



First Presbyterian
— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
March 1, 2026
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

Prelude

“Be Still My Soul”

arr. Linda Pratt

Announcements

Mr. and Mrs. Travis & Stephanie Hill
and Pastor Jonathan Schwartz

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

Leader: All glorious God, you are worthy of all praise. Lord Jesus, fill our worship with grace that every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer. Holy Spirit, renew our hearts this day. In the name of Christ, we pray, amen.

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 145:1-4, 21

Leader: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

All: Every day will I praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.

Leader: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

All: One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts.

Leader: My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord.

All: Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

Hymn of Praise No. 248

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

from the Belgic Confession, articles 20-21

Mrs. Mabrey Couch

Leader: What do you believe about the work of God?

All: We believe that God—who is perfectly merciful and also very just—sent his Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by his most bitter passion and death.

Leader: And what do you believe about the work of Jesus Christ?

All: We believe that Jesus Christ presented himself in our name before his Father, to appease his wrath with full satisfaction by offering himself on the tree of the cross and pouring out his precious blood for the cleansing of our sins, as the prophets had predicted.

Leader: Why did he endure this?

All: He endured all this for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader: What comfort does this give you?

All: We find all comforts in his wounds and have no need to seek or invent any other means to reconcile ourselves with God than this one and only sacrifice, once made, which renders believers perfect forever.

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Mr. Caleb Sanders

God of everlasting love, we confess that we have been unfaithful to our covenant with you and with one another. We have worshiped other gods: money, power greed, comfort and convenience. We have served our own self-interest instead of serving only you and your people. We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our covenant with you and one another. Through Christ, our Lord.

Responsive Assurance of Pardon

Leader: While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ, our sin is forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Allelujah. Amen.

Hymn of Reflection No. 435

“Not What My Hands Have Done”
LEOMINSTER

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Ms. Kate Fulton

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Be Gone, Unbelief”

Wesley D. Peters

Chancel Choir

Text by John Newton (1779)

*Be gone, unbelief; my Savior is near,
And for my relief will surely appear:
By prayer let me wrestle, and He will perform;
With Christ in the vessel,
I smile at the storm.*

*Though dark be my way, since He is my Guide,
'Tis mine to obey, 'tis His to provide;
Though cisterns be broken and creatures all fail,
The word He hath spoken shall surely prevail.*

*How bitter His death, no heart can conceive,
He drew His last breath, that sinners might live!
His way was far rougher, and darker than mine;
This, Jesus did suffer with sorrow divine.*

*Since all that I meet shall work for my gain,
The bitter is sweet, the rough places plain;
Though painful at present, will cease before long;
And then, O how blessed the conqueror's song!*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:1-11 ESV

Mr. Graham Parker

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Secured”
Mr. Rob Edens

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Hymn of Response No. 277

“Before the Throne of God Above”
BEFORE THE THRONE

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

“Rigaudon”
André Campra

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

THE SESSION

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