

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 begins a month-long Bible study for adults entitled "What Matters Most" this week. See detailed schedule below.

BRIDGES: LIFE COACH OPPORTUNITY

A way to serve as a partner to Bridges Out of Poverty is to become a Life Coach. We need five female Life Coaches. As a Life Coach you will partner with a Getting Ahead Graduate as they navigate daily life and create personal plans for building resources and a brighter future. A Life Coach orientation will be Saturday, September 17 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. You will have the opportunity to meet your graduate at the Getting Ahead Graduation Thursday, September 22. If you are interested in this rewarding service opportunity please contact Keith Phillips or Nick Georgian.

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 4

9:45 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship
No Student Small Groups

Monday, September 5

Church Office Closed - Labor Day

Wednesday, September 7

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 8

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 Miller and Cornelia Milford and in honor of Bob Harris by Beverly Harris and Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of Gaynelle Grizzard on the occasion of her birthday by Jim and Linda Owens.

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



JUST LIKE THE CLAY
IN THE POTTER'S HAND,
SO ARE YOU IN MY HAND...

JEREMIAH 18:6





A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 4, 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

“The God of Abraham Praise”...arr. Anna Laura Page

CALL TO WORSHIP

Nick Georgian

As clay takes form in a potter’s hand, so do we in Yours.

Mold us into human form. You are the potter; we are but clay.

As words are shaped by a poet’s hand, so are we by Yours.

Make us Your song. You are the singer; we are Your work

As threads are patterned by a weaver’s hand, so are we by Yours.

Weave us into Your plan, O God.

We are Your people; You are our King!

Amen.

~ traditional Jewish prayer, recited on the Saturday night before Rosh Hashanah

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 24

“Creator God, We Give You Thanks”
CANONBURY

CHORAL CALL TO CONFESSION

“Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart, O God. Make it ever true. Change my heart, O God. May I be like You. You are the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

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A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

When we become as clay, the Potter’s hands will ply and sculpt with gentle firmness and shape us with love through grace and forgiveness.

God is good and faithful. Amen.

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

David Brooks

Jeremiah 18:1-11

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: 2 “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” 3 So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. 4 The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. 5 Then the word of the LORD came to me: 6 Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. 7 At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, 8 but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. 9 And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, 10 but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it.

11 Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

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

GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 704)

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Potter’s Hand”...Darlene Zschech

Kay Bratton

HYMN OF FAITHFULNESS NO. 72

(Children may depart for Children’s Worship.)

“Day by Day”

BLOTTEN DAG

MORNING PRAYER (with the Lord’s Prayer)

Kristen Pope

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

“Be Not Afraid”...Craig Courtney

(The text to this anthem is based on Isaiah 43:1-14.)

Be not afraid, for I have redeemed you. Be not afraid, I have called you by name.

When you pass through the waters I will be with you.

When you pass through the floods they will not sweep o’er you.

When you walk through the fire you will not be consumed.

You are mine. You are precious in my sight.

My love for you is everlasting. My love for you shall have no end.

SERMON

Rev. Brooks

“God’s Labor of Love”

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 493

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”
ADELAIDE

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP

Keith A. Reaves

PIANO OFFERTORY

“Change My Heart, O God”...arr. Mark Hayes

Meditation Text:

Take the clay of our lives and shape it to love; take the clay of the church and shape it to grace; Take the clay of the world and shape it to peace; take the clay of today and shape it to hope; And then breathe Your spirit into all again for ever and ever. Amen. —Cheryl Lawrie

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Reaves

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

COMMISSIONING HYMN NO. 494 (STANZA THREE)

Here am I, send me, Lord, here am I, send me, Lord, make my life useful to Thee;

Here am I, send me, Lord, here am I, send me, Lord, make my life useful to Thee.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

“Old One Hundredth”...arr. Jack W. Jones

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*