



First Baptist Church

Dr. Derrick L. Jackson, Pastor

Dear First Baptist Church Family,

First Baptist Church has been closely monitoring the Tennessee outbreak of the COVID-19 Coronavirus and has been seeking God for wisdom and direction during this season of anxiety, fear, and frustration.

While times like these cause tremendous panic and fear in our world, we know that God is ultimately in charge, and God speaks even through tragedy and crisis. To minimize the risks of exposure, we are asking members to do the following as advised by the Center for Disease Control (CDC):

- Stay at home if you're feeling sick
- Wash your hands **OFTEN** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available
- Cover your cough or sneeze immediately and appropriately
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands

The Center for Disease Control has confirmed that persons infected with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) experienced the following symptoms, which can take 2 to 14 days to appear:

- Fever
- Dry Cough
- Fatigue
- Difficulty Breathing/Shortness of Breath

Milder cases may resemble the flu or a bad cold, but people may be able to pass on the virus even before they develop symptoms. While all of us should be intentional in taking the necessary precautions that the experts recommend, let us not forget the words of the hymnist: "Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness..."

After much prayer, counsel, and reflection, the services for this Sunday will continue. Additional opportunities to connect with us in corporate worship, Bible studies, small group studies, congregational care, and outreach opportunities will be forthcoming. As I pray a pastoral covering over you and your family, join me in meditation on Psalm 56:3, Isaiah 41:10, and Philippians 4:7.

In His Name and for His Cause

Pastor Jackson