

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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.

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.

STEWARDSHIP

There are several ways to financially support the ministries of First Baptist Church. You may place your offering in the offering plates during worship, mail in your contribution or give online through the church website or by using this QR code.



David Brooks *Pastor*

Keith A. Reaves *Senior Associate/Minister of Worship*

Tamara 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

HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS

Thank you for submitting families and individuals to be a part of Hands of Christ Christmas. Watch for these family stories and gift signups starting November 13 through December 2. Gifts should be dropped off in the Dining Room December 3 through 10. Presents will be sorted, wrapped and picked up December 11 through 15. If you have questions, please reach out to Kate Barron or Amy Cox.

THANKSGIVING DINNER & SERVICE | Sunday, November 19 at 5:00 p.m.

Join us for a Thanksgiving dinner provided by the Deacons (no reservation required) with a Thanksgiving service to follow at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Special music will be provided by our younger children's choirs.

WELCOMING ADVENT | Sunday, November 26 at 4:00 p.m.

Come make an Advent wreath for your home! The church provides materials but participants are encouraged to bring clippers and any other decorations to make your wreath uniquely yours. Light refreshments will be served and our 2023 Advent Wreath Devotional Guide will be available.

25TH ANNUAL "CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST" | Sunday, December 3 at 4:00 p.m.

Our annual concert features the Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, Youth Choir, Children's Choir and First Baptist Ringers.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

8:30 a.m. Extended Family Ministry Team - Dining Room
 Finance Committee - Conference Room
9:45 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Youth Choir - Choir Suite
2:00 p.m. Students Hike - House of Dreams, Berry College

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Dining Room
11:30 a.m. Ruble-Whitworth Missions Group - Dining Room
5:00 p.m. First Baptist Ringers
5:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting - Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

5:30 p.m. Bridges Steering Committee - Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

12:00 p.m. Foundation Meeting - Conference Room
5:00 p.m. Family Night Dinner Served until 6 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
5:45 p.m. Children's Choirs (preschool through 5th grade)
 Collide (6th through 7th grades) - The Rock
6:00 p.m. Prayer Time - Fellowship Hall
6:15 p.m. Adult Seminars
6:30 p.m. Children's Missions & Collide (5th through 7th grades)
6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite
7:00 p.m. Student Discipleship - Student Room

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

6:00 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty Class - Fellowship Hall & 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 Ken Nance on the occasion of his birthday by Mary Nance and family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ralph Keith by Chris and Jennie Cook.

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



THE ORDINATION OF NICK GEORGIAN TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

11:00 A.M.

We welcome a larger congregation through Comcast Channel 44
and the church YouTube channel.

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ORGAN CALL TO WORSHIP

"Morning Has Broken"...arr. James Pethel

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Julie McCormick

We gather today because God appeared to Moses in the burning bush and said, "I am sending you."

Because Isaiah heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I
send? Who will go for us?"

Because the Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah saying, "Before I formed you, I knew
you. Before you were born, I consecrated you."

Because Jesus said, "Follow me," and the fishermen left their nets and
followed him.

We gather because there is one among us whom God has called to join in ministry
with all the prophets, priests and teachers before him.

God is surely with him and with us this day!

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 48

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

A CALL TO CONFESSION (based on 1 Peter 2:24-25)

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins
and live for righteousness;

by his wounds we have been healed.

So let us acknowledge our failure and disobedience, and return to the Lord with
penitence and faith.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS NO. 594 "Before the Throne of God Above"

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:13-16

Kristen Mathis, reader

¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

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 fourth grade may depart for Children’s Worship.)

MORNING PRAYER (with the Lord’s Prayer)

Keith A. Reaves

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Sanctuary Choir

“This Is the Day” ...arr. Dan Forrest
(The text to this anthem is based on Psalm 118.)

SERMON

David Brooks

“Just Be Yourself”

DECLARATIONS OF THE CANDIDATE AND CONGREGATION

Pastor: Who is your Lord?

Candidate: Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Are you persuaded that God has called you to be an ordained minister of the church, and do you pledge to love the church and serve faithfully in it?

Candidate: I will, with God’s help.

Pastor: Do you embrace the Baptist distinctives of soul competency, local church autonomy, religious freedom, and the Bible as our trusted and authoritative guide in matters of faith and practice?

Candidate: I do.

Pastor: Will you seek the heart of Christ through diligence in your private prayers and in reading the Scriptures? Will you also demonstrate that heart in the public responsibilities of your ministry?

Candidate: I will, with God’s help.

Pastor: Will you be the hands of Christ by regarding all people with equal love and concern and undertake to minister impartially to the needs of all?

Candidate: I will, with God’s help.

Pastor: Will you seek to serve with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Candidate: I will, with God’s help.

Pastor: *(to congregation)* Hearing these promises, will you affirm and accept Nick as an ordained minister of the Gospel?

People: We will, with God’s help. We also pledge our love and offer our prayers that together we may glorify God and make Christ known in the world.

People: Recognizing that we are one body in Christ and having promised our mutual encouragement before a holy God, let us daily seek God’s guidance as we do the work to which we all have been called.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

ORDINATION PRAYER

Tamara Tillman Smathers

SPECIAL MUSIC

Youth Choir

“Heart of Christ”...arr. John Chisum
Take my hands, use me Lord.
Take my feet, show me where to go.
Take my voice, let me sing.
Let me touch this world with the heart of Christ.
Heart of Christ, live in me.
Be the light the world will see.

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RESPONSE OF THE CANDIDATE

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 7 1

“Be Thou My Vision”

(Those desiring to join the church, to make a public profession of faith, or to share other decisions may come forward during the singing of this hymn.)

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP

Gwen Stephens

ORGAN OFFERTORY

“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”...arr. Eleanor Whitsett

Meditation Text:

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen. - John Wesley

HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS

Merrill Davies

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PRESENTATIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING

HYMN OF COMMISSIONING

He leadeth me, He leadeth me, By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful follower I would be, for by His hand He leadeth me.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

“The Promised Land”...arr. Trey Clegg

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:
