

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, May 8
9:00 a.m. Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)
9:45 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship
Monday, May 9
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Dining Room
11:00 a.m. Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group - Conference Room & Zoom
5:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting - Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, May 10
5:30 p.m. Pastor Search Committee - Builder's Room
Wednesday, May 11
12:00 p.m. Prayers & Reflections - Fellowship Hall
5:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
Thursday, May 12
6:00 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty/Getting Ahead Class - Community Room & DR

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William and Alice Davies and John and Etsie Johnson by the Davies Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Emmelyn Harrison on the occasion of her birthday and in loving memory of my brother, Thomas Harrison and in honor of all mothers by J. Mark Harrison and Family.

PRAYERS & REFLECTIONS

Prayers and Reflections, our noontime gatherings, will be held each Wednesday in May. Join with us in the Fellowship Hall for a simple lunch and a brief devotion by one of our ministers.

- May 11 - Nick Georgian
• May 18 - Kristen Pope
• May 25 - Tamara Tillman Smathers

RUBLE-WHITWORTH MISSIONS GROUP

Plan to meet in person in the Conference Room or by Zoom on Monday, May 9 at 11:30 a.m.

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY - GETTING AHEAD VOLUNTEER SIGNUP

You are invited to take part in this vital missional opportunity. This outreach is an incredible platform that helps eliminate and break the cycle of poverty in our Rome community. Each Thursday from 6:00pm - 8:00 p.m. FBC Rome hosts "Getting Ahead" classes that invites individuals who are experiencing poverty to investigate their own lives and build confidence, resources and tools for a brighter future!

We are in need of volunteers to serve each week. The following are ways to serve:

- Food delivered for 20 participants (2 volunteers) - Provide & deliver food, drink and all the utensils to the 20 investigators.
• Transportation Help (2 volunteers) - Provide transportation for investigators to and from meetings. Automobiles should be able to seat (4) passengers.
• Childcare Help (2 volunteers) - Use the FBC nursery to care for children of investigators.

We continue to be grateful for the volunteers and the financial support of this very important mission! Thank you for your generosity and service to the Kingdom of God.

You can sign up three ways.

- 1. Follow this link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4cafaf2aa5f49-2022
2. Visit the church website and go to the Bridges Out of Poverty Slider on our homepage.
3. Scan this QR code with the camera on your smart phone.



A Service of Christian Worship

May 8, 2022 11:00 a.m.

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

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude Joan Hill
"All Things Bright and Beautiful" ...arr. Michael Burkhardt

Welcome to Worship. Nick Georgian

* Hymn of Praise No. 341. DIX
"For the Beauty of the Earth"

A Covenant of Dedication for Rosie and Frances McWhorter and their parents, Seth and Claire McWhorter

Life Verse for Rosie:

So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding. -1 Corinthians 14:15

Life Verse for Frances:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. -Romans 15:13

Minister: God has blessed this couple with the gift of two special girls. We welcome these children in the same spirit that God welcomes us, God's children. We give thanks for all of our children and the joy they bring to our families. Seth and Claire, do you present Rosie and Frances for dedication this morning, and in doing so declare your intent to raise them in an environment of Christian faith & love?

Parents: We do.

Minister: Family of Rosie and Frances gathered with us this morning, will you freely give of yourselves to these girls, nurturing them and walking alongside Seth and Claire as they seek to teach them how to walk in the way of Jesus?

Family: We will.

Minister: Will this congregation recognize Rosie and Frances as gifts from God? Will you pray for them as they grow in their journey as followers of Christ? Will you pray for their parents, extended family and this church family as we all continue in the coming years to surround Rosie and Frances with the same love and grace that surround them today?

People: We will.

* Reading of Holy ScriptureMatthew 2:13-15;19-23
(The text may be found on page 956 in the Bibles in the pew racks.)

Dr. Joel Snider, reader
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.

A Prayer of the Family Keith A. Reaves, leader

You reach out to us, O seeking God,
with a mother's love; a father's patience.
You touch our lives with Your healing love
with a mother's tender care; a father's wisdom.
You stand us on our feet and prepare us for service to the world
with a mother's wise words; a father's compassion.
You know our thoughts and actions
and answer our prayers for forgiveness and understanding.

A Time for Silent Prayer

You open our hearts to Your love and compassion
and with the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Risen Lord, we are made whole. Amen.

Hymn of Family No. 687. NETTLETON
"Would You Bless Our Homes and Families"
(Children ages four through third grade may depart for Children's Worship.)

Musical Offering. Sanctuary Choir

"The Child Grew Strong" . . . Joseph Martin

We will sing a song of Bethlehem of shepherds watching there,
and of the news that came to them from angels in the air.
The light that shone on Bethlehem fills the world today.
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth the angels sing away.

We will sing a song of Nazareth, of days of joy and sun.

We will sing of fragrant flowers breath and of the Sinless One.
For now the flowers of Nazareth in every heart may grow;
Now spreads the fame of Jesus' name on all the winds that blow.

*And the Child grew strong in wisdom and in grace:
the glory of the Lord, the glory of the Lord, God's glory was upon Him.*

We will sing a song of Galilee, of wonders and of love.

We will sing of days beside the sea, and blue skies up above.

Let every vale be lifted high, every mountain ring,
Prepare the way with joyful praise, behold the King of kings.

Sermon. Dr. Snider

"On the Road Scholar"

* Hymn of Response No. 54. UNENDING PRAISE, alt.

"Like a Mother with Her Children"

* Prayer of Stewardship Tamara Tillman Smathers

Offertory. Ben Sanker, Gwen Stephens, piano

"When the Saints Go Marchin' In" . . . arr. Faber

Pastor Search Prayer Requests:

Each day this week remember these specific requests:

- Pray for John Bennett, Pastor Search Committee member
- Pray for the Committee to remain humble before God and that the committee members will not be anxious, but fully trusting in God's leadership. (1 Peter 5:8-9)

The Work of the Church Rev. Smathers

* Pastoral Blessing and Passing of the Peace

Commissioning Song No. 597 SWEETEST NAME

"He Keeps Me Singing" (Stanza One)

There's within my heart a melody; Jesus whispers sweet and low,
"Fear not, I am with you, peace, be still," in all of life's ebb and flow.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, sweetest name I know,
fills my every longing, keeps me singing as I go.

Postlude Joan Hill, organ

"Psalm 50" . . . Gerhard Krapf

Children's Worship

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

Joining First Baptist

We receive new members in several ways. Those who have never publicly acknowledged Christ as Lord join by public profession of faith. Baptism is scheduled for a later date. Members of other Baptist congregations may transfer their membership to our congregation. We handle the details of contacting your current church. Members of other Christian faith traditions are invited to join by "statement of faith." Because other traditions vary in belief and practice, those joining by statement of faith are invited to speak with a minister before joining.

Safety

Safe zones for severe weather are in preschool hallways for children and the Fellowship Hall for the congregation. If there is a need to evacuate the building, parents should pick up children at the bus parking lot on the far side of First Presbyterian Church.

Keith A. Reaves
Senior Associate/Minister of Worship
Tamara Tillman Smathers
Minister of Education/Administration

Kristen Pope
Minister of Faith Development

Gwen Stephens
Minister to Extended Family

Nick Georgian
Interim Minister to Students and Missions

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