

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 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

PRAYERS AND REFLECTIONS OUR WEDNESDAY NOON GATHERINGS

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and a brief devotion.

- May 17 - Tamara Smathers
- May 24 - Kristen Mathis
- May 31 - Nick Georgian
- June 7 - Doris White Grant recipient

NEW TO FBC? COME TO LUNCH & LEARN

The ministry staff invites you to a complimentary lunch following worship May 21 in the Dining Room. You can learn more about FBC and have questions answered. **Please RSVP** for lunch to Melinda Duke (mduke@fbcrome.org) by May 15 or ask any minister for more information.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is June 12-15. Register today on the church website.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH THIS SUMMER

As you plan vacations and summer travel, please remember the option of setting up your church contributions as "automatic drafts" through your bank or through "Online Giving" on the church's website. If you need help learning how to do this, please feel free to contact the church office or your financial institution.

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY

Our fifth Getting Ahead cohort has launched! The success of Bridges depends on volunteers to provide childcare, meals and transportation on Thursday evenings. If you are interested, use the QR code to sign up. Contact Keith Phillips with questions.



WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 14

9:45 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 15

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Dining Room
1:00 p.m. Women of the Church Book Group - Dining Room

Wednesday, May 17

12:00 p.m. Prayers and Reflections - Fellowship Hall
1:00 p.m. FBC Foundation - Conference Room

Thursday, May 18

4:30 p.m. Student Exam Break - honeycream
6:00 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty Class - Dining Room & Community Room

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, Doris Dellinger Dowd and Edward Dowd by their Children.

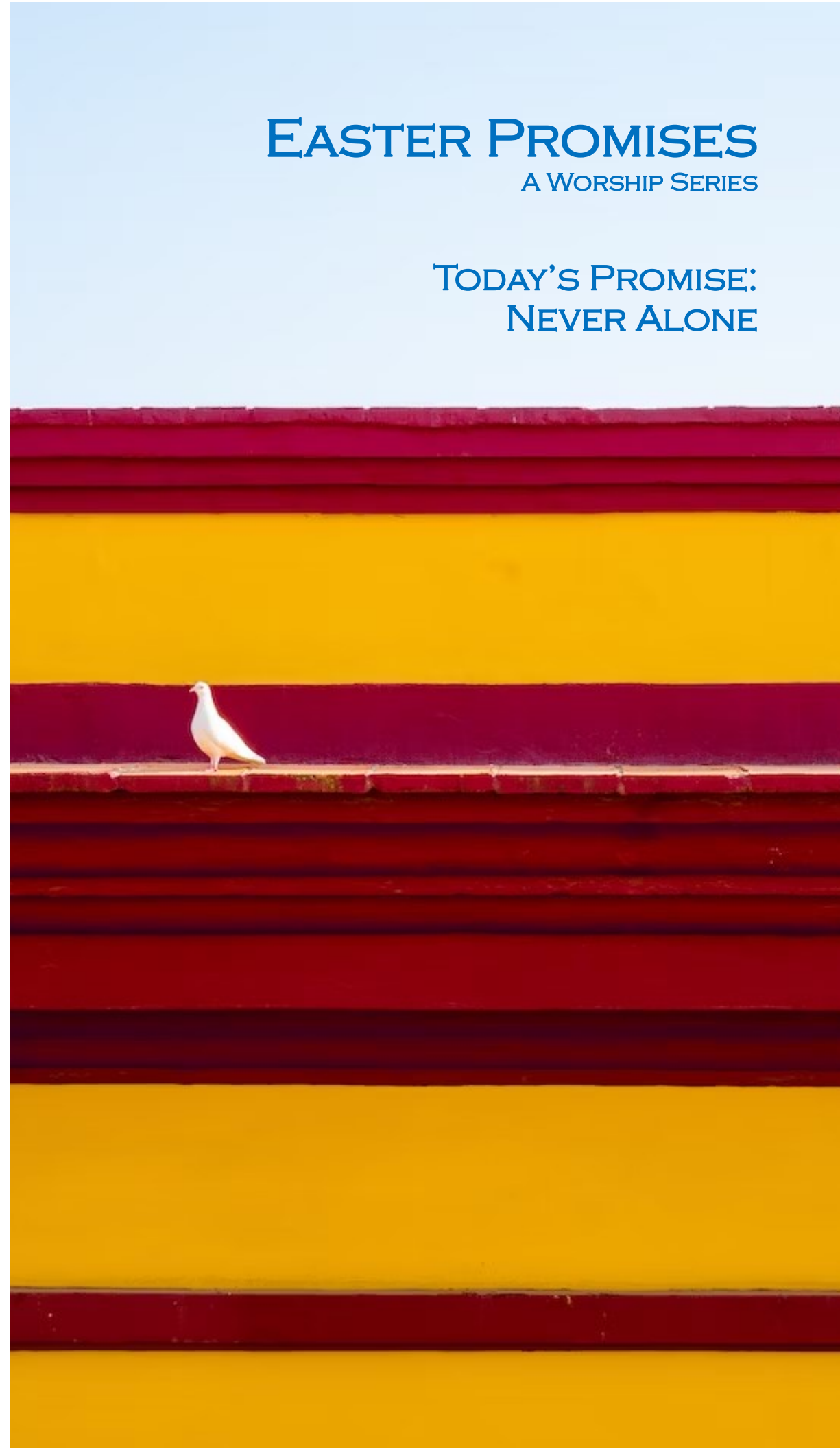
The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Stevens, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Stevens, Jr. by the Charles Stevens Family and the Jon Albrecht Family.

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

EASTER PROMISES

A WORSHIP SERIES

TODAY'S PROMISE:
NEVER ALONE





FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ROME, GEORGIA

MAY 14, 2023 11:00 A.M.

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

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ORGAN PRELUDE

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”...arr. Carolyn Hamlin

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Kristen Mathis

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 295

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Loving God, we assume You are with us,

yet uncertainty sometimes smothers our hope.

We are aware of Your message proclaimed throughout scripture to “fear not,”

but how can we not be afraid?

We believe in the Holy Spirit of truth, which knows no bounds or distance,

yet we often feel isolated, stagnant and lonely.

Remind us over and over, O God, of Your love for us and our love for You.

Remind us that the natural expression of this love is to trust You and

share that love as we follow in Your way.

Remind us of the space that is opened in our souls to receive Your vibrant Spirit when
we put our faith in You.

And stand by us, we pray, as we dare to take steps to love, to have

courage, and to open ourselves to You. Lord, hear our prayers.

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (HYMN TO JOY)

You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,

Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!

God our Father, Christ our brother, Holy Spirit, Comforter,

Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth’s Redeemer, evermore.

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

John 14:15-21

David Brooks, reader

¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments

and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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 THE COMFORTER NO. 244

“Blessed Quietness”

(Children ages four through third grade may depart for Children’s Worship.)

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

“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”...arr. Keith A. Reaves

(The text to this anthem may be found in Hymn 633.)

SERMON

Rev. Brooks

“Easter Promises: Never Alone”

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 59

“My Lord Is Near Me All the Time”

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP

Tamara Tillman Smathers

PIANO OFFERTORY

“I Am His and He is Mine”...arr. Cindy Berry

Meditation Text:

You also will live because Jesus lives and dwells in you through the Holy Spirit. You will live so that you might love one another. You will live so that you might demonstrate to the world that God in Christ loves us all and will never abandon us. You will live so that you may love. Thanks be to God!

-Jody C. Wright

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Smathers

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

HYMN OF COMMISSIONING



ORGAN POSTLUDE

“Who’ll Be a Witness”...arr. William Farley Smith

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:
