



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
September 13, 2026
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 CONFESSION OF FAITH CHAPTER 21, 1-2*

God's People Gather for Worship

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Announcements

Pastor Jonathan Schwartz and
Mr. Ross Johnson, Elder Shepherd
Evangelism Ministry Team

Welcome

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Song of Praise

“Immortal, Invisible”

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
Of all Thy rich graces this grace, Lord, impart
Take the veil from our faces, the vile from our heart.*

*All laud we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee,
And so let Thy glory, almighty, impart,
Through Christ in His story, Thy Christ to the heart.*

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Response

“Living Hope”

*How great the chasm that lay between us how high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation, I turned to heaven and spoke Your name into the night.
Then through the darkness, Your loving-kindness tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written Jesus Christ, my living hope.*

*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.

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Lord I Need You”

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

*Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are.
And where You are, Lord I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.*

***Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.***

*Teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.*

***Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.***

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Psalms 84 ESV

¹How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! ²My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. ³Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. ⁴Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise! *Selah* ⁵Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. ⁶As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. ⁷They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion. ⁸O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah* ⁹Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed! ¹⁰For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. ¹¹For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly. ¹²O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Better is One Day”
Dr. Bill Pardue

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT

Song of Preparation

“We Will Feast In The House Of Zion”

We will feast in the house of Zion. We will sing with our hearts restored.

“He has done great things,” we will say together.

We will feast, and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire; He is the Lord our God.

We are not consumed by the flood — upheld, protected, gathered up.

(chorus)

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Confession

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Partaking of the Elements

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

“We Will Feast In The House Of Zion”

In the dark of night before the dawn, my soul be not afraid;

For the promised morning, Oh how long! O God of Jacob, be my strength!

We will feast in the house of Zion. We will sing with our hearts restored.

“He has done great things,” we will say together.

We will feast, and weep no more.

Every vow we've broken and betrayed, You are the faithful One;

And from the garden to the grave, bind us together, bring shalom.

(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

THE SESSION

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Mr. Dave Abernathy
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Mr. Charlie Williams

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Bill Pardue	Senior Pastor
Dr. Jonathan Schwartz	Associate Pastor Evangelism and Outreach
Rev. Ken Chivers	Associate Pastor Family Ministry
Dr. Paul Neal	Director of Classic Music Ministry
Mr. Brandon Trapp	Director of Convergent Music/Ministry Technology
Ms. Judy Powell	Classic Music Ministry Associate
Ms. Jordan Walker	Pianist - Classic Music Ministry
Mrs. Pamela Radford	Organist - Classic Music Ministry
Mr. Rob Davis	Director of Adult Discipleship and Missions
Mrs. Mandy Williams	Director of Women's Ministry
Mr. Martin Foster	Director of Seniors and Visitation
Mrs. Nell Milner	Director of Nursery Ministry
Mrs. Andrea Sartorato	Director of Children's Ministry
Mr. Rob Edens	Senior Director of Student Ministries
Mrs. Sarah Pope	Admin. Asst. to Senior Pastor/Operations Director
Mrs. Cheri McElroy	Admin. Asst. to Pastor Evangelism/Outreach/Adults
Ms. Tina Wilson	Admin. Asst. to Pastor Family/Shepherding
Mrs. Lisa Claytor	Financial Director
Mrs. Jessica Baker	Communications Coordinator
Mrs. Brenda Lacey	Director of Building and Grounds
Mrs. Blanca Cruz	Custodial Team Member
Mrs. Berta Mazariegos	Custodial Team Member

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