



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
November 1, 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

"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

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Announcements

Mr. Chris Congdon and Mr. Keith Thompson
Men's Ministry Council

Welcome

Responsive Call to Worship

Adapted from Westminster Confession of Faith 5.1
and biblical promises in Psalm 121 and Romans 8

Leader: Christian, what do we believe about the providence of our God?

Congregation: We believe that the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth, upholds, directs, and governs all things according to His perfect wisdom and sovereign will.

Leader: And what does this mean for those who belong to Jesus Christ?

Congregation: We believe that nothing comes to pass apart from our heavenly Father's providence, that nothing can separate us from His love, and that He is working all things together for our eternal good.

Leader: And what confidence does this give us as we face the difficulties, dangers, and duties of life?

Congregation: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He is our faithful keeper, our constant guardian, and our everlasting hope.

Leader: Brothers and sisters, if these things are true, which indeed they are, then we have much to celebrate this morning! Let us stand and worship our great God!

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

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!

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

*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.*

***Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!***

*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 Response

“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

“‘Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

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

*O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood,
And in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood!*

***Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!***

*Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease,
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.*

(chorus)

*I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that Thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.*

(chorus)

INTERCEDING FOR GOD'S WORLD

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

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

Psalm 121 ESV
Dr. Sandeep Mazumder

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? ²My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. ³He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. ⁴Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. ⁶The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. ⁷The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. ⁸The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“The Guardian of Your Life”
Dr. Bill Pardue

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks”

*On Jordan's stormy banks I stand and cast a wishful eye.
To Canaan's fair and happy land where my possessions lie.
All o'er those wide extended plains shines one eternal day.
There God the Son forever reigns and scatters night away.*

***I am bound. I am bound. I am bound for the promised land.
I am bound. I am bound. I am bound for the promised land.***

*No chilling winds nor poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore.
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death are felt and feared no more.*

(chorus)

*When shall I see that happy place and be forever blessed.
When shall I see my Father's face and in His bosom rest.*

(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
Mr. Camden Garrett	Director of College Ministry
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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