLUG IN to small groups on Sundays and on Wednesday nights! Reach out to John with questions.
Youth Lent Micropractices continue. See John for details.

FBC HABITAT HOUSE - DEDICATION - TODAY AT 3:00 P.M. 541 Branham Avenue

You are invited to the dedication of Amelia's home. 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.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US SURPASS OUR GOAL!

We have a rich history in participating in missions in our community as well as in global mission involvement. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is our primary partner in Global Missions as it carries out the Great Commission through our support.

cbf OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS First Baptist Goal: \$35,000 Given to Date: \$35,601

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 28, 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

"Jesus Loves Me" ...arr. Jason Payne

(Please use this time to prepare your heart for worship.)

Welcome to Worship. Kristen Pope

Crossing the Threshold into Worship

Musical notation for 'Vessels, holy and whole. Broken, 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

*Hymn of Praise No. 595 HUDSON
 “At the Cross”
 Alas! and did my Savior bleed And did my Sovereign die?
 Would He devote that sacred head For sinners such as I?

*At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light,
 And the burden of my heart rolled away,
 It was there by faith I received my sight,
 And now I am happy all the day!*

But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe:
 Here, Lord, I give my self away 'Tis all that I can do. (Refrain)

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.

The Reading of Holy Scripture Matthew 9:27-33
 Len Willingham, lay reader

²⁷ As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed Him, crying loudly, “Have mercy on us, Son of David!”
²⁸ When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said, “Yes, Lord.”
²⁹ He touched their eyes and said, “According to your faith let it be done to you.”
³⁰ And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus sternly ordered them, “See that no one knows of this.”
³¹ But they went away and spread the news about Him throughout that district.
³² After they had gone away, a demoniac who was mute was brought to Him.
³³ And when the demon had been cast out, the one who had been mute spoke; and the crowds were amazed and said, “Never has anything like this been seen in Israel.”

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.)

Special Music. Lee Ann Head
 “Gentle Healer”...Michael Card

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 and ever. Amen.

Musical Offering. Choral Ensemble
 “In His Hand”...arr. Marty Parks
 In my darkness He is light. In my weakness, He is might.
 In my doubting He is sure. In His hand I am secure.

Shelter from the bitter fray, He's my refuge and my stay.
 In a dry and weary land I have seen His gracious hand.
 Faithful in life's deep distress. Father to the fatherless.
 To those ravaged by the way, He is all of these and more.

For His goodness I will praise Him. With my song I will proclaim:
 He is righteous, He is holy. He is evermore the same!

Once a stranger, now a Friend, with me till my journey's end.
 He receives me as His own. Never will I walk alone.

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Sermon. Kristen Pope
 “Stories”

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?

*Hymn of Commitment No. 587. NEW BRITAIN
 “Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me.
 I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
 Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;
 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years Bright shining as the sun,
 We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first begun.

*Prayer of Stewardship Bryon Schirner, Youth Ministry Intern

Offertory Gwen Stephens, piano
 “What A Friend We Have in Jesus”...arr. Albin C. Whitworth

The Work of the Church Rev. Uldrick

*Pastoral Blessing Rev. Pope

*Hymn of Commissioning
 Vessels, holy and whole. Broken, needing the One
 Open, body and soul, come gracious Healer, come. . .

*Postlude. Joan Hill
 “Salvation Unto Us Has Come”...David Cherwien

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