

WELCOME!

We are honored you have joined us in worship. Please fill out the information request below and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or minister. We promise to use it only to contact you about our church.

This is my (our)...

☐ First visit to First Baptist Church

☐ Second (+) visit

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.

☐ I would like to talk with a minister.

☐ I would like to know how to become a Christian.

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

☐ I am a guest of:

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

WORLD HUNGER OFFERING
Help meet the needs of the hungry by contributing to the monthly hunger offering. Place your offering in an envelope marked “WORLD HUNGER” and place it in the offering plate or give it to one of our youth at the exits at the close of the service. Our gifts support CBF Global Missions Hunger Relief.

PRAYING WITH JESUS | WALKING THE LABYRINTH
For centuries Christians have walked circular paths called labyrinths. This tradition allows us to calm and center ourselves. As we walk, we release into God’s hands, and then receive God’s gifts in prayer. FBC Rome has a new labyrinth painted on canvas, a version of one in France’s Chartres Cathedral. It will be in the gym Wednesdays and Thursdays after 2 p.m. and Fridays and Sundays when the church is open. Prayer guides are available. Socks and shoe covers will be provided, if needed.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY
6:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall
During Lent, our Bible Study will discover ways we experience Jesus. David Brooks will lead this study, based on *Freeing Jesus* by Diana Butler Bass. This week’s study is “Jesus as Teacher - John 13:13.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

- Sunday, February 25**
- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study
 - 11:00 a.m. Worship
 - 1:00 p.m. Deacon Ministry Leadership Team - Conference Room
 - 12:00 p.m. Youth Choir
 - 3:00 p.m. Student Ministry Departs for LakePoint Station
- Monday, February 26**
- 10:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Study - Dining Room
 - 1:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry - Conference Room
 - 5:15 p.m. First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite
- Wednesday, February 28**
- 3:30 p.m. Foundation Board - Conference Room
 - 5:00 p.m. Family Night Dinner
 - 5:45 p.m. Children’s Choirs
 - 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study - Fellowship Hall
 - 6:15 p.m. Strengths-Based Parenting - Room 300
 - 6:30 p.m. Children’s & Collide Missions
 - 6:45 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Fellowship Hall
 - Sanctuary Choir
 - 7:00 p.m. Student Discipleship, Prayer & Hang Out - Student Room

Thursday, February 29

- 6:00 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty Class - Fellowship Hall & Community Room

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Larry Atwell by Joanna Atwell and family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Nell Ansley Briley on the occasion of her birthday by Ansley and Dean Saville and family.



First Baptist Church **Rome, Georgia**
February 25, 2024 **The Second Sunday in Lent**
We welcome a larger congregation through Comcast Channel 44, and YouTube.
As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

Chiming of the Hour

Worship Series Theme Song “Wandering Hearts”...Keith A. Reaves

In the qui - et cham - bers of our wan - der - ing hearts, Where

doubts and sha - dows play their sub - tle parts, A jour - ney un - folds a quest to find The

stead - fast love in Christ that binds. In mo - ments of de - spair and strife, We seek

the Source, the well of life. For in our wan - der - ing we can see The

grace that flows to you and to me. Our wan - der - ing hearts on a

quest to find The stead - fast faith in Christ that binds.

Call to Worship Keith A. Reaves, leader

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,

the courageous and the fearful,

the hungry and the hopeful,

the impatient and the reserved.

God welcomes the young and the old,

the poets and the prophets,

the faithful and the tired,
the curious and the convicted.
Wherever you are on your journey,
wherever your boat is at sea,
there is room for all to gather here.
This is God’s house.

Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

Hymn of Praise No. 569 “In Christ Alone”

Prayer of Confession Gwen Stephens, leader
Gracious God, There are days that threaten to swallow us, days when the storms of life feel too big. In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear, spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for You.
Forgive us for doubting ourselves.
Fearful or brave, faithful or doubting, Jesus is walking toward us.
Forgive us for doubting You.
Your love is stronger than any storm.
With hope in our hearts we pray. . .

A Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness Iley Barnes, Music Ministry Intern
“Come, Thou Fount” ...arr. John Wyeth

Reading of Holy Scripture Matthew 14:22-33
Nick Georgian, reader

²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴ and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.
²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. ²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”
²⁸ “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”
²⁹ “Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?” ³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”
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 Petition No. 618 “Love Lifted Me”

Morning Prayer (with the Lord’s Prayer) David Brooks
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
“Shelter in the Storm” ...arr. Joel Raney
(This anthem also includes lyrics from Hymn 400.)
There’s a shelter in the storm. There’s a light in the darkest night.
There’s a rock that will stand through the ages.
There’s a shelter in the storm.

Sermon Rev. Brooks
“Wandering Heart: Rescue Me from Danger”

Hymn of Response No. 183 “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

Prayer of Stewardship Kristen Mathis

Piano Offertory “Rescue the Perishing”... arr. Chuck Sinclair

 Today’s icon represents choppy water: Peter walks out in faith on the choppy waters, and Jesus saves him from sinking. The choppy water lines represent the turbulent waters we all walk through on our journey of faith. When have you stepped out in faith? When have you had the courage to walk toward God in the midst of a storm?

The Work of the Church Rev. Mathis

Affirmation of Public Decisions

Pastoral Blessing and Passing of the Peace

Choral Benediction “Shelter in the Storm”

Organ Postlude “How Firm a Foundation” ...arr. Don Hustad

WHAT IS LENT?
For centuries, Lent has been observed as a special time of self-examination and penitence. The 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.

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*