

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 8, 2026

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

RUBLE-WHITWORTH MISSION GROUP | Monday, February 9 | 11:30 a.m.

The group will host Tina Bartleson, Director of the Family Resource Center. Come learn more about the Center's work to empower families through healthy child development. A light lunch will be served. All are welcome. No reservations necessary.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT SEMINAR CHOICES

- **Tales of Crime and Punishment** | Led by David Brooks | Dining Room
We will discuss Noah & the Flood, Genesis 6:11-14; 7:11-14; 8:1,15-16; 9:12-16
- **Paying Attention to the Winter of Our Souls** | Led by Suzanne Reece | Community Room
In the winter days of February we experience many cold days filled with too many hours of darkness. We also experience seasons of winter in our souls. How might we pay attention to these winters in our souls, and what are the gifts of winter we might discover together?
- **Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart** | Led by Gwen Stephens | Conference Room
This study will guide us in how to relate to those around us who are suffering.

JOURNEY TO EASTER | AN INTERACTIVE LENTEN GUIDE

 | Packets available next Sunday

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. Packets will include a child-friendly option, as well as a more adult-focused option.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE | February 18 | 6:15 p.m. | Sanctuary

Following family night dinner, children and students will join the adults as we kick off this season of Lent. Nursery care provided for children PreK and under.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 8

- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite
Lunch & Learn - Dining Room
- 4:00 p.m. The Edge (High School Seniors) - Coffee and Conversations Classroom

Monday, February 9

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Dining Room
- 11:30 a.m. Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group - Fellowship Hall
- 12:00 p.m. Finance Committee - Conference Room
- 4:45 p.m. First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite
- 5:30 p.m. Deacons' Dinner/Meeting - Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 11

- 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
- 6:30 p.m. Children's and Collide Missions
- 6:45 p.m. Prayer Time - Fellowship Hall
Sanctuary Choir - Choir Suite

Thursday, February 12

- 2:00 p.m. Celebration Team - Conference Room
- 5:15 p.m. Sr. Adults depart for Sound of Music - Chattanooga, TN

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. James Wilbur Keene on the occasion of their wedding anniversary, by Buddy and Ellen Keene.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and honor of FBC Ministers and Staff, by Earl and Mary Rolan.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ROME, GEORGIA**

100 East Fourth Avenue

www.fbcrome.org



A Service of Worship

February 8, 2026

11:00 a.m.

As a courtesy to others, please silence all devices.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ORGAN CALL TO WORSHIP

“The God of Abraham Praise”...arr. Richard Elliott

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

David Brooks

If the human body is to live, it needs salt.

If the body of Christ is to live, it needs us!

If the earthly creation is to flourish, it needs the sun’s light.

If the new creation we are in Christ is to flourish, it needs the

Spirit’s light!

But if salt isn’t salty?

It isn’t what it’s meant to be.

And if a light doesn’t shine?

It isn’t what it’s meant to be.

Jesus says we are salt of the earth, light of the world. Briny and bright, we are God’s faithful people.

Loving God, who has made us to be salt and light in a tasteless, shadowed world, guide us in this time of worship. Amen!

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 7

“Worthy of Worship”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Lord, mold us that our faith is not in our words but in our lives, not in what we say, but in what we do;

passing on your love like the salt that blesses, like a city on a hill, like a lamp on a stand, light for life, your light for the world.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS NO. 436

“Seek Ye First”

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:13-16

Kristen Mathis, reader

¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

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 FAITH NO. 588

“I Know Whom I Have Believed”

(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

“My Eternal King”...Jane Marshall

My God, I love Thee; not because I hope for heaven thereby,

Nor yet because who love Thee not Must die eternally.

Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst me Upon the cross embrace;

For me didst bear the nails and spear, And manifold disgrace.

Why, O blessed Jesus Christ Should I not love Thee well?

Not for the hope of winning heaven, Nor of escaping hell.

Not with the hope of gaining aught, Nor seeking a reward,

But as Thyself hast loved me, O everlasting Lord!

E’en so I love Thee, and will love, And in Thy praise will sing,

Solely because Thou art my God, And my eternal King!

SERMON

Rev. Brooks

“Salty and Shiny”

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 477

“We Are Called to Be God’s People”

(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.)

FOUNDATION REPORT/PRAAYER OF STEWARDSHIP

Chris Jackson, *Foundation Chair*

PIANO OFFERTORY

Kim Tunnell, *Music Ministry Associate*

Meditation Text:

The sting of salt in a wound lets us know we are broken and need healing. Salt adds flavor to food and makes us thirsty, and light lays bare the things that are hidden. We know that we are not the ones who save a person from being spiritually dark and dead, but called to be the salt and light that leads a person to the one who can...Jesus never challenged us to become salt or light. He simply said that we are, and we are either fulfilling or failing that given responsibility. -Cole Newton

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Keith A. Reaves

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS/PASTORAL BLESSING

CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

“This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine. (repeat twice)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I’m gonna let it shine. (repeat twice)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine. (repeat twice)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”...arr. Anthony Giamanco

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*