

WHAT IS LENT?

For centuries, Lent has been observed as a special time of self-examination and penitence. This name “Lent” comes from the Old English *lencten* (*springtime, spring*) and from West Germanic *langitinaz* (*long-days or lengthening of the day.*) The word “Alleluia” is not used in the words of the readings or hymns to mark this season of renewal as a special time. A custom during Lent is to give up things or take on others. Both can serve to mark the season as a time of preparation. The season is 40 days plus the six Sundays and concludes on Easter. Purple is the liturgical color of the season and is reflected on the cross in the baptistery and the stoles for the ministers and choir.

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.

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.

David Brooks
Pastor

Keith A. Reaves
Senior Associate/Minister of Worship

Tamara Tillman Smathers
Minister of Education/Administration

Kristen Mathis
Minister of Faith Development

Gwen Stephens
Minister to Extended Family

Nick Georgian
Minister to Students and Missions

Joan Hill, Organist Beverly Harris, Pianist

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

GUEST PREACHER

We are pleased to welcome Rev. Laura Ayala, newly appointed Global Missions Coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING

In March we focus on our global missions partnership through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The theme of this year’s offering is “A Place at the Table.” First Baptist is blessed to have relationships with many CBF missionaries serving on our behalf and undergirded with our prayers and financial support. Please consider contributing to the offering this month. Our church goal is \$40,000.

THE LAST SEVEN WORDS FROM THE CROSS

Join us at 6:00 p.m. each Wednesday during Lent in the Fellowship Hall as our pastor leads us in a study of the seven last words that Jesus spoke as he was crucified.

SPAGHETTI DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Sunday, March 26 from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

This annual event for the Children’s Ministry includes a talent show featuring ANYONE (child or adult) who has a talent they would love to share. If you have a service, experience, or gift that you could offer for the auction or if you would like to participate in the talent show, please contact Kristen Mathis.

HANDS OF CHRIST - SERVE DAY

Save the date for Saturday, April 22, for Hands of Christ Serve Day. We will have mission opportunities for everyone, no matter what age! If you are unable to participate in person you can still serve in an impactful way by making a financial contribution. You can find the sign up on the FBC webpage or scan the QR code on one of the “Serve Day” flyers around the church. The last day to sign up is Friday, March 24!

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

9:45 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Missions Committee/Mission Group Lunch with Laura Ayala - Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Student Small Groups & Dinner - Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 6

10:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Study - Conference Room
5:15 p.m. First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

5:00 p.m. Family Night Dinner
5:45 p.m. Children’s Choirs
6:00 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study - Fellowship Hall
Student Life - Student Room
6:30 p.m. Kids J.A.M. (Jesus and Me)
Student Discipleship - Student Room
6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Suite

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

The flowers in the Narthex today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Hazel Hay Dowd and Willard C. Hay and Edward and Doris Dellinger Dowd by Lucy Hay Vick and Dub and Lyn Hay.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory and happy heavenly birthday to William Thompson, husband, father and granddaddy by Nancy Thompson, Margaret and Jason Marion, Blythe and Archer.

CBF Offering for GLOBAL MISSIONS  **GOAL: \$40,000**
GIVEN: \$20,406

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

TEACH US TO PRAY

A Worship Series for Lent based on the Lord’s Prayer



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ROME, GEORGIA

MARCH 5, 2023
11:00 A.M.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

CALL TO WORSHIP

“KITTERY”...William Billings

Our Father, who in heaven art, all hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done throughout this earthly frame.

INVOCATION

David Brooks

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 415

“Lift High the Cross”

A CALL TO CONFESSION

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, Lord. Rule us by Your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to You.

Listen as Your children call out to You, “Let Your will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven.”



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A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Your steadfast presence and unwavering grace helps us put our trust in You.

Through Christ we are forgiven. Amen!

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 7:15-29

Kristen Mathis, reader

¹⁵“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. ¹⁶By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. ²¹“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ ²³Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’ ²⁴“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” ²⁸When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, ²⁹because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GLORIA PATRI (HYMN704)

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.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Thy Will Be Done”...arr. Craig Courtney

Our cup was filled with darkness; our cup was filled with death.

Christ took our cup and drank it and gave us life and gave us hope, gave us himself.

“My Father, let this cup pass from me, yet not my will, O Lord, but thine be done.”

In blackest night we hear him in dark Gethsemane,
pleading with the Father for one more way, for one more hope, for one more day.

Then they took our Savior and led him to a tree
and there they broke his body, poured out his life, put him to death to rise again!

MORNING 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.

HYMN OF WELCOME

Matthew Becher, soloist

“Is There One Who Feels Unworthy?”...Ken Medema

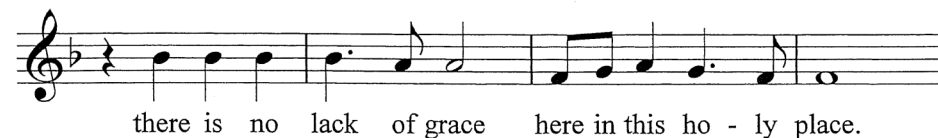
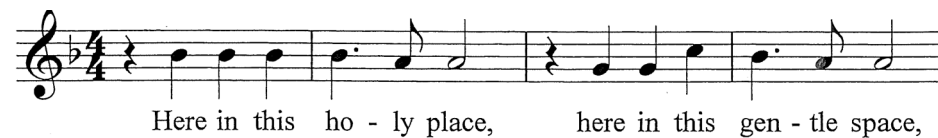
(The congregation will sing the refrain when prompted.)

Is there one who feels unworthy? Is there one who feels unknown?

Is there one who feels uncared for? Is the one who feels alone?

In this place among these people, let a welcome here be found;

And let broken souls be mended here upon this holy ground.



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Is there one who’s been rejected, left alone or left behind;
walking through the lonesome valley, where new hope is hard to find?

Come and find a place at table with a people called by grace,
and let hope be sought and nurtured in this gentle, loving space.

Refrain

We’ve so often failed at loving and ignored compassion’s call.
Drawing back the hand of mercy, we have built dividing walls.
Now we come to ask forgiveness and to claim renewing grace,
and to say that all are welcome at this table, in this place.

Refrain

SERMON

Rev. Laura Ayala

Global Missions Coordinator, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

“Thy Kingdom Come”

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 178

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP

Tamara Tillman Smathers

ORGAN OFFERTORY

“What Wondrous Love Is This”...arr. Gilbert Martin

(During this time, please meditate on the words of the Lord’s Prayer.)

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Smathers

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING

PASSING OF THE PEACE

COMMISSIONING HYMN

“Teach Us to Pray”

ORGAN POSTLUDE

“MIDDLEBURY”...arr. George Shearing

WELCOME!

We are honored you are with us today!

Please fill out this form if you are a guest or in need of prayer support and place it in the offering plate or hand it to a minister. We promise to use it only to contact you about our church.

First visit to First Baptist Church

Returning guest

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.

Please have a minister contact me.

I am interested in becoming a member of First Baptist Church.

Add me to the newsletter email list.

I am a guest of:

Please pray for:
