



**On that first Easter morning**, Mary approached the tomb expecting to find death and a finality to the work of Jesus. Instead, the earth shook beneath her feet, the stone was rolled away, and the angel present pronounced that Jesus was not there anymore. The world around her was no longer certain, and yet the Gospels record that she ran from that place filled with joy. This Eastertide season, for 50 days, we will explore the texts of 1 Peter and seek to find our own ways to run into the uncertain world around us and share the joy found in the Good News of Easter. We hope you will journey with us while discovering a joy within you worthy of sharing.

**Cover artwork** by Stella Paulino; colored by Abigail Hixson.

**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.



**Congratulations** to Kelly Kunf, Interim Minister of Youth and Children, who has ministered with us for one year now (04.17). We are deeply grateful for her service as she continues to lead us in ways to show God's love to our families.

**Cool Kids Collective** (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders) meets this afternoon, April 19, from 12:30-3:30PM. We will meet in the Lobby and travel by church bus to the **Tennessee Riverpark** for a picnic lunch (subs, chips, cookies) and a delightful afternoon of running and enjoying the great outdoors together. We'll share a short devotional out under the sun, also. Contact Kelly Kunf for more information (561.252.2969).

**Epiphanies** will be hosting a **Listening Session** led by Chattanooga in Action for Love, Equality, and Benevolence (C.A.L.E.B.) in E217 on Wednesday, April 22 at 6:15PM. This grassroots funded nonprofit organization works to bring together communities, organizations, and individuals to make their voices heard. This is truly a listening session where you are asked to share your concerns, ideas, and feelings around topics concerning public safety and the criminal justice system. All who are interested are welcome!

**F4 families** (toddlers – 2<sup>nd</sup> graders), join us on **Saturday, April 25**, from 10:00AM to noon at **Jumpin' Jellybeans** (5450 Hwy 153, Hixson) for a morning full of indoor play together. The fee is \$20/child plus 1 adult. Additional adults are \$5 each. Please complete the safety waiver found in your email. Questions? Contact Lizzie Alford (lizzie@fbcchattanooga.org) or Kelly Kunf (561.252.2969).

**Sabbath Week, April 26-May 2**

As we near the end of spring activities and gear up for summer fun, the church will honor a SABBATH WEEK from April 26 - May 2. Regular churchwide activities for Sundays after worship and Wednesdays will PAUSE for this week. We also ask that committees refrain from planning gatherings this week. The intent is for our community of faith to REST, to encourage families to have time together, and to prepare for a busy, fun summer ahead.



**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, April 19, Third Sunday of Easter**

- 9:00AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 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 Finance Committee – E217
- 12:30PM Cool Kids Collective – Lobby
- 4:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal – FH200
- 5:30PM Youth Supper – Youth Area
- 6:00PM Youth Bible Study – Youth Area
- 6:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite

**Tuesday, April 21**

- 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
- 6:30PM GriefShare – E213

**Wednesday, April 22**

- 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) – E217
- 6:15PM Midweek Study (Pastor led) – Fellowship Hall
- 7:00PM Gym Time (School-Age Kids/Youth)
- 7:15PM Personnel Committee – Conference Room

**Thursday, April 23**

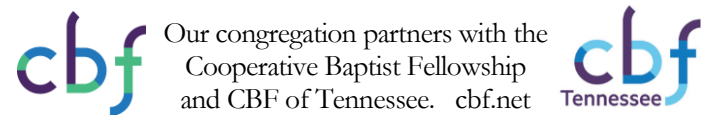
- 8:30AM Adult Ministry Trip – Cartersville, GA

**Saturday, April 25**

- 10:00AM F4 to Jumpin' Jellybeans

**Sunday, April 26, Fourth Sunday of Easter**

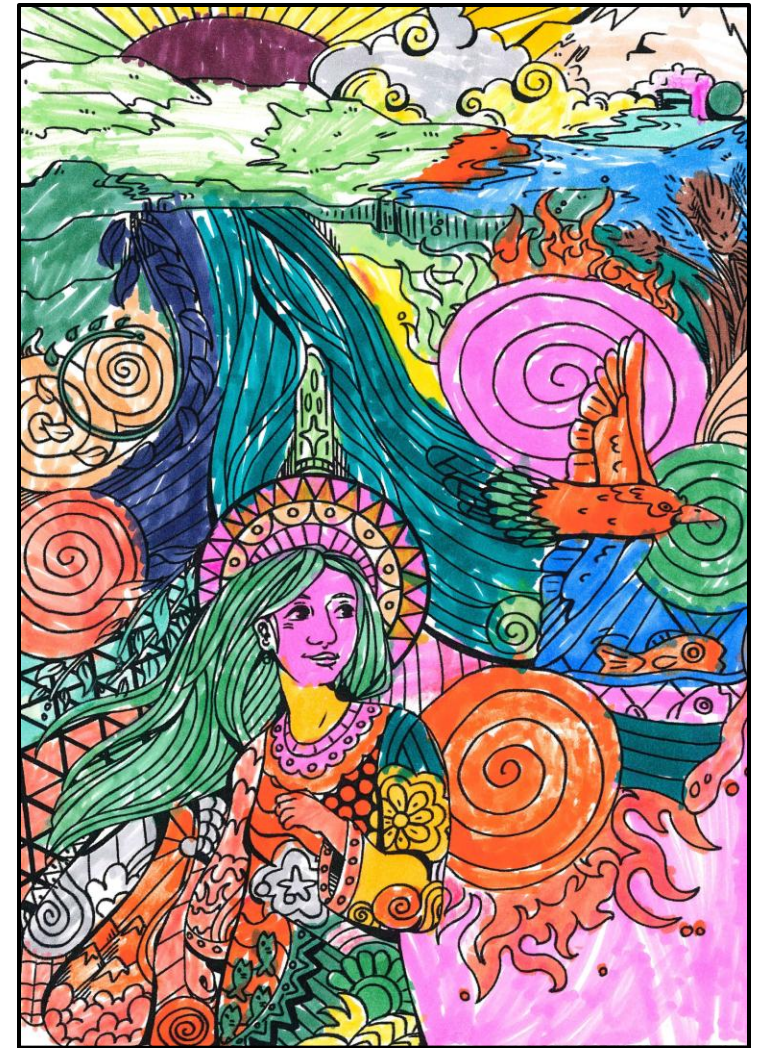
- 9:00AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:30AM Library Open until Worship Begins
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 12:15PM Festival Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- Sabbath Week Begins



**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

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*Go with Joy into an  
Uncertain World*

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

Chattanooga, Tennessee

April 19, 2026

## GATHERING

SONGS OF COMMUNITY

*Janice Bond*, piano

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

GREETING

*Thomas Quisenberry*

Friends, we gather this day to celebrate life –  
**the life we have been given by God,**  
 the life we share with one another in community,  
**the life that Jesus gives in abundance.**  
 Let us be grateful for the joy of life,  
**and let us worship God.**

PRELUDE

R. Lau

*Alleluias*

## APPROACH

PRAYER OF ADORATION

*Jeff Parker*

\*HYMN 630

CRUSADERS' HYMN

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

(All children are invited to come forward during the last stanza.)

CHILDREN'S TIME

*Thomas Quisenberry*

PRAYER LITANY

*Kelly Kunf*

*Psalm 116:1-7 (NRSV)*

(For this time of prayer you are invited to sit comfortably,  
 breathing in God's love and exhaling the uncertainties of the world.  
 Feel free to close your eyes or keep them open. Just be!)

1. "I love the Lord because He has heard my voice and my supplications.
2. Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live."  
**You bend down to listen when we pray. You are not rushed;**  
**You listen to every detail. Because You turn Your ear to me,**  
**I will call on You as long as I live.**

Reflection  
 (silent prayers)

Hymn 469 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* Medema

3. "The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;  
 I suffered distress and anguish.

4. Then I called on the name of the Lord, 'O Lord, I pray, save my life!' "  
**Where darkness and fear threaten to steal our joy, You are ever present,**  
**gently reminding us to call upon Your name, knowing You are**  
**faithful to hear our cries for Your light overwhelms the darkness.**

Reflection  
 (silent prayers)

Hymn 469 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* Medema

5. "Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is merciful.
6. The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, He saved me."  
**You are resolute in Your graciousness, steadfast in Your mercy.**  
**You alone rescue our souls from the grip of death,**  
**our eyes from weeping, and our feet from stumbling.**  
**In our moments of trouble, grant us Your peace.**

Reflection  
 (silent prayers)

Hymn 469 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* Medema

7. "Return, O my soul, to your rest,  
 for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you."  
**You grieve with Your people.**

**Injustice and cruelty break Your heart as they break ours.**  
**Sit with us in our lament. Grant us healing and hope for the future.**  
**Help us to be an instrument of that hope;**  
**returning us to Your rest, O Lord.**  
**For I am at peace. My soul finds its home again.**

\*HYMN 647

GIVE THANKS

*Give Thanks*

## PROCLAMATION

EPISTLE READING

*Thomas Quisenberry*

*I Peter 1:17-23 (NRSV)*

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

MESSAGE

*Thomas Quisenberry*

*Family Identity*

## RESPONSE

\*HYMN 308

NOEL

*O God in Whom All Life Begins*

PREPARATION FOR GIVING

*Sylvia Colvin*

Just as the women ran joyfully from the empty tomb  
 to share the good news of the resurrection,  
 may we joyfully provide the means  
 by which that same good news  
 can be shared with our neighbors  
 here and throughout the world.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

J. Crutchfield

*Make Our Church One Joyful Choir*  
 Chancel Choir

Make our church one joyful choir on this glad and festive day  
 and by song invoke the fire that invites our hearts to pray:  
 shape us, Christ, to live and claim all it means to bear your name.

Bend us low by song and prayer, low enough to lift the cross  
 and to take the weight and bear love's uncounted final cost.  
 Shape us, Christ, to live and claim all it means to bear your name.

Lift us up by song and prayer, till the way we deal with loss  
 and our acts and words of care trace the pattern of your cross:  
 shape us, Christ, to bear your name.

Bend us, lift us, make us strong, send us out with wind and fire,  
 so the world may hear the song that we offer as your choir:  
 shape us, Christ, to live and claim all it means to bear your name. Amen!

\*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

*Sylvia Colvin*

\*WORK OF THE CHURCH

*Thomas Quisenberry*

\*WORDS OF BLESSING

\*CHARGE

*Thomas Quisenberry*

\*RESPONSE

ACCLAMATIONS

**This is the threefold truth on which our faith depends,**  
**and with this joyful cry worship begins and ends:**

Christ has died! Christ is ris - en! Christ will come a - gain!

POSTLUDE

G. Martin

*A Festive Trumpet Tune*

Following the postlude, please exit at your convenience.

\*Please stand, if able.

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