



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day

March 31, 2024

11:00 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

Gathering Song

“King Of Love”

Welcome

Prayer of Preparation

Father of light and life, we praise you for the miracle of Christ, your Son! We pray for great joy in the Spirit for ourselves and for all who come to worship today to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. We pray especially for those who will join us for worship and whose lives are filled with pain, loss, or deep sadness. May they sense how the resurrection is a source of infinite hope. Through Jesus we pray, amen.

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Proclaiming the Resurrection

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

Leader: O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?

All: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

Song of Praise

“Christ The Lord Is Risen Today”

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, ye heavens and earth reply: Alleluia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia!

Christ has burst the gates of hell: Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids his rise, Alleluia!

Christ hath opened Paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Once He died, our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

*Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!*

*Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be giv'n, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now; Alleluia!
Hail, the Resurrection Thou! Alleluia!*

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Reflection

“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

“O The Deep Deep Love Of Jesus”

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

Ezra 6:19-22 ESV

19 On the fourteenth day of the first month, the returned exiles kept the Passover. *20* For the priests and the Levites had purified themselves together; all of them were clean. So they slaughtered the Passover lamb for all the returned exiles, for their fellow priests, and for themselves. *21* It was eaten by the people of Israel who had returned from exile, and also by everyone who had joined them and separated himself from the uncleanness of the peoples of the land to worship the Lord, the God of Israel. *22* And they kept the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days with joy, for the Lord had made them joyful and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, so that he aided them in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“The Hand of God for our Renewal”

Dr. Bill Pardue

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

“King Of Kings”

*In the darkness we were waiting without hope without light,
Till from heaven You came running there was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfill the law and prophets to a virgin came the Word,
From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.*

***Praise the Father, Praise the Son, Praise the Spirit three in one.
God of glory, Majesty, Praise forever to the King of Kings.***

*To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost,
To redeem the whole creation you did not despise the cross,
For even in Your suffering you saw to the other side,
Knowing this was our salvation Jesus for our sake You died.*

(chorus)

*And the morning that You rose all of heaven held it's breath,
Till that stone was moved for good for the Lamb had conquered death,
And the dead rose from their tombs and the angels stood in awe,
For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.*

*And the Church of Christ was born then the Spirit lit the flame,
Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not fade,
By His blood and in His name and in His freedom I am free,
For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me.*

(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 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

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