



**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.

We are accepting gifts for the **Benevolence Fund** at the end of worship today. We cover the cost of 40 food vouchers per month provided through the Chattanooga Area Food Bank. We also issue grants for utilities depending on the immediate need presented and the available money for aid. Monies donated for the Benevolence Fund are used to cover these costs and may be given online (see QR code) or through the offering.

**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.

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**Floral needs for Palm and Easter Sundays:** We’ll commemorate Jesus entering Jerusalem by waving palm branches on March 29 and 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, and then confirm your memorial or honorarium by emailing Patty Spells (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.

**HOLY WEEK, March 29 – April 4**

**Palm Branch Processional** – Sunday, March 29, 10:50AM, led by our children, from the Lower Chapel Entrance through the front yard and to the Sanctuary. Adults are welcome to follow the processional, joining the children after they pass you in the yard or Narthex.

**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.

**Hunt for Easter** – an opportunity for our families and friends to encounter the story of Easter through 12 sensory interactive stations, on Saturday, April 4, from 10:00AM-noon, in the Fellowship Hall. Remember to bring your Easter basket!



**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 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 – 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**

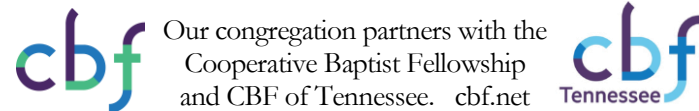
- 5:30PM Fellowship Time (BYOF) – Fellowship Hall
- 6:15PM Preschool Music/Missions – E107
- 6:15PM Children’s Choir – E111
- 6:15PM Youth Gathering – Youth Area
- 6:15PM Epiphany (study/discussion/action group) – E217
- 6:15PM Midweek Study (Pastor led) – Fellowship Hall
- 7:00PM Gym Time (school-age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

**Saturday, March 28**

- 5:30PM F4: Family Movie Night – Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, March 29, Palm/Passion Sunday**

- 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
- 12:30PM Cool Kids Collective – E109
- 4:30PM Youth/Chancel Choirs Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 5:30PM Youth Supper – Youth Area
- 6:00PM Youth Bible Study – Youth Area



**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  
423.265.2257 www.fbcchattanooga.org



HONEST QUESTIONS

*Deeper Faith*

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

Chattanooga, Tennessee

March 22, 2026

## GATHERING

SONGS OF COMMUNITY *Jenny Parker, piano*

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

GREETING *Thomas Quisenberry*

God calls us out of our dark places,  
**offering us the grace of new life.**

When we are weary, we see nothing but hopelessness,  
**God surprises us with the healing breath of the Spirit.**

In this hour, may God call us out of our complacency and routines,  
**and fill us with a spirit of life, joy and peace.**  
Let us worship God.

PRELUDE *arr. R. Hobby*

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*  
(Hymn 835)

## APPROACH

PRAYER OF ADORATION *Jeff Parker*

\*HYMN 645 *MIT FREUDEN ZART*

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*  
(All children are invited to come forward during the last stanza.)

CHILDREN'S TIME *Maggie Quisenberry*

PSALM READING *Verbie Prevost*

*Psalm 130 (NRSV)*

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Verbie Prevost*

Out of the depths of despair, we cry to you, O God.

**We are lost in a world of pain and suffering.**

When we put our trust in weapons of war,  
**we find no peace.**

When we put our faith in our own resources,  
**we feel the ache of our true needs.**

When we put our hope in the health of our bodies,  
**we suffer pain and find no healing.**

Come to us, O God.

**Forgive our doubts and fears, heal our brokenness,  
that we may rejoice in your steadfast love. Amen.**

(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 438

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

TOPLADY

## PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM

*What Wondrous Love Is This*  
Chancel Choir

arr. R. Sterling

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down;  
when I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb, who is the Great "I Am,"  
while millions join the theme I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing, and joyful be,  
and through eternity I'll sing on!

READING FROM THE PROPHETS *Thomas Quisenberry*

*Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NRSV)*

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

MESSAGE *Thomas Quisenberry*

*What Needs the Breath of Life?*

## RESPONSE

\*HYMN 307

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY *Thomas Quisenberry*

PREPARATION FOR GIVING *Alisbea Hixson*

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. P. Rodriguez*

*The Old Rugged Cross*

\*DEDICATION OF GIFTS *OLD 100TH*

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 *Alisbea Hixson*

\*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 *arr. J. Walther*

*Jesus, Priceless Treasure*  
(Hymn 830)

Following the postlude, please exit at your convenience.

An offering for local benevolence will be received as you leave the service today.

\*Please stand, if able.

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