



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
June 22, 2025
11 AM Worship Service

Vision for Worship

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

"Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,"

- Hebrews 12:28

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 CONFESSIO OF FAITH CHAPTER 21, 1-2

God's People Gather for Worship

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Responsive to Call to Worship

from Psalm 100

Leader - Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

All - Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his, we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader -Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

All - For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Song of Praise

“Wonderful Merciful Savior”

Wonderful, Merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend.

*Who would have thought that a Lamb could,
Rescue the souls of men, Oh, You rescue the souls of men.*

*Counselor, Comforter, Teacher, spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts have,
Hopelessly lost the way, Oh, we've hopelessly lost the way.*

***You are the one that we praise, You are the one we adore.
You give the healing and grace, our hearts always hunger for.
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.***

*Almighty, Infinite Father, faithfully loving your own.
Here in our weakness You find us.
Falling before Your throne, Oh, we're falling before Your throne.*

(chorus)

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Heavenly father, merciful and everlasting God, we acknowledge and confess before your divine majesty that we are poor sinners, prone to evil and ever falling short of goodness. We have transgressed your commandments, and are worthy of your anger. But, O Lord, we repent and are sorry from our hearts that we have so displeased you. We pray that your grace may bring help to our distress. Be pleased, therefore, to have mercy upon us, O most gracious God and Father. Forgive us all our sins, through the holy sufferings of your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and grant us now the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Increase these in us each day, that we may repent, that sin may be destroyed in us, and that we may bring forth the fruits of righteousness and a pure life that are pleasing to you, through Jesus Christ. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Reflection

“How Deep The Father's Love For Us”

*How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son, to make a wretch His treasure;
How great the pain of searing loss, The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the chosen One, bring many sons to glory.*

*Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders,
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers;
It was my sin that held Him there, until it was accomplished,
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.*

*I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no pow'r's, no wisdom,
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection;
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom.*

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Living Hope”

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

*Who could imagine so great a mercy what heart could fathom such boundless grace.
The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven, the King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm yours forever, Jesus Christ, my living hope.*

***Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free. Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.
You have broken every chain there's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.***

*Then came the morning that sealed the promise Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the roaring lion, declared the grave has no claim on me.
Jesus, Yours is the victory, whoa!*

***(chorus)
Oh God, You are my living hope.***

INTERCEDING FOR GOD'S WORLD

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who 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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 13:1-31 ESV

On that day they read from the Book of Moses in the hearing of the people. And in it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever enter the assembly of God, ² for they did not meet the people of Israel with bread and water, but hired Balaam against them to curse them—yet our God turned the curse into a blessing. ³ As soon as the people heard the law, they separated from Israel all those of foreign descent. ⁴ Now before this, Eliashib the priest, who was appointed over the chambers of the house of our God, and who was related to Tobiah, ⁵ prepared for Tobiah a large chamber where they had previously put the grain offering, the frankincense, the vessels, and the tithes of grain, wine, and oil, which were given by commandment to the Levites, singers, and gatekeepers, and the contributions for the priests. ⁶ While this was taking place, I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I went to the king. And after some time I asked leave of the king ⁷ and came to Jerusalem, and I then discovered the evil that Eliashib had done for Tobiah, preparing for him a chamber in the courts of the house of God. ⁸ And I was very angry, and I threw all the household furniture of Tobiah out of the chamber. ⁹ Then I gave orders, and they cleansed the chambers, and I

brought back there the vessels of the house of God, with the grain offering and the frankincense. ¹⁰ I also found out that the portions of the Levites had not been given to them, so that the Levites and the singers, who did the work, had fled each to his field. ¹¹ So I confronted the officials and said, “Why is the house of God forsaken?” And I gathered them together and set them in their stations. ¹² Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain, wine, and oil into the storehouses. ¹³ And I appointed as treasurers over the storehouses Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiah of the Levites, and as their assistant Hanan the son of Zaccur, son of Mattaniah, for they were considered reliable, and their duty was to distribute to their brothers. ¹⁴ Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God and for his service. ¹⁵ In those days I saw in Judah people treading winepresses on the Sabbath, and bringing in heaps of grain and loading them on donkeys, and also wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of loads, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. And I warned them on the day when they sold food. ¹⁶ Tyrians also, who lived in the city, brought in fish and all kinds of goods and sold them on the Sabbath to the people of Judah, in Jerusalem itself! ¹⁷ Then I confronted the nobles of Judah and said to them, “What is this evil thing that you are doing, profaning the Sabbath day? ¹⁸ Did not your fathers act in this way, and did not our God bring all this disaster^[a] on us and on this city? Now you are bringing more wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath.” ¹⁹ As soon as it began to grow dark at the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, I commanded that the doors should be shut and gave orders that they should not be opened until after the Sabbath. And I stationed some of my servants at the gates, that no load might be brought in on the Sabbath day. ²⁰ Then the merchants and sellers of all kinds of wares lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice. ²¹ But I warned them and said to them, “Why do you lodge outside the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you.” From that time on they did not come on the Sabbath. ²² Then I commanded the Levites that they should purify themselves and come and guard the gates, to keep the Sabbath day holy. Remember this also in my favor, O my God, and spare me according to the greatness of your steadfast love. ²³ In those days also I saw the Jews who had married women of Ashdod, Ammon, and Moab. ²⁴ And half of their children spoke the language of Ashdod, and they could not speak the language of Judah, but only the language of each people. ²⁵ And I confronted them and cursed them and beat some of them and pulled out their hair. And I made them take an oath in the name of God, saying, “You shall not give your daughters to their sons, or take their daughters for your sons or for yourselves. ²⁶ Did not Solomon king of Israel sin on account of such women? Among the many nations there was no king like him, and he was beloved by his God, and God made him king over all Israel. Nevertheless, foreign women made even him to sin. ²⁷ Shall we then listen to you and do all this great evil and act treacherously against our God by marrying foreign women?” ²⁸ And one of the sons of Jehoiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was the son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite. Therefore I chased him from me. ²⁹ Remember them, O my God, because they have desecrated the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and the Levites. ³⁰ Thus I cleansed them from everything foreign, and I established the duties of the priests and Levites, each in his work; ³¹ and I provided for the wood offering at appointed times, and for the firstfruits.

Remember me, O my God, for good.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“The Hand of God and Our Need for Ongoing Renewal”

Rev. Ken Chivers

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

“Christ Is Mine Forevermore”

Mine are days that God has numbered, I was made to walk with Him.

Yet I look for worldly treasure, and forsake the King of kings.

But mine is hope in my Redeemer, though I fall, His love is sure.

For Christ has paid for every failing, I am His forevermore.

Mine are tears in times of sorrow, darkness not yet understood.

Through the valley I must travel, where I see no earthly good.

But mine is peace that flows from heaven, and the strength in times of need.

I know my pain will not be wasted, Christ completes His work in me.

Mine are days here as a stranger, pilgrim on a narrow way.

One with Christ I will encounter, harm and hatred for His name.

But mine is armour for this battle, strong enough to last the war.

And He has said He will deliver, safely to the golden shore.

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk.

For there my heart has found its treasure, Christ is mine forevermore.

Come rejoice now, O my soul, for His love is my reward.

Fear is gone and hope is sure, Christ is mine forevermore.

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk.

For there my heart has found its treasure, Christ is mine forevermore.

Commissioning and Benediction

Thank You for Worshiping with Us Today

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.

ShelbyNext: Visit our church website for access to our giving platform, membership directory, calendar, and more at 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.

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

Pray for Our Church Leaders

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