

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 (*on sabbatical until May 11*)
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 10 - Keith Reaves
- May 17 - Tamara Smathers
- May 24 - Kristen Mathis
- May 31 - Nick Georgian
- June 7 - Doris White Grant recipient

"CHRISTIAN PILGRIMS IN THE HOLY LAND"

TODAY AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE DINING ROOM

Claudia Borchart, who grew up in Nazareth and now lives in Migdal (Galilee region) serves as an international tour guide. Her depth of knowledge and perspective as an Israeli Christian is one we value. Please join us for the conversation.

NEW TO FBC?

The ministry staff invites you to a complimentary lunch following worship May 21. 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.

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 7

- 8:30 a.m. High School Senior Recognition Breakfast - Fellowship Hall
- Finance Committee Meeting - Conference Room
- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 5:30 p.m. Holy Land Meeting - Dining Room

Monday, May 8

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

Wednesday, May 10

- 12:00 p.m. Prayers and Reflections - Fellowship Hall
- 5:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

Thursday, May 11

- 6:00 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty Class - Dining 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 William and Alice Davies and John and Etsie Johnson by the Davies Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Emmelyn C. Harrison on the occasion of her birthday and in memory of Thomas I. Harrison by Julian M. Harrison and Family.



EASTER PROMISES
A WORSHIP SERIES

TODAY'S PROMISE:
GOD IS NOT FINISHED WITH YOU



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ROME, GEORGIA

MAY 7, 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

PRELUDE First Baptist Ringers

“Simple Gifts Abound”...arr. Karen L. Buckwalter
(This anthem is donated to the glory of God and in memory of Beth Bradfield Wright
and in honor of Ann Bradfield, by the First Baptist Ringers.)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Tamara Tillman Smathers

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 569 “In Christ Alone”

CALL TO CONFESSION Belle Brooks, leader
Holy and Eternal God, you have called us to be living stones, built into a spiritual
house, acceptable to you through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Too often we have misunderstood this teaching. We have considered the
church building to be your spiritual house, rather than our hearts.

This has caused us to believe that we go to church on Sunday mornings rather than be
the church every day of the week.

We confess those times we have fallen and ask you to build us back up—
as living stones—to be the people you need us to be in this world.

Lord, hear our prayers.

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS



Not the la-bors of my hands Can ful-fill Thy law's de-mands; These for sin could not a-



tone; Thou must save and Thou a-lone: Rock of A-ges, cleft for me, Let mehide my-self in Thee.

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 2:2-10

Maggie Keith, reader

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow
into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴Come to him, a
living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight,
and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy
priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it
stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and
precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷To you then who
believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders

rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸and “A stone that makes them
stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the
word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a
holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him
who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have
received mercy.

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.

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

RECOGNITION OF 2023 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Aiden Amerman	Gatlin Hancock	Wesley Inman	Elizabeth Richie
Heidi Botwinik	Braden Hood	Maggie Keith	Ella Roberts
Belle Brooks	Davis Inman	Noel Rich	

MORNING PRAYER (with the Lord’s Prayer) David Brooks

MUSICAL OFFERING Sanctuary Choir

“Almighty Father”...arr. Benjamin Harlan
Almighty Father, You alone are holy. You are my refuge, I will trust in You.
You are a tower, a mighty fortress. You are my strength and shield. You are God.
Almighty Father, You alone are holy. You guide my footsteps that I may not fall.
In joy or sorrow, I will exalt You. You are my righteousness. You are God.
Almighty Father, You alone are holy. You are Creator, You are all in all!
Yours is the power, Yours is the glory. Yours is the majesty. You are God.

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SERMON Nick Georgian

“Easter Promises: God’s Not Finished with You”

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 250 “Living Stones”

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP Elizabeth Richie

OFFERTORY First Baptist Ringers/Kelley Ozier, euphonium
“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”...arr. Ron Mallory

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH Rev. Smathers

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

HYMN OF COMMISSIONING NO. 590 (REFRAIN)
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

ORGAN POSTLUDE “Immortal, Invisible”...arr. Ron Boud

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:

