



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
March 5, 2023
9:00 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

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Scripture

based on Psalm 8

God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth! Your glory is sung by all of your creation! When we look at the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, we wonder--who are we that you care for us and for this world? You are the God of life, crowning us with glory and honor to serve you all our days. O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!

Prelude

"Ah, Dearest Jesus"

arr. Raymond H. Haan

Mrs. Samantha Lester, viola

Ms. Faye Kesler, organ

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

All: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever! Amen.

Psalm of Praise

"Psalm 40"

KINGSFOLD

I waited long upon the LORD; he stooped and heard my cry.

He drew me from destruction's pit and from the boggy mire.

He set my feet upon a rock, and steadfast made my ways.

He put within my mouth a new and joyful song of praise.

O LORD our God, how many are the wonders you have done!

How many are the gracious thoughts which you to us have shown!

*LORD, no one can compare with you; I will your works proclaim
And tell of all your wondrous deeds, whose number none can name.*

"To do your will, O LORD my God, is surely my delight.

Your law is deep within my heart and precious in my sight."

Within your great assembly your deliv'rance I've proclaimed;

You know, O LORD, in praising you my lips are not restrained.

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.

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

arr. Raymond H. Haan

Mrs. Samantha Lester, viola

Ms. Faye Kesler, organ

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Exodus 23:10-19 ESV

10"For six years you shall sow your land and gather in its yield, *11*but the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow, that the poor of your people may eat; and what they leave the beasts of the field may eat. You shall do likewise with your vineyard, and with your olive orchard. *12*"Six days you shall do your work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; that your ox and your donkey may have rest, and the son of your servant woman, and the alien, may be refreshed. *13*"Pay attention to all that I have said to you, and make no mention of the names of other gods, nor let it be heard on your lips. *14*"Three times in the year you shall keep a feast to me.

15You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread. As I commanded you, you shall eat unleavened bread for seven days at the appointed time in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt. None shall appear before me empty-handed. 16You shall keep the Feast of Harvest, of the first fruits of your labor, of what you sow in the field. You shall keep the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labor. 17Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord God. 18“You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with anything leavened, or let the fat of my feast remain until the morning. 19“The best of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God. “You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Delivered to Rest and Celebration"
Dr. Bill Pardue

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT

Hymn of Reflection No. 337

"Nothing but the Blood"
PLAINFIELD

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Confession

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Partaking of the Elements

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Hymn of Response No. 797

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"
ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

"He Who Will Suffer God to Guide Him"
J.S. Bach
Ms. Faye Kesler, organ

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 Tracy Dupree at tracyd@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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THE SESSION

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