

WELCOME!

We are honored you have joined us in worship. 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:

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

FAMILY NIGHT

Regular activities for children, youth and adults have resumed. Come enjoy dinner between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. (No reservations required!) David Brooks is leading a month-long Bible study for adults entitled "What Matters Most." See detailed schedule below.

WORSHIP CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please reach out to Kristen or use the sign-up on the church Facebook page to volunteer for a few Sundays of worship care. Worship care is a very important ministry and a gift to our young families, who can know that their little one is safe and loved.

PARENTING IN FAITH WORKSHOPS

Beginning in October, we will host four Parenting in Faith workshops Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. while children are in their activities. These workshops will be led by Meredith Anne Miller, a pastor and parent with more than 20 years experience helping families follow Jesus together.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 11

8:30 a.m. Missions Committee Meeting - Conference Room

9:45 a.m. Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship

Youth Choir (immediately following worship)

5:45 p.m. Student Small Groups & Dinner

Monday, September 12

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

11:30 a.m. Ruble Whitworth Mission Group - Dining Room

12:00 p.m. Finance Committee - Conference Room

5:30 p.m. First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite

Wednesday, September 14

5:00 p.m. Family Night Dinner

5:45 p.m. Children's Choirs

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

Student Life and Discipleship

6:30 p.m. Kids J.A.M. (Jesus and Me)

6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 15

6:00 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty Class

For information on these and other activities
see www.fbcrome.org or The Spire.

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Myrette Bennett Hough by Tom and Charlesean Bennett.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William L. Morris and our granddaughter, Elizabeth Morris, by Betty Zane Morris.

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

The Heart of a Pastor

A Worship Series
from the Letters of 1 and 2 Timothy

The saying is sure and worthy of full
acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into
the world to save sinners. . .

—1 Timothy 1:15





A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 11:00 A.M.

We welcome a larger congregation through Comcast Channel 44, streaming through the church website and YouTube. As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ORGAN PRELUDE "Give to Our God Immortal Praise"...arr. David Cherwien

WELCOME TO WORSHIP David Brooks

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 58 "Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise"
ST. DENIO

CALL TO CONFESSION Aaron Lewis, leader

For our lack of faith

That fills each day with tension and worry,

For our lack of hope

That clouds our future with despair and anxiety

For our lack of love

That fails to place You at the center of our lives.

O Lord, forgive us and hear our prayers. . .

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The good news is when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Amen!

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Dr. Coleman Fannin, reader

12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, 13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15 The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. 16 But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. 17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 704)

(Children may depart for Children's Worship.)

HYMN OF GRACE NO. 587 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"
NEW BRITAIN

Stanza 1: Matthew Becher, solo Stanza 2: Women Stanza 3: Men Stanzas 4 and 5: All

MORNING PRAYER (with the Lord's Prayer)

Nick Georgian

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

"Come, Ye Disconsolate"...arr. Terre Johnson

Come, ye disconsolate, where'er you languish;

come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.

Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;

earth has no sorrows that heaven cannot heal.

Joy of the desolate, light of the straying,

hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure!

Here speaks the Comforter, in mercy saying,

"Earth has no sorrows that heaven cannot cure."

Here see the bread of life; see waters flowing

forth from the throne of God, pure from above.

Come to the feast prepared; come, ever knowing

earth has no sorrows but heaven can remove.

SERMON

Rev. Brooks

"What's Your Story?"

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 619

"Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine"
ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP

Tamara Tillman Smathers

ORGAN OFFERTORY "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"...arr. Michael Burkhardt

Meditation Text:

It is absolutely crucial...to keep in constant touch with what is going on in your own life's story and to pay close attention to what is going on in the stories of others' lives. If God is present anywhere, it is in those stories that God is present. If God is not present in those stories, then you might as well give up the whole business. —Frederick Buechner, *Whistling in the Dark*

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Smathers

CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE TO VOTE ON 2022-23 BUDGET

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

COMMISSIONING HYMN

"Love Lifted Me" (Stanza Two)

All my heart to Him I give, ever to Him I'll cling,

In His blessed presence live, ever His praises sing.

Love so mighty and so true merits my soul's best songs,

Faithful, loving service, too, to Him belongs.

Love lifted me! Love lifted me! When nothing else could help, love lifted me!

Love lifted me! Love lifted me! When nothing else could help, love lifted me!

ORGAN POSTLUDE

"O Sons and Daughters"...Alexandre Guilmant

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Children ages four through third grade are invited to Children's Worship on the second floor of the Education Building. 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 others. If there is a need to evacuate, parents should pick up children at the bus parking lot on the far side of First Presbyterian Church.

David Brooks

Pastor

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*

Betty Holland, *Supply Pianist*