



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
September 13, 2026
9 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

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

“Holy God We Praise Thy Name”
arr. Diane Bish

Announcements

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

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 47:1-2, 5-6

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

All: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

All: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Hymn of Praise No. 216

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”
LOBE DEN HERREN

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Silent Prayer of Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Song of Response

“Lord Have Mercy”

KYRIE



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Assurance of Pardon

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Assurance”

arr. John Ness Beck

Chancel Choir

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

Refrain:

***This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.***

*Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.*

Refrain:

***This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.***

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Psalm 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

Hymn of Preparation No. 479

“Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting”
TRANQUILITY

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Partaking of the Elements

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Hymn of Response No. 286

“Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”
ALL SAINTS OLD

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”
arr. Jason Payne

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

CLASS OF 2027

Mr. Dave Abernathy
Mr. Rusty Chadwick
Mr. Sam Echols
Mr. Frank Fleming
Mr. Tony Pemerton

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Mr. Greg Garrett
Mr. John Goodrich
Mr. Tommy Manning
Mr. Hollis Reese

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Mr. Sandy Hosea
Mr. Ross Johnson
Dr. Eddie Johnston
Mr. Charlie Williams

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Dr. Jonathan Schwartz

Rev. Ken Chivers

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Ms. Tina Wilson

Mrs. Lisa Claytor

Mrs. Jessica Baker

Mrs. Brenda Lacey

Mrs. Blanca Cruz

Mrs. Berta Mazariegos

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor Evangelism and Outreach

Associate Pastor Family Ministry

Director of Classic Music Ministry

Director of Convergent Music/Ministry Technology

Classic Music Ministry Associate

Pianist - Classic Music Ministry

Organist - Classic Music Ministry

Director of Adult Discipleship and Missions

Director of Women's Ministry

Director of Seniors and Visitation

Director of Nursery Ministry

Director of Children's Ministry

Senior Director of Student Ministries

Admin. Asst. to Senior Pastor/Operations Director

Admin. Asst. to Pastor Evangelism/Outreach/Adults

Admin. Asst. to Pastor Family/Shepherding

Financial Director

Communications Coordinator

Director of Building and Grounds

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