

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:

January 18, 2026

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICE FOR MLK WEEKEND | Today at 5:00 p.m.

Our fellow CBF church, North Broad Baptist Church, is hosting a worship service to bring congregations together from across the community. Please plan to attend this special service!

FOOD DONATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH JANUARY | To Benefit the Community Kitchen

There are various bins located in the church for drop off. Please make sure all cans are pop top. Requested items include: Chef Boyardee; Canned Chunky Soups; Vienna Sausages

LEARN ABOUT FIRST BAPTIST | Sunday, February 8 | 12:15 p.m.

Want to learn more about FBC Rome? You are invited to our Lunch & Learn with a complimentary lunch in the Dining Room to hear from our ministry staff and learn about the church. Make your reservation by calling the church or emailing David Brooks at dbrooks@fbcrome.org. Deadline to RSVP is Monday, February 2.

MINISTER OF STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS CALL WEEKEND

Friday, January 30

The candidate has dinner with the Youth Committee and Search Committee.

Saturday, January 31

10:00 a.m. "Meet & Greet" with Collide students, youth and parents.

12:30 p.m. Lunch with Young Adults and college students at Blossom Hill.

Sunday, February 1

8:30 a.m. "Meet & Greet" with congregation in the Fellowship Hall

9:45 a.m. The candidate teaches student Bible Study.

11:00 a.m. The candidate participates in worship.

The congregation votes following worship.

5:30 p.m. The candidate joins students for supper and small groups.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, January 18

9:45 a.m. Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship

12:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

No Youth Small Groups

Monday, January 19

Church Office Closed to Observe MLK Holiday

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

Tuesday, January 20

1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry - Parlor

2:00 p.m. Celebration Team - Conference Room

Wednesday, January 21

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

5:45 p.m. Student Activities & Discipleship - Student Room

Children's Choirs

6:00 p.m. Adult Seminar - Fellowship Hall

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

6:45 p.m. Prayer Time - Fellowship Hall

Sanctuary Choir - Choir Suite

Friday, January 23

3:30 p.m. Winter Children's Retreat - Eatonton, GA

4:30 p.m. Students Winter Retreat - Gatlinburg, TN

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God through the Jo Huffman Flower Fund.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and on the occasion of Bill Weidemann's birthday by Jana Weidemann.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ROME, GEORGIA**

100 East Fourth Avenue

www.fbcrome.org

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



A Service of Worship

January 18, 2026

11:00 a.m.

As a courtesy to others, please silence all devices.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ORGAN CALL TO WORSHIP

“From Heaven Above” ...Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Kristen Mathis

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 339

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Kim Tunnell, leader

Faithful God, you call us to be saints, but we are more comfortable with the role of sinner; you call us to be your servants, but we worry that we lack the skills to do your work;

you show us the work to be tackled, but we turn away defiant, insisting we have more important things to do.

Put your song on our lips and in our hearts, and remind us of the joy that awaits us when we put our trust in you.

Guide us into the light of your unwavering, never-ending, and grace-filled love. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS NO. 600

“O How He Loves You and Me”

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 49:1-6

David Brooks, reader

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born; while I was in my mother’s womb he named me.

2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.

3 And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

4 But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD and my reward with my God.”

⁵ And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—

6 he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

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. 285

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

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

MORNING PRAYER (with the Lord’s Prayer)

Suzanne Reece

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

“A Vision of You” ...arr. Cindy Berry

Father, You have called me to be holy in all I do,
to be perfect as You are perfect, to keep my eyes fixed on You.

So, let me love so that all the world may see that Jesus lives and loves through me.

Let me love as Jesus loves, with compassion and with holiness.

Let me live as Jesus lives, always ready to forgive.

May I reflect Your glory; may my heart be faithful and true.

May others see Christ in me. May they see a vision of You.

Through the darkness of night, let me shine as Your light.

Through the power of Your Spirit, let me love as Jesus loves.

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SERMON

“The Limits of the Light”

Rev. Brooks

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 96

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

(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

PIANO OFFERTORY

“Light for a Dark World” ...arr. Marilyn White

Meditation Text:

What if the sign of our witness to the world is not how much we accomplish, but our own *lightness*, our own *reflection* of the bright God who has chosen us and lit us up and sent us into the world like candles in a dark room? -Barbara Brown Taylor

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Stephens

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS/BLESSING/PASSING OF THE PEACE

CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION NO. 156 (REFRAIN) “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Shine, Jesus, Shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory;

blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;

send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

“Built on a Rock” ...arr. Gilbert Martin

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

WHAT IS EPIPHANY?

Epiphany is the third season of the church year, following Advent and Christmas. The word *epiphany* is Greek for “to manifest” or “to reveal.” In this season, which lasts until Ash Wednesday, the church celebrates God showing himself in the person of Christ to the Gentiles. For this reason during this season we remember the visit from the Magi, Christ’s baptism and transfiguration. It celebrates that Christ came as Savior for all.

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP

Children 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.

SAFETY

Automated external defibrillators are in the stairwell leading to the choir loft on the organ side, across from the drink machine entering the Fellowship Hall, and on the third floor hall near the restrooms in the Education Building. Safe zones for severe weather are in preschool hallways for children and the Fellowship Hall for others.

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

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.



Rev. David Brooks *Pastor*

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

Rev. Kristen Mathis *Minister to Children & Young Families*

Rev. Gwen Stephens *Minister to Extended Family*

Rev. Suzanne Reece *Minister of Discipleship/Missions*

April Lucas *Interim Director of Student Ministry*

Joan Hill *Organist* Beverly Harris *Pianist*