



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
September 28, 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

"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 CONFSSION OF FAITH CHAPTER 21, 1-2*

God's People Gather for Worship

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Mrs. Brittini Hall and
Dr. Jonathan Schwartz

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Corporate Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, we gather in Your presence to rejoice in the saving work of Jesus Christ, the cornerstone of our faith and the center of our life. In Him You have called us out of darkness into Your marvelous light, and by Your Spirit You send us into the world as witnesses of His grace.

Fix our hearts on Christ today, that our worship would exalt His name and our lives would proclaim His gospel. Strengthen us by the Spirit to live as His ambassadors, carrying the good news to our neighbors and the nations, for the glory of Your kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Song of Praise

“Our Great God”

*Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious and unknown.
Your boundless love unfailing, in grace and mercy shown.
Bright seraphim in endless flight around your glorious throne.
They raise their voices day and night in praise to you alone.*

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

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*Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm.
Surround us with your angels, hold us in your arms.
Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm.
Rise up, oh Lord, and he will flee before our Sovereign God.*

(chorus)

*Let every creature in the sea and every flying bird;
Let every mountain, every field and valley of the earth;
Let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe,
Sing praises to the living God, who rules them by His word.*

(chorus)

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Reflection

“Gospel Doxology”

*Your perfect law exposes me, I feel my sin and desperate need;
My best good works are powerless, to satisfy Your righteousness.*

*But there is One who lived for me, His life, my only victory;
His death forever sealed in time, that I am His and He is mine.*

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

Amen

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Build Your Kingdom Here”

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

*We seek Your kingdom first, we hunger and we thirst,
Refuse to waste our lives, for You're our joy and prize.*

*To see the captive hearts released, the hurt, the sick, the poor at peace;
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause, we are Your church, we pray: 'revive this earth.'*

***Build Your kingdom here, let the darkness fear;
Show Your mighty hand, heal our streets and land.
Set Your church on fire, win this nation back;
Change the atmosphere, build Your kingdom here, we pray.***

*Unleash Your kingdom's power, reaching the near and far,
No force of hell can stop, Your beauty changing hearts.
You made us for much more than this, awake the kingdom seed in us,
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ, we are Your church, we are the hope on earth.*

(chorus)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Matthew 9:35-38; John 4:34-38 NASB

³⁵ Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness.

³⁶ Seeing the crowds, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. ³⁸ Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to accomplish His work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'There are still four months, and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I tell you, raise your eyes and observe the fields, that they are white for harvest. ³⁶ Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the one who sows and the one who reaps may rejoice together. ³⁷ For in this case the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have come into their labor."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Gathering Fruit for Eternal Life"
Dr. James Saxon

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

"His Mercy Is More"

*What love could remember no wrongs we have done,
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum;
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

***Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new every morn;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.***

*What patience would wait as we constantly roam,
What Father so tender, is calling us home;
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

(chorus)

*What riches of kindness He lavished on us,
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost;
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford,
And our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

(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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