



# First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day  
June 15, 2025  
11 AM Worship Service

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# Vision for Worship

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Foundational to the mission of FPC Rome is the proclamation that, “By God’s grace alone and to his glory alone, we exist to worship God in his greatness and his holiness with Gospel-driven passion and integrity...”

## **GOSPEL CENTERED**

Our worship services are ordered in such a way that the Gospel story is proclaimed anew each week through the elements of Word and sacrament, creed and confession, prayer and song, with each service having its distinctive way of doing so.

## **BIBLICALLY BASED**

"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable."

- *Psalm 145:3*

## **ROOTED IN REFORMED TRADITION**

Natural understanding reveals that there is a God, who is lord and sovereign over everything, who is good and does good to everyone, and who is therefore to be held in awe, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in, and served with all our heart, soul, and might. The acceptable way of worshiping the true God is established by God himself. God’s revealed will so defines and outlines proper worship that neither the imaginations and devices of men nor the suggestions of Satan are to be followed. God is not to be worshiped under any visible representation or in any other way than that prescribed in Holy Scripture.

Religious worship is to be given to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and only to him, not to angels, saints, or any other creature. Since the fall this worship must involve a mediator, and there is no other mediator than Christ alone.

- *WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH CHAPTER 21, 1-2*

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# God's People Gather for Worship

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## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

## DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Prayer of Preparation

**Our Father, you are in heaven, high and lifted up, higher than our highest thoughts. Holy is your name; beside you there is no other! You are God, and you alone! Receive us into your kingdom—the coming kingdom—the kingdom of your anointed Son, Jesus, whose name we bear. Receive us, for we come to worship in his name—we pray in him and with him. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Song of Praise

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

*All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing  
Oh praise Him, alleluia, thou burning sun with golden beams.*

*Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
Oh praise him, oh praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

*Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
Oh praise Him, Alleluia, thou rising morn, in praise rejoice.*

*Ye lights of evening, find a voice,  
Oh praise Him, oh praise Him, oh Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

*Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness,  
Oh praise Him, Alleluia, praise, praise the Father, praise the Son.*

*And praise the Spirit, three in One,  
Oh praise Him, oh praise Him, oh Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

## CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

## Song of Reflection

“God Be Merciful to Me”

*God be merciful to me, on thy grace I rest my plea.  
Plenteous in compassion thou, Blot out my transgressions now.  
Wash me, make me pure with in, cleanse, o cleanse me from my sin.  
  
My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress.  
I have sinned against thy grace and provoked thee to thy face.  
I confess thy judgment just, speechless, I thy mercy trust.  
  
Gracious God, my heart renew, make my Spirit right and true.  
Cast me not away from thee, let thy Spirit dwell in me.  
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.  
  
Sinners then shall learn from me, and return O God to Thee.  
Savior all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing Thy love.  
Touch my silent lips O Lord and my mouth shall praise accord.*

## OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Our Global Commitment and Partners

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Mountain”

*(As a reminder, the congregation will join the praise team on the second verse.)*

*I know You're in every season. I feel Your hand bringing peace and control.  
Jesus, Your love is my anchor. You're my only hope, You're my only hope.  
I will trust in You. I will not be moved.*

***High on the mountain I will be lifting my voice, And in the valley I will be dancing for joy.  
In every season, You are worthy; in every moment, You're wonderful.***

*You are my light and salvation. My God is with me; there's nothing to fear.  
Jesus, our hope our redemption, Your presence is here, Your presence is here.  
I will trust in You. I will not be moved.*

***(chorus)***

*We won't be silent. Our hearts on fire: Jesus, our victory.  
This sound of triumph, this song inside us: Jesus, our victory.*

***(chorus)***

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 12:27-47 NIV 1984

<sup>27</sup> At the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, the Levites were sought out from where they lived and were brought to Jerusalem to celebrate joyfully the dedication with songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps and lyres. <sup>28</sup> The singers also were brought together from the region around Jerusalem—from the villages of the Netophathites, <sup>29</sup> from Beth Gilgal, and from the area of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built villages for themselves around Jerusalem. <sup>30</sup> When the priests and Levites had purified themselves ceremonially, they purified the people, the gates and the wall. <sup>31</sup> I had the leaders of Judah go up on top of the wall. I also assigned two large choirs to give thanks. One was to proceed on top of the wall to the right, toward the Dung Gate. <sup>32</sup> Hoshaiiah and half the leaders of Judah followed them, <sup>33</sup> along with Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam, <sup>34</sup> Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, Jeremiah, <sup>35</sup> as well as some priests with trumpets, and also Zechariah son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph, <sup>36</sup> and his associates—Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah and Hanani—with musical instruments prescribed by David the man of God. Ezra the scribe led the procession. <sup>37</sup> At the Fountain Gate they continued directly up the steps of the City of David on the ascent to the wall and passed above the house of David to the Water Gate on the east. <sup>38</sup> The second choir proceeded in the opposite direction. I followed them on top of the wall, together with half the people—past the Tower of the Ovens to the Broad Wall, <sup>39</sup> over the Gate of Ephraim, the Jeshanah Gate, the Fish Gate, the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, as far as the Sheep Gate. At the Gate of the Guard they stopped. <sup>40</sup> The two choirs that gave thanks then took their places in the house of God; so did I, together with half the officials, <sup>41</sup> as well as the priests—Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah and Hananiah with their trumpets— <sup>42</sup> and also Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malkijah, Elam and Ezer. The choirs sang under the direction of Jezrahiah. <sup>43</sup> And on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away. <sup>44</sup> At that time men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the contributions, firstfruits and tithes. From the fields around the towns they were to bring into the storerooms the portions required by the Law for the priests and the Levites, for Judah was pleased with the ministering priests and Levites. <sup>45</sup> They performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as did also the singers and gatekeepers, according to the commands of David and his son Solomon. <sup>46</sup> For long ago, in the days of David and Asaph, there had been directors for the singers and for the songs of praise and thanksgiving to God. <sup>47</sup> So in the days of Zerubbabel and of Nehemiah, all Israel contributed the daily portions for the singers and gatekeepers. They also set aside the portion for the other Levites, and the Levites set aside the portion for the descendants of Aaron.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“The Hand of God in Worship and Celebration”

Dr. Jonathan Schwartz

## **SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH**

Song of Response

“All Must Be Well”

*Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well.*

*Free and changeless is His favor, all is well.*

*Precious is the blood that healed us, perfect is the grace that sealed us,*

*Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, all must be well.*

*Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well.*

*Ours is such a full salvation, all is well.*

*Happy still in God confiding, fruitful if in Christ abiding,*

*Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding, all must be well.*

*We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well.*

*Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well.*

*On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying,*

*Yes in living or in dying, all must be well.*

Commissioning and Benediction

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# Thank You for Worshiping with Us Today

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## OUR MISSION

By God's grace alone and to His glory alone, the First Presbyterian Church of Rome exists to worship God in His greatness and holiness with Gospel-driven passion and integrity, to know Jesus Christ in his fullness, to be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit, and to be united together as a community of faith.

In grateful response to the privilege of knowing God and being called according to His purpose, we long to grow as faithful, fruitful followers of Jesus Christ. To this end, through joyful submission, we will emphasize and strive as a corporate body:

- to live together in authentic and loving fellowship,
- to make and mobilize disciples,
- to share the Gospel in word and action locally and around the world, and
- to serve sacrificially the community in which God has placed us.

\* We acknowledge that Christ has given the church universal its 'mission' in the call to fulfill the Great Commission and honor the Great Commandment. Our Mission Statement sets forth how our particular church, at this season and place, shall emphasize its part in this greater, corporate calling. Our Mission Statement is to serve as our means of testing and direction in particular ministry without, in any way, limiting what God may otherwise do in leading us. It is subordinate to the Constitution of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, which consists of the Book of Order (comprised of The Book of Government, The Book of Discipline and the Book of Worship), the Westminster Confession of Faith (including the Larger and Shorter Catechisms) and the document "Essentials of Our Faith". In turn all of these documents are subordinate to Scripture, the supreme and final authority on all matters on which it speaks.

## LET'S CONNECT

**If you are visiting with us today**, we would love to have the opportunity to answer any questions you may have about our ministries. Please fill out our Connect Card and our Connections team will contact you. We look forward to connecting with you!

**Ministry Opportunities:** Discover how God has gifted you for His service and shows you potential areas of service in the church and community. Complete our Serve Profile at [www.fpcrome.org/serve](http://www.fpcrome.org/serve).

**ShelbyNext:** Visit our church website for access to our giving platform, membership directory, calendar, and more at [www.fpcrome.org](http://www.fpcrome.org).

**Sunday Mornings at FPC:** We offer several Sunday studies for all ages. For a complete list visit our website.

**Prayer Requests:** To submit a Prayer Request for you or someone you know that is in need, you may do so on our website, or you may contact the church office. If you would like to receive updated prayer requests please contact the church office at [info@fpcrome.org](mailto:info@fpcrome.org).

**Missions:** FPC supports several local and global missions. For more details please visit our website or contact Mr. Rob Davis at [robd@fpcrome.org](mailto:robd@fpcrome.org).

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# Pray for Our Church Leaders

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## CHURCH STAFF

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## THE SESSION

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Mr. Charlie Williams