



**Lent**, a season of introspection, begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for the next 40 days (not counting Sundays), culminating on Easter Sunday. Traditionally during this time, the mood and tone in worship are subdued. Flowers are removed from the worship area and certain words of celebration (i.e.: “alleluia”) are not uttered until the day we observe Christ’s resurrection. All of this is done to remember Jesus’ time in the wilderness as he prepared himself for the journey ahead.

**If you would like to know more** about becoming a member of First Baptist or about making a profession of faith, please see Thomas Quisenberry in the Narthex after the service. A time will be arranged when you can speak together about the next steps to take in finding your place in our church family.



**Mark your calendars!** We’ll observe Spring Break (along with Hamilton County Schools) this week. Youth will have no evening activities tonight, March 15. Also, on Wednesday evening, March 18, we’ll all take a break from regularly scheduled FBC activities. Regular evening schedules will resume on the Sunday, March 22, and Wednesday, March 25.

**Join us for GriefShare, a grief support group**, as you experience the loss of a loved one through death. This program consists of 11 weekly sessions which began last Tuesday, March 10. The sessions meet from 6:30-8:00PM and are led by trained facilitators, using video segments along with a workbook, *From Mourning to Joy*. The only fee is \$20 for the workbook. Please contact Jim Schwall with any questions (423.280.7998). Register at [www.fbcchattanooga.org/griefshare](http://www.fbcchattanooga.org/griefshare).

**Floral needs for Palm and Easter Sundays:** On March 29, we will commemorate Jesus entering Jerusalem by waving palm branches, and then celebrate his resurrection with a flowered cross on April 5. We’ll also adorn our worship space with lilies. To help cover these costs, you are invited to place donations in honor or in memory of a loved one. Lilies are \$13 each; all other donations will be applied to palms and flowers for the cross. Order forms are available around the church and on our website. **Please place your request by Thursday, March 26.** You may also pay for your order online using the QR code below (use the dropdown menu: FLOWERS/EASTER FLOWERS), and then confirm your gift by emailing Patty Spells ([patty@fbcchattanooga.org](mailto:patty@fbcchattanooga.org)).

**F4: Kids (toddlers thru 2<sup>nd</sup> graders) and your families**, please plan to join us for a **Family Movie Night on Saturday, March 28**, from 5:30-7:30PM. Wear your comfy clothes and bring pillows/sleeping bags to lounge on. We’ll watch *Meet the Robinsons* on the big screen in the Fellowship Hall. Pizza, snacks, and drinks will be provided, too.

**Add these Holy Week services to your calendar!**

**Maundy Thursday:** a service of Holy Communion marking the night of the Last Supper, April 2, 6:00PM, in the Chapel.

**Good Friday:** a service of Tenebrae contemplating Jesus’s crucifixion and death, April 3, 7:00PM, in the Chapel.



With this QR code, you can donate to our budget, pay for event tickets, give to a mission opportunity, and more. Please contact the church office with any questions.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, March 15, Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 9:00AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:30AM Library Open until Worship Begins
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 12:15PM Adult Ministry Luncheon – Fellowship Hall
- 5:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- No Evening Activities for Youth – Spring Break

### Tuesday, March 17

- 10:00AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Group – E211
- 5:30PM Moving Forward CJC Classes – Lower Chapel Area
- 6:30PM GriefShare – E213

### Wednesday, March 18

- 11:00AM FBC Serves at the CHATT Foundation
- 5:30PM No Evening Activities (Spring Break)

### Thursday, March 19

- 2:00PM Shower Ministry – Rec Center Area
- 4:30PM Finance Committee (via Zoom)

### Sunday, March 22, Fifth Sunday in Lent

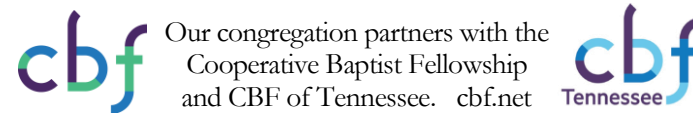
- 9:00AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:30AM Library Open until Worship Begins
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 4:30PM Youth Activities – FH200
- 6:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite

### Tuesday, March 24

- 10:00AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Group – E211
- 11:00AM Lunch & Learn – Youth Area
- 5:30PM Deacon Council Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 5:30PM Moving Forward CJC Classes – Lower Chapel Area
- 6:00PM Tuesday Book Group – Off Campus
- 6:30PM GriefShare – E213

### Wednesday, March 25

- 5:30PM Fellowship Time (BYOF) – Fellowship Hall
- 6:15PM Preschool Music/Missions – E107
- 6:15PM Children’s Choir – E111
- 6:15PM Youth Gathering – Youth Area
- 6:15PM Epiphanies (study/discussion/action group) – E217
- 6:15PM Midweek Study (Pastor led) – Fellowship Hall
- 7:00PM Gym Time (school-age kids/youth)



Our congregation partners with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and CBF of Tennessee. [cbf.net](http://cbf.net)

### Worship Leaders

- Dr. Thomas Quisenberry -----Senior Pastor
- Rev. Jeff Parker-----Minister of Music and Worship
- Rev. Kelly Kunf -----Interim Minister of Youth and Children
- Dr. Darryl Miller-----Organist
- Ms. Jenny Parker-----Pianist

401 Gateway Avenue, Chattanooga, TN 37402  
[www.facebook.com/fbcchattanooga](http://www.facebook.com/fbcchattanooga)  
 423.265.2257 [www.fbcchattanooga.org](http://www.fbcchattanooga.org)



HONEST QUESTIONS

*Deeper Faith*

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

Chattanooga, Tennessee

March 15, 2026

*As you enter, please pick up a card and write a prayer concern on the back.  
Some of these will be read aloud during our Prayers of the Community.  
At the beginning of the first hymn, someone will come down  
all three aisles to collect the cards. Thank you for your participation.*

## GATHERING

SONGS OF COMMUNITY *Cheryl McAfee, organ*

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

GREETING *Thomas Quisenberry*

We come from all walks of life:  
the rich and the poor, the struggling and the secure.  
**And God calls us all.**

We bring our hearts to this time and place:  
hearts holding joy and sorrow, questions and wonders.  
**And God knows us.**

We offer what we have to give:  
our talents and our imperfections,  
our faith and our doubt, our hope and our hands.

**And God loves us.**  
Let us worship God.

PRELUDE *arr. A. Travis*  
*My Jesus, I Love Thee*

## APPROACH

PRAYER OF ADORATION *Jeff Parker*

\*HYMN 634 *TO GOD BE THE GLORY*

*To God Be the Glory*  
(All children are invited to come forward during the last stanza.)

CHILDREN'S TIME *Kelly Kunf*

PSALM READING *Olen Grubbs*

*Psalm 23 (NRSV)*  
The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Olen Grubbs*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
**But, O Lord, I can't get enough.**

He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
**But, O Lord, other pastures are greener.**  
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.  
**But, O Lord, the road is long and rough.**

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.  
**But, O Lord, I can do it on my own.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
**But, O Lord, I don't want to sit with others who are not like me.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.  
**Forgive me, O Lord, and lead me home.**

(silent confessions)

Our sins are forgiven. Nothing can ever separate us from God's love.

I am loved!

**I am loved!**

I am held in grace!

**I am held in grace!**

I belong to God.

**I belong to God.**

\*HYMN 418

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

## PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM *arr. D. Forrest*

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
Chancel Choir

When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of Glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

GOSPEL READING *Thomas Quisenberry*

*John 9:1-12 (NRSV)*

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE *Thomas Quisenberry*

*Who Needs Healing?*

## RESPONSE

\*HYMN 415

RESTORATION

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY *Kelly Kunf*

**Our Father which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

PREPARATION FOR GIVING *Roberta Echols*

Our giving this morning,  
whether we have been lost and wandering, or secure and safe,  
expresses our firm conviction that God is with us, no matter what.  
Let us gather our gifts together  
and offer them to God in gratitude, heartfelt commitment, and praise.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS *arr. R. Haan*

*When God Restored Our Common Life*  
(Hymn 74)

\*DEDICATION OF GIFTS *OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>*

Praise God, the Source of life and birth; praise God, the Word, who  
came to earth; praise God, the Spi-rit, ho-ly flame; all  
glo-ry, hon-or to God's name! A-men.

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Roberta Echols*

\*WORK OF THE CHURCH *Thomas Quisenberry*

\*WORDS OF BLESSING

\*CHARGE *Thomas Quisenberry*

\*BENEDICTION *BUNESSAN*

(Hymn 702)

**Christ be beside me; Christ be before me;  
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.  
Christ be within me; Christ be below me;  
Christ be above me, never to part.**

POSTLUDE *H. Willan*

*Prelude and Fugue in d minor*

Following the postlude, please exit at your convenience.

\*Please stand, if able.

OL#728820-A