

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, March 28

- 8:30 a.m. Adult Faith Development Committee - Zoom
COVID Task Force -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.
In-person Bible Study - Chapel
11:00 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Youth Girls & Boys Small Groups - Offsite

Monday, March 29

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

Wednesday, March 31

- 4:45 p.m. First Choice Curbside Meals (Reservation Only)
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Zoom
FBC Kids Connect (Egg Hunt)
Youth Wednesday Connection - Youth Room
6:20 p.m. Adult Seminar w/ Dr. Terry Ellis - Zoom
6:45 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Thursday, April 1

- 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service - Sanctuary

Friday, April 2

Good Friday - Church Office Closed

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Be sure to make your reservations for the Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. and for one of our Easter services next Sunday at 8:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. The Easter services will be identical. All services will be broadcast over our website and the church YouTube channel. The 11:00 a.m. Easter service will also be broadcast over local Comcast Channel 44.

EXTENDED EASTER LILY ORDER

Please help beautify the sanctuary next Sunday by giving a lily in honor or in memory of a someone special. A form can be printed from the our website. Each plant is \$15. You may take your lily home after the 11:00 a.m. service.

WEDNESDAY ADULT SEMINAR

Dr. Terry Ellis will finish his series on Wednesday at 6:20 p.m. on the following topic:
♦ Recovery: I Once Was Lost, but Now I'm Found

ANNUAL TALENT SHOW AND FUNDRAISER

Our Annual Children's Talent Show is April 25 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The auction room will open for bidding that day and stay open until the close of worship May 2. If you have a child who would like to participate or if you have an item, service or experience that you would like to donate to the auction, please contact Kristen by phone or email.

STEPS TO SUBSCRIBE TO FBC ROME'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

- ♦ Open the YouTube app or go to m.youtube.com.
♦ Sign in to YouTube. (You must create a YouTube account if you do not have one.)
♦ Search "First Baptist Church of Rome." Tap the channel icon. Tap Subscribe.

HUNGER OFFERING

Help meet the needs of the homeless and hungry by contributing to the monthly hunger offering. Please put this offering in an envelope and mark it "WORLD HUNGER" and place it in the offering plate. We will not be able to receive offering at the doors, as we usually do. Our gifts support Meals and More, World Vision, and The CBF Global Missions Hunger Relief.

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

March 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.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude. Joan Hill

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"...arr. Jon Spang
(Please use this time to prepare your heart for worship.)

Welcome to Worship. John Uldrick

Matthew 21:1-9

Processional Hymn No. 175. ST. THODULPH

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels is praising You on high;
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.

The people of the Hebrews with palms before You went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before You we present.

To You before Your passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to You, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

As You received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,
for You delight in goodness, O good and gracious King!

A Call to Confession. Keith A. Reaves

Musical notation for 'A Call to Confession' with lyrics:
Ves - sels, ho - ly and whole. Bro - ken, need - ing the One.
O - pen, bo - dy and soul. Come, gra - cious Heal - er, come.

A Prayer of Confession

A Time for Silent Confession

Vessels, holy and whole....

Assurance of Forgiveness

The Reading of Holy ScriptureMatthew 9:1-8

Kristen Pope, reader

Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town.

²And just then some people were carrying a paralyzed man lying on a bed.

When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.”

³Then some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.”

⁴But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts?”

⁵For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk’?

⁶But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he then said to the paralytic—“Stand up, take your bed and go to your home.”

⁷And he stood up and went to his home.

⁸When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

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

*Gloria Patri (Hymn 704)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. Amen.

Hymn of Healing No. 578. GREAT PHYSICIAN

“The Great Physician”

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

The great Physician now is near, the sympathizing Jesus;
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer, oh! hear the voice of Jesus.

Refrain:

*Sweetest note in seraph song, sweetest name on mortal tongue;
sweetest carol ever sung, Jesus, blessed Jesus.*

All glory to the risen Lamb! I now believe in Jesus;
I love the blessed Savior’s name, I love the name of Jesus. [Refrain]

His name dispels my guilt and fear, no other name but Jesus;
Oh, how my soul delights to hear the charming name of Jesus. [Refrain]

Morning Prayer *(with the Lord’s Prayer)*. Tamara Tillman Smathers

Musical Offering. Sanctuary Choir

“Near the Cross”...arr. Daniel Lynch, FBC Music Intern

This anthem is dedicated to the glory of God and to the Sanctuary Choir of the First Baptist Church of Rome, Georgia.

Sermon. Rev. Uldrick

“Holy, Wholly”

*Hymn of Commitment No. 178 TOWNEND

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

How deep the Father’s love for us, How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss – The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One Bring many unto glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life – I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart – His wounds have paid my ransom.

*Prayer of Stewardship John Head

Offertory Beverly Harris

“Have You Been to Calvary?”...arr. Don Phillips

Meditation Text:

The power of faith is enormous. It is so great that it saves not only the believer; thanks to one person’s faith others are saved also. We are not told that the man who was paralyzed at Capernaum had faith. But the men who brought him to Jesus and let him down through the roof had it. This is made clear in the Gospel: ‘When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Rise, take up your pallet and go home”’. The stretcher-bearers believed and the man who was paralyzed had the benefit of being healed because of it. Perhaps your own faith is feeble. Nevertheless, the Lord who is love will stoop down to you, provided only you are penitent. —Cyril of Jerusalem, Catechetical Lectures 5:8

The Work of the Church. Rev. Reaves

*Pastoral Blessing. Rev. Uldrick

*Hymn of Commissioning

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

*Postlude. Joan Hill

“Lenten Recessional”...Franklin D. Ashdown

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

Joan Hill, *Organist*

Beverly Harris, *Pianist*