

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 3, 2024

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

**TIME CHANGE NEXT WEEKEND**

Don’t forget to “Spring Forward” by setting your clocks ahead one hour before bed on Saturday, March 9.

**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 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,” based on John 13:13.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 3	
9:45 a.m.	Bible Study
11:00 a.m.	Worship
12:00 p.m.	Chapel Choir - Choir Suite
1:00 p.m.	Aubrey & Nick Georgian’s Baby Shower - Dining Room
	Deacon Ministry Leadership Team Meeting - Conference Room
3:00 p.m.	Children’s Ministry Meeting - Conference Room
5:45 p.m.	Student Small Groups - Fellowship Hall
Monday, March 4	
10:00 a.m.	Women’s Bible Study & Ruble Whitworth Mission Group - Dining Room
1:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministry - Conference Room
5:15 p.m.	First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite
Tuesday, March 5	
8:00 a.m.	Immokalee, Florida Mission Team Departs
Wednesday, March 6	
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 Workshop - 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 7	
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 of Don Clements by the Clements Family.

CBF

Offering for

GLOBAL MISSIONS



FBC Goal: \$45,000

Given to Date: \$8,547.47



First Baptist Church

Rome, Georgia

March 3, 2024

The Third 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 *(inspired by Psalm 19)* Tamara Tillman Smathers, leader

If you ask the sky who God is,

the sky will show you of God’s reach.

If you ask the day who God is,

the sun will give you God’s warmth.

If you ask the night who God is,

the moon will show you of God’s comfort.

“The heavens are telling the glory of God” *(Psalm 19:1)*. Are you listening?  
**We are listening!**  
We will sing of God’s glory. Let us worship a Holy God.

Hymn of Praise No. 19 “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Prayer of Confession Nick Georgian, leader  
Holy God, some days, we are quick to declare Your goodness. Like  
Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith. Other  
days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.

**Forgive us for losing sight of You.**  
Some days we are quick to trust Your blessings— trusting that we are  
called, that we can make a difference. Other days, our praise falls silent  
and doubt creeps in.

**Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.**  
We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith. But for  
the days when we are far from You and far from ourselves, we ask for  
Your tender grace.

**Pull us closer toward You. Remind us of the mountaintop  
moments of our faith. Lord, hear our prayers. . .**

A Time for Silent Confession  
Assurance of Forgiveness Lee Ann Head, soprano  
“Before the Throne of God Above”...arr. Bruce Greer

Reading of Holy Scripture Matthew 16:13-20  
David Brooks, reader  
<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his  
disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> And they said,  
“Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or  
one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I  
am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living  
God.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!  
For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in  
heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my  
church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you  
the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will  
be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in  
heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he  
was the Messiah.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.  
Gloria Patri (Hymn 704)

Hymn of Faith No. 584 “My Faith Has Found a Resting Place”  
(Children ages four through fourth grade may depart for Children’s Worship.)


Morning Prayer (with the Lord’s Prayer) Kristen Mathis  
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 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”...arr. Jeff Wachter  
*(The lyrics in this anthem appear in Hymn 407.)*  
Kim Tunnell, Music Ministry Associate, conductor

Sermon Rev. Brooks  
“Wandering Heart: Praise the Mount”

Hymn of Response No. 588 “I Know Whom I Have Believed”

Mission Emphasis/Prayer of Stewardship Gennady and Mina Podaisky

Organ Offertory “Pastorale”...Raymond Haan  
 Today’s icon represents a mountain peak: Peter has a moment of clarity  
and professes Jesus to be the Messiah. Jesus affirms Peter’s proclamation  
by saying Peter is the rock upon which he will build his church and that  
Peter will be given “the keys of the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 16:19). A  
mountain peak represents this moment of clarity and affirmation along  
Peter’s wandering journey. When in your life have you felt closest to God?  
What are some of the “mountaintop” moments in your faith?

The Work of the Church Rev. Georgian

Affirmation of Public Decisions

Commissioning of Florida Mission Team  
*(Troy Fitzpatrick, Nick Georgian, Randy Holland, Bob Hortman, Julie McCormick,  
Gayle Monk, Miriam Peterson, Sam Ratcliffe, Gwen Stephens, Nancy Ware,  
Bill Weidemann, Diane Wilson, John Wilson)*

**Pastor:** Jesus commanded us to go into all the world. The upcoming  
mission to Florida is a step toward fulfilling that Great Commission. The  
team will invite people to seek the heart of Christ, to receive God’s love  
in Christ, and will radiate God’s Spirit.  
**People:** We offer our prayers and support to Troy, Nick, Randy,  
Bob, Julie, Gayle, Miriam, Sam, Gwen, Nancy, Bill, Diane and John.  
**May God lead you, protect you, support you and make you a  
blessing as you work serve as the hands of Christ for us.**

Pastoral Blessing and Passing of the Peace

Hymn of Commissioning No. 435 (Refrain) “Share His Love”

Organ Postlude “Psalm XIX”... Benedetto Marcello

**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 *lechten*  
*(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.

**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*