

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:

October 20, 2024

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS EMPHASIS | Serving Our Members, Serving Others

Do you know an individual or family facing challenges (i.e., illness, addiction, grief, poverty, etc.) who may benefit from church community and support? If so, please submit the individual or family by Sunday, November 3 by contacting Kate Barron, 706.296.3453 or Amy Cox, 770.826.5714.

MEN'S MINISTRY GOLF OUTING | LIL MOLE RUN

Join the men on a golf outing to Lil Mole Run in Mentone, AL on Friday, November 15. Lunch of hotdogs and hamburgers at noon and tee off at 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$35. Please plan to sign up by calling the church by November 11. For more information call Ernie Smith at 706.346.1956 or Jack Smith at 706.767.1486

HOLIDAY COOKIE DECORATING WORKSHOP | Tuesday, November 19 | Dining Rm

Join us for this fun holiday event! The cost is \$20 per person and includes all needed cookie making materials and light refreshments. Enjoy a step-by-step decorating workshop from Ashleigh Vaughn, owner of Simpleigh Sweets Bakery, and go home with four beautifully decorated Christmas Cookies, as well as instructions for how to recreate them! The registration deadline is November 4. Please scan QR Code to register or contact Kristen Mathis or Kelly Sanker.



SAVE THE DATE! | 26TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST CONCERT

Sunday, December 8 at 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, October 20

9:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study with John Pierce - Fellowship Hall

11:00 a.m. Worship

12:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal
Stewardship Committee - Conference Room

6:00 p.m. Student Ministry Small Groups

Monday, October 21

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

1:00 p.m. Women of the Church Book Group - Dining Room

5:15 p.m. First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite

5:30 p.m. Personnel Committee - Conference Room

Tuesday, October 22

5:30 p.m. Future Staffing Task Force Meeting - Conference Room

Wednesday, October 23

5:00 p.m. Family Night Dinner - Fellowship Hall

5:45 p.m. Children's Choirs

6:00 p.m. Adult Seminars - Fellowship Hall & Conference Room
Student Ministry Activities & Discipleship - Student Room

6:30 p.m. Children's and Collide Missions

6:45 p.m. Prayer Time - Fellowship Hall
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

Thursday, October 24

6:00 p.m. Bridges Getting Ahead Class - Community Room

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Doris Higgins on the occasion of her birthday by Marty and Len Willingham and family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and provided by the Jo Huffman Flower Fund.

First Baptist Church, 100 East Fourth Avenue, Rome, GA 30161

Phone: 706.291.6850 Website: www.fbcrome.com



A Service of Worship

October 20, 2024

11:00 a.m.

*We welcome a larger congregation through Comcast Channel 44 and YouTube.
As a courtesy to others, please silence all devices.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“More About Jesus”

More, more about Jesus.

More, more about Jesus.

More of His saving fullness see,

More of His love, who died for me.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Ryals, Lauren, Jack and Harrison Stone

We are called to follow Jesus.

But following Jesus isn't easy.

No. It will demand our dedication and our energy.

It will change our whole lives.

Come, all of you. Come and learn of the Lord Jesus.

Lord, we come, seeking your wisdom and your guidance. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 345

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

CALL TO CONFESSION

We are so much like Peter. Jesus tells us what it will take to follow Him, and we want to argue.

Jesus shows us the way to the Kingdom and we look for another path.

Let us put down all that keeps us from following Jesus, as we confess our sins:

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

More, more about Jesus.

More, more about Jesus.

More of His saving fullness see,

More of His love, who died for me.

**A COVENANT OF DEDICATION FOR ELENA KATHERINE ESCOBAR
AND HER PARENTS, GIOVANNI AND KATE ESCOBAR**

Life Verse: Philippians 4:4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

LITANY OF DEDICATION

We thank God that Giovanni and Kate have been blessed with the gift of a child. We welcome Elena in the same spirit that God welcomes us. We give thanks for all of our children and the joy they bring to our families. Giovanni and Kate, do you present Elena for dedication, and in doing so declare your intent to raise her in an environment of Christian faith and love?

Parents: We do.

To Elena's family, will you freely give of yourselves to Elena, nurturing her and walking alongside Giovanni and Kate as they seek to teach her to walk in the way of Jesus?

Family: We will.

Will this congregation recognize Elena as a gift from God? Will you pray for her as she grows in her journey as a follower of Christ? Will you pray for her parents, extended family and this church family as we all continue to surround Elena with the same love and grace that surrounds her today?

People: We will.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 16:24-26

Dr. Coleman Fannin, teacher, Builders Class

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

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 DISCIPLESHIP NO. 473

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

(Children ages four through fourth grade may depart for Children's Worship.)

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

"Come, Follow Me" ...arr. Joseph Martin
Betty Holland, accompanist

Take up thy cross and follow.

Come faithful seeker of the Light,

My voice is calling in the night.

Walk with Me; I'll be your guide.

Follow Me, follow Me.

Come, weary pilgrim, take My hand.

I'll lift up and help you stand.

All who seek the promised land, follow me.

All who hunger, all who suffer, all who sorrow,

all who would be free, follow Me.

The path is steep, the road is long,

but with My love, I'll keep you strong,

then My grace will lead you home. Come follow me.

Come follow me, O faithful one, until the final race is won,

until the great Amen is sung!

Follow me, come follow me.

I am the Way, the Truth, the Life. Follow Me.

SERMON

Dr. John Pierce

Director, Jesus Worldview Initiative

"Recovering Our Primary Calling"

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 188

"Man of Sorrows! What A Name"

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP

Tamara Tillman Smathers

PIANO OFFERTORY

"More About Jesus" ...arr. Michael Cox

Meditation Text:

Discipleship is not step two in the Christian life: it is the very essence of the Christian life. Discipleship begins with a willingness to trust the one who calls us to follow. It seeks to know Jesus in every way—to know his teaching and to know his sacrifice; to know his healing and to know his resurrection. —Jack Glasgow in *Seeing with Jesus*

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Smathers

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING

PASSING OF THE PEACE

COMMISSIONING HYMN NO. 581

"I Love to Tell the Story"

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true.

It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory.

To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

"Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals" ...arr. Diane Bish

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*

Heather Shores *Interim Minister to Students*

Joan Hill, *Organist* Beverly Harris, *Pianist*