

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:

March 10, 2024

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

6 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 Lord," based on Luke 6:46-47.

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.

COMMUNITY HOLY WEEK SERVICES

March 25-27 | Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Featuring pastors and musicians from across the community. A light lunch will follow each service. Hosted by Rome First United Methodist Church.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 10	
9:45 a.m.	Bible Study
11:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday, March 11	
10:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study - Dining Room
12:00 p.m.	Finance Committee - Conference Room
1:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministry - Conference Room
5:00 p.m.	First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite
5:30 p.m.	Deacons' Supper/Meeting - Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, March 13	
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 Rehearsal
7:00 p.m.	Student Discipleship, Prayer & Hangout - Student Room
Thursday, March 13	
6:00 p.m.	Bridges Out of Poverty Class - Fellowship Hall & Community Room

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory and happy heavenly birthday to William Thompson, husband, father, granddaddy by Nancy Thompson, Margaret and Jason Marion, Blythe and Archer.

CBF

Offering for

GLOBAL MISSIONS



FBC Goal: \$45,000

Given to Date: \$9,376.47

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



First Baptist Church

Rome, Georgia

March 10, 2024

The Fourth 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

Kristen Mathis, leader

On our worst days,

God is good.

On our best days,

God is good.

When life is consistent,

God is good.

And when life turns on its head,
God is good.
Day and night, Monday through Sunday,
God is good.
God is here.
God is love.
Hold tight to that good news.
Let us worship God!

Hymn of Praise No. 52 “O Worship the King”

Prayer of Confession David Brooks, leader

Holy God, We often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense.
Like Peter, we want to yell out, “This should not happen!”
We want to control scenarios beyond our reach. We want to hold Your world in our hands.
Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity.
Forgive us for arguing when we could listen.
Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many.
Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen.
With hope in our hearts we pray...

A Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness Nancy Ratcliffe, solo
“Living For Jesus”...Thomas O. Chisholm

Reading of Holy Scripture Matthew 16:21-24
Gwen Stephens, reader

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

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 Trust No. 570 “’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”
(Children ages four through fourth grade may depart for Children’s Worship.)

Morning Prayer (with the Lord’s Prayer) Tamara Tillman Smathers
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
“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”...arr. Albert Travis
(The lyrics in this anthem appear in Hymn 184.)
Tara Suswal, cello

Sermon Rev. Brooks
“Wandering Heart: Make Up Your Mind”

Hymn of Response No. 491 “Wherever He Leads I’ll Go”

Prayer of Stewardship Nick Georgian

Cello/Piano Offertory “Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed”...arr. Duane Funderburk

 Today’s icon represents a fermata. In music, the fermata symbol represents a prolonged note or a pause. After learning Jesus would suffer and die, Peter rebukes Christ saying, “This must never happen to you.” Jesus rebukes Peter right back, knowing he cannot yield on his journey of nonviolence and love. The fermata represents how Peter is fixed on how he wants things to go, but Jesus calls him to stop and get behind Him. The symbol also looks like an empty tomb, which is foreshadowed in this story. Jesus shares a hard truth with Peter that challenges his faith. What truths or events challenged your faith?

The Work of the Church Rev. Georgian

Affirmation of Public Decisions

Pastoral Blessing

Passing of the Peace

Hymn of Commissioning No. 501 (Stanza 1) “I Am Resolved”
I am resolved no longer to linger, charmed by the world’s delight;
Things that are higher, things that are nobler,
these have allured my sight.
I will hasten to Him, hasten so glad and free;
Jesus, greatest, highest, I will come to Thee.

Organ Postlude “Postlude on Two American Folk Hymns”... arr. Charles Callahan

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 baptistry 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.

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*