



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
December 29, 2024
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

"But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

- *John 4:23-24*

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

Gathering Song

“Arise My Soul Arise”

Welcome and Announcements

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Call to Worship

from Psalm 103

Leader - Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

All - Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Leader - Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.

All - Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.

Leader - Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.

All - Praise the LORD, O my soul.

Song of Praise

“How Great Thou Art”

*O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.*

***Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee; how great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee; how great Thou art! How great Thou art!***

*And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin...*

(chorus)

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God how great Thou art!*

(chorus)

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Reflection

“I Will Glory In My Redeemer”

*I will glory in my Redeemer, whose priceless blood has ransomed me.
Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails, and hung Him on that judgment tree.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who crushed the power of sin and death.
My only Savior before the holy Judge, the Lamb Who is my righteousness*

*I will glory in My Redeemer, my life he bought, my love He owns.
I have no longings for another, I'm satisfied in Him alone.
I will glory in my Redeemer, His faithfulness my standing place.
Though foes are mighty and rush upon me, my feet are firm, held by His grace.*

*I will glory in my Redeemer, who carries me on eagle's wings.
He crowns my life with loving kindness, His triumph song I'll ever sing.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who waits for me at gates of gold.
And when He calls me it will be paradise, His face forever to behold.*

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Your Great Name”

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

*All the weak find their strength; at the sound of your great name.
Hungry souls receive grace; at the sound of your great name.
The fatherless they find their rest; at the sound of your great name.
The sick are healed, and the dead are raised at the sound of your great name*

***Jesus, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us, the Son of God and Man.
You are high and lifted up; and all the world will praise your great name.***

*Redeemer, My Healer, Lord Almighty.
My Savior, Defender, You are My King.*

(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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 5:11 - 6:2 NIV

11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. *12* We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. *13* If we are out of our mind, it is for the sake of God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. *14* For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. *15* And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. *16* So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. *17* Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! *18* All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: *19* that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. *20* We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. *21* God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. *2* For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Be Reconciled to God”
Dr. Jonathan Schwartz

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

“All Must Be Well”

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well.

Free and changeless is His favor, all is well.

*Precious is the blood that healed us, perfect is the grace that sealed us,
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, all must be well.*

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well.

Ours is such a full salvation, all is well.

*Happy still in God confiding, fruitful if in Christ abiding,
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding, all must be well.*

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well.

Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well.

*On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying,
Yes in living or in dying, all must be well.*

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 LeAnn McDaniel at leannm@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

Dr. Bill Pardue	Senior Pastor	billp@fpcrome.org
Dr. Jonathan Schwartz	Associate Pastor Evangelism and Outreach	jonathans@fpcrome.org
Rev. Ken Chivers	Associate Pastor Family Ministry	kenc@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Phyllis Pemerton	Executive Director of Operations	phyllisp@fpcrome.org
Mr. Rob Davis	Director of Adult Discipleship and Missions	robd@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Mandy Williams	Director of Women's Ministry	mandyw@fpcrome.org
Mr. Martin Foster	Director Seniors and Visitation	mfoster78@comcast.net
Mrs. Mabrey Couch	Co-Director Student Ministries, Girls	mabreyc@fpcrome.org
Mr. Caleb Sanders	Co-Director Student Ministries, Guys	calebs@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Andrea Sartorato	Director of Children's Ministry	andreas@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Nell Milner	Director of Nursery Ministry	nellm@fpcrome.org
Dr. Paul Neal	Director of Classic Music Ministry	pauln@fpcrome.org
Mr. Brandon Trapp	Director of Convergent Music and Ministry Technology	brandont@fpcrome.org
Ms. Judy Powell	Classic Music Ministry Associate	1jcjpowell@att.net
Ms. Jordan Walker	Pianist - Classic Music Ministry	jordandwa@gmail.com
Mrs. Brenda Lacey	Director of Building and Grounds	brendal@fpcrome.org

THE SESSION

CLASS OF 2025

Dr. Paul Brock
Mr. Sandy Hosea
Dr. Dan Pate
Dr. Eddie Johnston
Mr. Charlie Williams

CLASS OF 2026

Mr. Dennis Darville
Mr. Greg Davidson
Mr. Jonathan Johnson
Dr. John Pittman
Mr. Dathan Sorrow

CLASS OF 2027

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

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

CLASS OF 2025

Mr. Garrett Cochran
Mr. Jim Dent
Mr. Josh Dollahite
Mr. Jeff Giddens
Dr. Paul Hillesheim
Mr. Nate King

CLASS OF 2026

Mr. David Baker
Mr. Ben Culbertson
Mr. Brant Evans
Mr. Powell Fulton
Mr. Doug Holstein
Mr. Emery Johnson
Mr. Ryan Okubo

CLASS OF 2027

Mr. Gary Burkhalter
Mr. Chris Congdon
Mr. Chris Earnest
Mr. Travis Hill
Mr. Jackson Keene
Mr. Braden Keith

TRUSTEES

Mr. King Askew

Mr. Walter Matthews

Mr. Charlie Williams