

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.

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP

Children ages four through fourth 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.

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

GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING

Please consider contributing to the offering this month. Our church goal is \$40,000.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS

Join us at 6 p.m. each Wednesday during Lent in the Fellowship Hall as David Brooks leads a study of the seven last words that Jesus spoke from the cross.

SPAGHETTI DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

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

Plan to attend our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction for the Children’s Ministry along with a talent show. Tickets are \$10. See Kristen for details.

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY

The next Bridges Out of Poverty- Getting Ahead Program begins April 13. We are looking for 3-4 Bridges committee members to recruit volunteers and handle the administrative side of the process. Contact Nick Georgian or Keith Phillips for more information. Stay tuned for more details and sign ups coming this week!

HANDS OF CHRIST - SERVE DAY APRIL 22

We have mission opportunities for everyone! If you are unable to participate in person you can make a financial contribution. Please fill out the Serve Day questionnaire on the website before March 29. The Missions Committee will send an email in April with a list of specific mission projects available. Please contact Nick Georgian for more information.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

- 8:30 a.m. Adult Faith Formation Meeting - Conference Room
- 8:30 a.m. Hands of Christ Meeting - Dining Room
- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:00 p.m. Extended Family Ministry Team - Conference Room
- 3:00 p.m. Collide Meeting - Dining Room
- 4:30 p.m. Student Ministry - Pat Barrett Concert @ Berry College

MONDAY, MARCH 20

- 10:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Study - Dining Room
- 1:00 p.m. Women of the Church Book Group - Dining Room
- 5:15 p.m. First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

- 6:00 p.m. The Edge (HS Seniors) - Dining Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

- 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

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

- 5:15 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting - Conference Room

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Catherine Aaron by Joe Aaron and Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Troy and Wydelle Clark and Michael Clark by Kathy and Larry Osborn and Family.

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 19, 2023
11:00 A.M.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ORGAN PRELUDE

“If Thou Wilt Suffer God to Guide Thee” ...Sigfrid Karg-Elert

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 51:13,15)

Nick Georgian

Forgiveness is mercy.

Such pardon and kindness I cannot fathom.

Forgiveness is unfailing love.

Such patience and understanding I cannot comprehend.

Forgiveness is overwhelming compassion.

Such sympathy and warmth I cannot reciprocate.

Forgiveness is the blotting out of transgressions.

Such freedom and good will I do not deserve.

Forgiveness is the washing away of my iniquities.

Such purity and newness I cannot maintain.

O Lord, open my lips,

and my mouth will declare your praise.

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 190

“The Power of the Cross”

A CALL TO CONFESSION

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

We know that when we confess to You our sins, Your grace is full and complete.

Still, we struggle to forgive those who have hurt us.

As we hold on to the memories of our own mistakes, we struggle to forgive *ourselves*.

So as You forgive...show us the power to forgive those who have caused us pain.

As You forgive...help us as we try to forgive...*ourselves*.

Listen as Your children call out to You...

Teach us to pray; teach us to pray. We are your child - ren; help us know just what to say. Teach us to wor - ship, love and a - dore Thee; with Your un - der - stand - ing teach us, teach us to pray.

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Leeanna Allen, Music Ministry Intern
"Were You There" ...arr. Gwyneth Walker

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE Matthew 18:21-35
Kristen Mathis, reader

21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying,

'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said,

'Pay what you owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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.

HYMN OF FORGIVENESS NO. 694 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"
(Children ages four through third grade may depart for Children's Worship.)

MORNING PRAYER
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
"At Calvary" ...arr. Mary McDonald
(The text to this anthem may be found in Hymn 589.)

SERMON David Brooks
"The Key to Life"

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 680 "I Then Shall Live"

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP Tamara Tillman Smathers

PIANO OFFERTORY "The Old Rugged Cross" ...arr. Joel Raney
(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"

Teach us to pray; teach us to pray. We are your child - ren; help us know just what to say. Teach us to wor - ship, love and a - dore Thee; with Your un - der - stand - ing teach us, teach us to pray.

ORGAN POSTLUDE "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" ...arr. Don Hustad

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:

CBF Offering for GLOBAL MISSIONS  GOAL: \$40,000
GIVEN: \$24,281