

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 interested in becoming a member of First Baptist Church.

I am a guest of:

Sunday, November 28

9:00 a.m. Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)

9:45 a.m. All Sunday Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, November 29

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Dining Room

5:15 p.m. First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite

7:30 p.m. The Edge (HS Seniors) - The Lewis Home

Wednesday, December 1

4:45 p.m. First Choice Curbside meals (*Reservation Only*)

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting & Adult Seminar - Zoom

FBC Kids Connect & Children's Choirs

Youth Hang Out & Wednesday Connection - Youth Room

Choirs & Orchestra Rehearse - Sanctuary

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 during the offertory time of the service. Our gifts support Meals and More, World Vision, and The CBF Global Missions Hunger Relief.

CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST NEXT SUNDAY!

Our "Christmas at First Baptist" concert with choirs and orchestra is back and will be presented during the morning worship time Sunday, December 5, beginning at 10:45 a.m.

THE ANGEL APPEARED

Next Sunday our Sanctuary Choir, Youth Choir and Children's Choir will present "Christmas At First Baptist" during the morning worship service starting at 10:45 a.m. Bible Study will be required to start earlier than normal. We will all gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:20 a.m. for light refreshments. At 9:45 artist, Frank Murphy, will interpret the Advent theme "Angels Among Us" using the technique of painting negative space in order to reveal the positive image.

"ANGELS AMONG US" ART GALLERY EXHIBIT

The First Baptist Church Gallery has installed an art exhibit to enhance our Advent worship theme. Pieces on display include needlework, marble sculptures, watercolor, oil paintings, as well as vintage window displays from Rome's Ransom Florist. Take time to appreciate the artwork shared by many of our members. In addition, Elaine Lanier has invited us to appreciate her collection of angels, which are in the glass cases. The Gallery is on the Third Floor of the Education Building just as you exit the elevator.

WOMEN'S EPIPHANY RETREAT

The Women's retreat is adjusting as the Retreat Center has notified us that they are unable to receive guests as they had hoped. The retreat will become a single day event of calm interaction.

HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS

Thank you so much for the family submissions we have received thus far! We are excited about the ways in which we will continue to partner with you to support families from our community at Christmas and throughout the coming year. Beginning on November 28, you will have the opportunity to sign up to provide gifts for those individuals who have been identified. A link will be provided to you via email, on our website, and also the church's Facebook page. Gifts will be due to the church office no later than Sunday, December 12. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Barron, Jennifer Uldrick, Amy Cox, or John Uldrick.

Angels Among us



First Baptist Church
Rome, Georgia
Advent 2021
Do Not Be Afraid



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ROME, GEORGIA

November 28, 2021

11:00 a.m.

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

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude Joan Hill
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” arr. Dan Miller

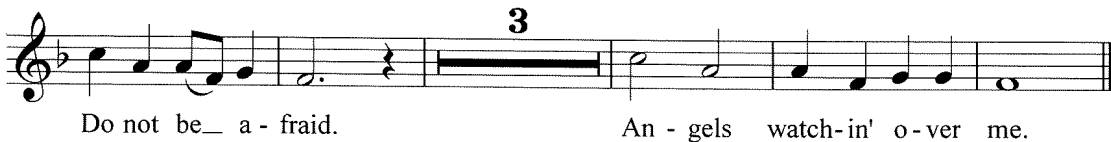
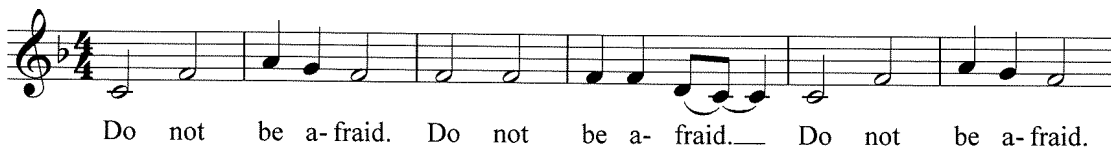
Invocation Tamara Tillman Smathers

“Angels Among Us” Threshold Moment



Lighting the Candle of Hope. J. C. and Jimmie Grimes

Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit,
alight within us Your flame of hope this day.
Grant us openness to hear Your message.
**Grant us courage to be Your messengers in the world,
creating more hope in the midst of fear.**



*Carol of Advent No. 83 HYFRYDOL
“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Reading of Holy Scripture (Part 1). Luke 1:5-25, 57-66
(Adapted from *The Voice* translation)

Jennifer Uldrick, Chris Jackson,
Carroll Peterson, Miriam Peterson, readers

The Singing of Holy Scripture (Part 2) No. 88MERLE’S TUNE
“Blest Be the God of Israel”
(This hymn is based on Zechariah’s song from Luke 1:67-79.)

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. Sanctuary Choir
“Angels Watching Over Me” arr. Joel Raney

Tiny baby rest Your head. Angels watchin’ over me, my Lord.
Safe inside Your manger bed. Angels watchin’ over me.

*All night, all day, angels watchin’ over me, my Lord.
All night, all day, angels watchin’ over me.*

Sleep, my child and peace attend thee, all through the night.
Guardian angels, God will send thee, all through the night.
Shepherds in the fields abiding hear the angels’ joyful tidings.
God, with us, is now residing all through the night.

Christ is born this holy night. Angels watchin’ over me, my Lord.
Bringing love’s redeeming light. Angels watchin’ over me.

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Sermon. Dr. Murray
“Make Ready A People”

*Carol of Response No. 127 MENDELSSOHN
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Prayer of Stewardship Kristen Pope

Offertory Beverly Harris/Joan Hill
“Angels We Have Heard on High” arr. Anna Laura Page

Meditation Text:

We must accept finite disappointment but never lose infinite hope.
—Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Work of the Church Rev. Pope

Welcome to New Members of the Church Family

*Pastoral Blessing and Passing of the Peace

Commissioning Song

Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid.
Angels watchin’ over me.

Postlude. Joan Hill, organ
“Angels from the Realms of Glory” arr. Robert Hobby

What is Advent?

The observance of Advent began in about the sixth century. Advent includes the four Sundays before Christmas Day and the inclusive weekdays. The word, ADVENT, consists of two Latin words: ad-venie, "to come to." Therefore, the message of Advent is that God in Christ is coming to the world. One of the most beautiful traditions of Advent is the lighting of the Advent wreath. The wreath is circular in shape to represent the eternity of God, without beginning or end. Evergreens are used to symbolize God's gift of life and growth and life to come. The candles, representing the four weeks of Advent, symbolize God's Son as the light of the world. Individual attributes (hope, faith, joy, love) are linked with the individual candles. Three of the candles are purple, representing royalty. One candle is pink and is lit on the third Sunday and symbolizes joy. The fifth candle is white and larger and is in the center of the wreath to represent Christ and is therefore called the Christ Candle. We light this candle on Christmas Eve. The flame reminds us that Christ is the light of the world, the light which dispels all darkness and fear.

Family Worship

Today is the last Sunday of the month. These days are designated as “Family Worship” days and all children sit with their families. Nursery care is available for children four and younger. Children’s Worship will return next Sunday.

Prayer Concerns

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

Dr. Ron Murray
Interim 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
Minister to Extended Family

Joan Hill, *Organist* Beverly Harris, *Pianist*