

## 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:

\_\_\_\_\_

February 22, 2026

## THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

### WORLD HUNGER OFFERING

Help meet the needs of the hungry by contributing to the monthly hunger offering. Please put this offering in an envelope and mark it "WORLD HUNGER" and place it in the offering plate or in the boxes at the exits. Our gifts support CBF Global Missions Hunger Relief.

### JOURNEY TO EASTER | AN INTERACTIVE LENTEN GUIDE | Packets available today

This 6-week experience is an invitation to walk through the season of Lent as a time of preparing our hearts, minds, and souls for Easter.

### LENTEN WEEKLY PRAYER GATHERING | Thursdays | Noon | Chapel

During the six weeks of Lent, you are invited to be a part of a weekly, experiential prayer gathering in the Chapel. We will share a brief time of scripture and prayer together as we walk through the Lenten season toward the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT SEMINAR CHOICES | BEGINNING FEBRUARY 25

- **A Call to Endurance** | Led by David Brooks | Dining Room  
This Bible study is focused on passages from the book of Hebrews.
- **A Different Kind of Fast** | Led by Suzanne Reece | Community Room  
A focus on fasting from those things that do not draw us closer to God so we might embrace the character and heart of God more intentionally.
- **Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart** | Led by Gwen Stephens | Conference Room  
This is a continued study that guides us in how to relate to those around us who are suffering.
- **Young Men's Lenten Conversation Group** | Led by Coleman Fannin | 3rd Floor, Room 302  
This group will provide young men to gather around the themes and scripture shared in the "Journey to the Cross" devotions for further exploration and conversation.

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, February 22

9:45 a.m. Bible Study  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
12:00 p.m. Love Bug Lunch - Fellowship Hall  
Youth Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite  
5:30 p.m. Student Small Groups

### Monday, February 23

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

### Wednesday, February 25

FBC Serves at the Community Kitchen  
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 Seminars - Dining Room, Community Room, Conference Room, Room 302  
6:30 p.m. Children's and Collide Missions  
6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Suite

### Thursday, February 26

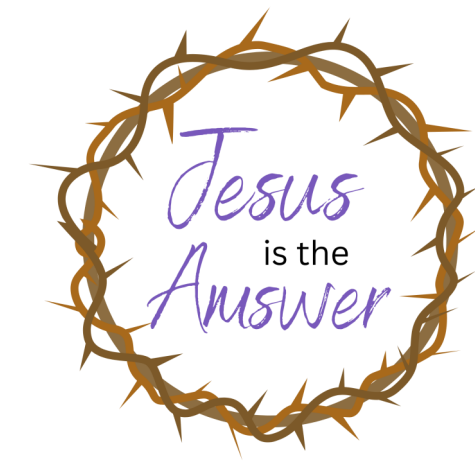
FBC Serves at the Community Kitchen  
12:00 p.m. Lenten Weekly Prayer Gathering - Chapel  
4:00 p.m. Safety & Security Committee - Conference Room

### Friday, February 27

FBC Serves at the Community Kitchen

*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 memory of Nell Ansley Briley on the occasion of her birthday, by Ansley and Dean Saville and family.*



First Baptist Church  
Rome, Georgia

February 22, 2026  
11:00 a.m.

## The First Sunday in Lent

*As a courtesy to others, please silence all devices..*

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Keith A. Reaves

### CALL TO WORSHIP

"Honor, Honor" ...arr, Hall Johnson

Indra Thomas, soprano

### THE COVENANT OF CHURCH MEMBERS

Led by the Spirit of God to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and having entered into the fellowship of the Spirit through His Church,

**we, the members of the Church, prayerfully make this covenant with one another and with our Heavenly Father.**

We respect all faith traditions, but we shall cherish our heritage as Baptist Christians.

**We shall hold dear the principles of soul competency, the priesthood of all believers, the autonomy of the local Church, and the Bible as our trusted and authoritative guide in matters of faith and practice.**

As a group of gathered believers, we understand ourselves to be a part of a family of faith.

**Therefore, we shall love, forgive, admonish, encourage, serve, and pray for one another—always in the spirit of being sisters and brothers in Christ.**

Jesus Christ shall be our model for living.

**We recognize that none of us shall ever attain His perfection; yet, we shall always strive to grow in the likeness of Him. His heart shall be our guide for the way we minister, organize ourselves, conduct our business, and treat others.**

We believe that the Church is the body of Christ on earth; therefore, we are the hands of Christ.

**Knowing this about ourselves, we shall be satisfied with nothing less than being leaders in Christian service. We can only accomplish this goal by serving more.**

Our Master is our example. We know that we serve Christ Himself when we minister to the least, the last, the lost, and the overlooked.

We believe that, on our own, we are not strong enough, wise enough, nor good enough to accomplish our mission as a Church. Therefore, we trust in God's strength, God's wisdom, and God's righteousness to empower us. Only through prayer do we accomplish our mission as a Church.

--Adopted by the First Baptist Church of Rome, October 19, 2003

**ORDINANCE OF BELIEVER'S BAPTISM** Cadence Price and Melody Price  
(The congregation will say "Amen" following each baptism.)

**HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 295** "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

**CALL TO CONFESSION** (adapting Romans 6:1-4)

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase?

By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it?

Lord, hear our prayers. . .

### A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

Therefore we were buried with Him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. Thanks be to God!

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Indra Thomas and Iley Barnes, duet  
"Oh What A Beautiful City" ...arr. Johnie Dean

**READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE** Matthew 4:1-11

Suzanne Reece, reader

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup> But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

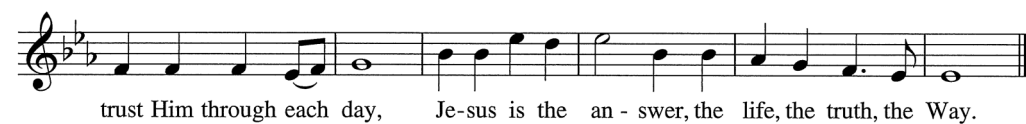
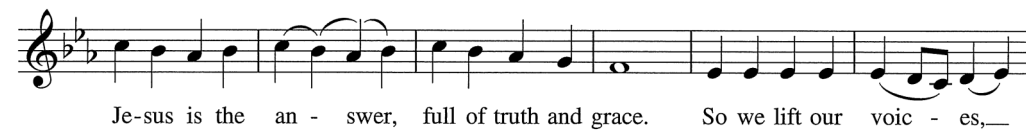
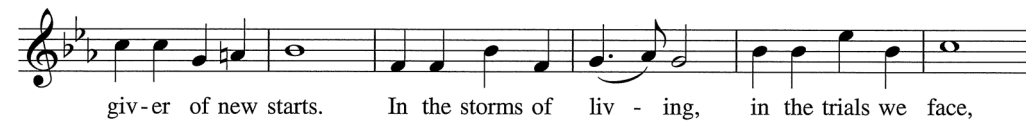
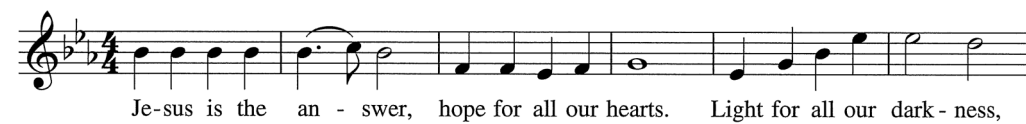
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

#### 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.

#### LENTEN THEME SONG

"Jesus Is the Answer"



#### 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

Indra Thomas

"O Divine Redeemer" ...Charles Gounod

#### SERMON

Rev. Brooks

"When We are Tempted...Jesus Is the Answer"

#### HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 472

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

#### PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP

Kristen Mathis

#### CHORAL OFFERTORY

"At Calvary" ...arr. Mary McDonald

(The text to this anthem may be found in Hymn 589.)

#### THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Mathis

#### AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

#### PASTORAL BLESSING

#### BENEDICTION

Indra Thomas

"You Can Tell the World" ...arr. Margaret Bonds

#### ORGAN POSTLUDE

"The Rejoicing" ...George Frederick Handel

We welcome internationally acclaimed soprano **Indra Thomas** as our musical guest. She has performed at opera houses and concert venues around the world, including the Metropolitan Opera, Royal Albert Hall and Carnegie Hall. Her performances have earned her Emmy and Grammy nominations. Ms. Thomas is a graduate of Shorter College and earned an Artistic Diploma from the prestigious Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. She serves as Artist in Residence in Residence in Voice at Berry College.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### WHAT IS LENT?

For centuries, Lent has been observed as a special time of self-examination and penitence. This name "Lent" comes from the Old English word *lencten* (springtime, spring). 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.

### 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. 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.



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