



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
September 7, 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

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..."

- *1 Peter 1:3*

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*

God's People Gather for Worship

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Mr. Hollis Reese and Mr. Greg Garrett

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Corporate Prayer of Preparation

O God, we joyously come together to worship, realizing we need not summon you into our midst, for you are here. We need not call you into the secret places of our hearts, for you are there. We need our eyes of faith to be opened, that we may see you; our ears to be unstopped, that we may hear you; our minds to be sensitive, that we may know you; our hearts to be tender, that we may receive you. May your name be magnified in this place as we seek to worship you in Spirit and in truth, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Song of Praise

“My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less”

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

No merit of my own I claim but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid Rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest upon unchanging grace;

In ev'ry rough and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;

When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When I shall launch in worlds unseen, O may I then be found in him;

Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Reflection

“Before The Throne Of God Above”

*Before the throne of God above, I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav’n He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.*

*When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died, my sinful soul is counted free;
For God the Just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.*

*Behold Him there! The risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness;
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased with His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
With Christ, my Saviour and my God.*

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“How Sweet the Day”

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

*How sweet the day when Hope appeared, the One who frees us from our fears.
He came to break the power of sin, and give us power to follow Him.*

***Oh sing for joy, lift up your voice. Let us sing for joy, the whole earth rejoice.
Let us sing for joy to the Son, For Jesus our Savior has come.***

*How sweet the day when Christ returns. We’ll see the One for whom we yearn.
Then we’ll look full upon His face. Our hearts will burst with songs of praise.*

(chorus)

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.

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:11-12 ESV

Mr. Kris Palin

¹¹Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹²Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Grace and Exile”

Dr. Bill Pardue

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

“Lead On O King Eternal”

*Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest. Thy tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong;
and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.*

*Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace.
For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.*

***Lead on O King, lead on O King,
Lead on O King, lead on.***

*Lead on, O King eternal, we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning where'er thy face appears.
Thy cross is lifted over us, we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.*

(chorus)

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

CHURCH STAFF

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