



First Presbyterian
— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
April 5, 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

Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

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

Responsive Prayer of Confession

Leader: Risen Lord, we confess that like Thomas, we are slow to believe and quick to doubt Your promises.

All: We struggle to trust what we cannot see and forget the power of Your resurrection.

Leader: Forgive us for hearts that waver and faith that falters.

All: Have mercy on us, and strengthen our faith in the risen Christ.

Leader: By Your grace, open our eyes to behold our Lord and our God.

All: Renew us in resurrection hope, that we may believe and rejoice in You. Through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Reflection

“Before the Throne of God Above”

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore;

Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity joined with pow'r:

He is able, He is able; He is willing; doubt no more.

Come, ye needy, come and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;

True belief and true repentance, ev'ry grace that brings you nigh,

Without money, without money, come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall;

If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all:

Not the righteous, not the righteous; sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;

All the fitness He requires is to feel your need of Him;

This He gives you, this He gives you; 'tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended; pleads the merit of His blood.

Venture on Him; venture wholly, let no other trust intrude.

None but Jesus, none but Jesus can do helpless sinners good.

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“King of Love”

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

*Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul He leadeth.
And where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.*

***Never failing Ruler of my heart, everlasting Lover of my soul.
On the mountain high or in the valley low, the King of Love my Shepherd is,
The King of Love my Shepherd is.***

*Lost and foolish off I strayed, but yet in love He sought me.
And on His shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.*

*In death's dark veil I fear no ill with Thee, dear Lord, beside me.
Thy rod and staff my comfort still; Thy cross before to guide me.*

(chorus)

Oh, Hallelujah Hallelujah. Oh, Hallelujah Hallelujah.

(chorus)

*And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd may I sing Your praise within Your house forever, within Your house forever.*

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

John 20:24-29 ESV

²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.” ²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and

Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. **Do not disbelieve, but believe.**" ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"From Doubt to Doxology"

Dr. Bill Pardue

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

"In Christ Alone"

*In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.*

*In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.*

*There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world, by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

*No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand!*

Commissioning and Benediction

The Easter Lilies

are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Brewster Sr., by the Brewster family

Barbara Holt Brewster, by the Brewster family

Rick Somerville, by the Brewster and Somerville families

Anne Brewster Somerville, by the Brewster and Somerville families

Baby H, by Anonymous

Elwood Smyth, by the Smyth family

Mr. and Mrs. John Brodmann, by the Smyth family

Fredrick B. Taylor, by the Taylor family

Henry and Nancy Berry, by Anita and Howard Lowden

James Enfield, by Anita and Howard Lowden

Wyatt H. Mooring, by Anita and Howard Lowden

Virginia Steinhauer, with love, Bill

Virginia Steinhauer, with love, Laurie

Virginia Steinhauer, with love, Sandy

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Page Harris Jr., by the Groux family

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Groux, by the Groux family

Edward D. Palmer, by Jane Palmer and sons, Jake and Joe

Loved Ones, by the Carl Greissinger family

Shana, by Amy, Catherine, and Suzanne

Charles and Rachel Bargainnier, by Bill and Charla Brewster

Bill Irmscher, by his grandchildren

Cissie Perry, by Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Smith

W. Daryl Dalton, by Kathy Dalton and Emily Katherine Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert and Ethel Wilson, by the Duncan and Cornwell families

Samuel Talley, by Jim and Jennifer Talley

Ruth Talley, by Jim and Jennifer Talley

Pastor Scott McKee, by the Fitzsimmons family

Merline Ballard, by Debbie Moon

Ron Everman, by Bruce and Joyce Van Leuven

Bill Van Leuven, by Bruce and Joyce Van Leuven

Scott Van Leuven, by Bruce and Joyce Van Leuven

Hendrick Cromartie, by Rick and Jill Cromartie

Dot Cromartie, by Rick and Jill Comartie

Jack and Virgene Olson, by Nancy Bess Olson Johnston

Rick Walker, by Beth Walker

Tom Carver, by his family

Brandon Ekey, by Mr. and Mrs. William Ekey

Edward Cash, by Sylvia Cash

Fran Grady, by Sylvia Cash

Barbara West, by the Hortman Family

Kaitlyn Cowan, by John and Peggy Cowan

Dan and Diana Shadday, by the Shadday family

Max and Will Pittman, by Lynn Pittman

Susan Skinner Thomas, by Lanny Thomas

Becky Musser Hosea, by the Hosea family

Norma Mead, Sandy's Mom, by the Hosea family

Tom Carver, by the Hosea family

are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Honor of

Mrs. Dot Williams Jordan, by Lila and Jake

Mrs. Dottie Williams Hall, by Lila and Jake

Martin Foster, by Betty Carver

Newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hornok, by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Groux

Kaylee Sartorato, by Raphael Sartorato

Andrea Sartorato, by her grandsons, Ezeqiel and Elessio

Captain Don Ballard, by Debbie Moon

Susan Earnest, by Rachel, Carson, and Ryan

Jan Irmscher, by her grandchildren

Ben and Ruth Forrester, by their grandchildren



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

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

CLASS OF 2028

Mr. Matt Claytor
Mr. Greg Garrett
Mr. John Goodrich
Mr. Tommy Manning
Mr. Hollis Reese

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

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

CLASS OF 2028

Mr. Joey Beard
Mr. Justin Bruce
Mr. Trey Newton
Dr. Frank Stegall, Jr.
Mr. Jim Talley
Mr. Harris York

TRUSTEES

Mr. King Askew

Mr. Walter Matthews

Mr. Charlie Williams

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
Dr. Paul Neal	Director of Classic Music Ministry	pauln@fpcrome.org
Mr. Brandon Trapp	Director of Convergent Music/Ministry Technology	brandont@fpcrome.org
Ms. Judy Powell	Classic Music Ministry Associate	1jcpowell@att.net
Ms. Jordan Walker	Pianist - Classic Music Ministry	jordandwa@gmail.com
Mrs. Pamela Radford	Organist - Classic Music Ministry	pamelaradford@comcast.net
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. Nell Milner	Director of Nursery Ministry	nellm@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Andrea Sartorato	Director of Children's Ministry	andreas@fpcrome.org
Mr. Rob Edens	Senior Director of Student Ministries	robe@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Mabrey Couch	Co-Director Student Ministries, Girls	mabreyc@fpcrome.org
Mr. Caleb Sanders	Co-Director Student Ministries, Guys	calebs@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Sarah Pope	Admin. Asst. to Senior Pastor/Interim Operations Director	sarahp@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Cheri McElroy	Admin. Asst. to Pastor Evangelism/Outreach/Adults	cherim@comcast.net
Ms. Tina Wilson	Admin. Asst. to Pastor Family/Shepherding	tinaw@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Lisa Claytor	Financial Director	lisac@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Jessica Baker	Communications Coordinator	jessicab@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Brenda Lacey	Director of Building and Grounds	brendal@fpcrome.org
Mrs. Blanca Cruz	Custodial Team Member	
Mrs. Jessy Suriel-Lagares	Custodial Team Member	
Mrs. Berta Mazariegos	Custodial Team Member	