



First Presbyterian  
— R O M E —

The Lord's Day  
April 19, 2026  
11 AM Worship Service

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# Vision for Worship

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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**

"Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,"

- *Hebrews 12:28*

## **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*

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# God's People Gather for Worship

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## PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Announcements

Welcome

Responsive Call to Worship

from Psalm 92, 95

*Leader - I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;*

**All - with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

*Leader - I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.*

**All - It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High,**

*Leader - to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.*

**All - Come, bow down and worship, kneel to the Lord, our Maker.**

## DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Song of Praise

“Build My Life”

*Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing. Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring.*

*Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe. We live for You.*

*Jesus, the name above ev'ry other name. Jesus the only one who could ever save.*

*Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe. We live for You. We live for You.*

***Holy there is no one like You, there is none beside You.***

***Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are and fill me,***

***with Your heart and lead me in Your love to those around me.***

*Jesus, the name above ev'ry other name. Jesus the only one who could ever save.*

*Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe. We live for You. We live for You.*

**(Chorus)**

*I will build my life upon Your love; it is a firm foundation.*

*I will put my trust in You alone, and I will not be shaken.*

**(chorus)**

## CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Reflection

“By Thy Mercy”

*Jesus, Lord of life and glory, bend from heaven thy gracious ear;  
While our waiting souls adore thee, friend of helpless sinners, hear:  
From the depth of nature's blindness, from the hardening power of sin,  
From all malice and unkindness, from the pride that lurks within,*

***By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord.***

***By thy mercy, o deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.***

*When temptation sorely presses, in the day of Satan's power,  
In our times of deep distresses, in each dark and trying hour.*

*When the world around is smiling, in the time of wealth and ease,  
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling, in the day of health and peace.*

***(chorus)***

*In the weary hours of sickness, in the times of grief and pain,  
When we feel our mortal weakness, when all human help is vain.*

*In the solemn hour of dying, in the awful judgment day,  
May our souls, on thee relying, find thee still our Rock and Stay.*

***(chorus)***

## CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT

The Sacrament of Baptism

Master Smith Montgomery Newton

## OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“A Thousand Hallelujahs”

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

*Who else would die for our redemption, whose resurrection means I'll rise;  
There isn't time enough to sing of all You've done, but I have eternity to try.*

***With a thousand hallelujahs we magnify Your name,  
You alone deserve the glory, the honor and the praise.***

***Lord Jesus, this song is forever Yours,  
A thousand hallelujahs and a thousand more.***

*Praise to the Lord, To the Lamb, to the King of heaven.  
Praise for He rose, Now He reigns, we will sing forever.*

***(chorus)***

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Reading

Psalm 22 ESV  
Mr. Jake Hager

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? <sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. <sup>3</sup>Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. <sup>4</sup>In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. <sup>5</sup>To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. <sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. <sup>7</sup>All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; <sup>8</sup>“He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!” <sup>9</sup>Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. <sup>10</sup>On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. <sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. <sup>12</sup>Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me; <sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. <sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; <sup>15</sup>my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. <sup>16</sup>For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet — <sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me; <sup>18</sup>they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. <sup>19</sup>But you, O Lord, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! <sup>20</sup>Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! <sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen! <sup>22</sup>I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: <sup>23</sup>You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! <sup>24</sup>For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. <sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

my vows I will perform before those who fear him. <sup>26</sup>The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord! May your hearts live forever! <sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. <sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations. <sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. <sup>30</sup>Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; <sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“When God Feels Far but Isn’t”

Dr. Bill Pardue

## SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

“All My Boast Is In Jesus”

*What wonder of wonders, what love is this that Christ would die for me?*

*His goodness, His merit, His righteousness, this sinner's only plea.*

*O foolish pride, be crucified the work is finished.*

***All my boast is in Jesus. All my hope is His love.***

***And I will glory forever in what the cross has done.***

*Now fully forgiven, my life is filled with graces undeserved.*

*For mercy that flowed down that sacred hill, let praises now return.*

*Rise up my soul, and bless the Lord. Who else is worthy?*

**(chorus)**

*O praise the One, forever blessed. Him alone my heart adores.*

*And I will boast in nothing less than the love of Christ my Lord.*

*I boast not in riches, in strength or might, but in the grace of God.*

*I glory in weakness, to live is Christ In plenty or in want.*

*That I may know, that all may see His pow'r within me.*

**(chorus)**

*Now I stand in this freedom, ransomed clean in His sight.*

*And I cannot be ashamed for my boast is Jesus Christ.*

*My boast is Jesus Christ. Forever, my boast is Jesus Christ.*

Commissioning and Benediction

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# Thank You for Worshiping with Us Today

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## 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](http://www.fpcrome.org/serve).

**ShelbyNext:** Visit our church website for access to our giving platform, membership directory, calendar, and more at [www.fpcrome.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:robd@fpcrome.org).

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# Pray for Our Church Leaders

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## THE SESSION

### CLASS OF 2026

Mr. Dennis Darville  
Mr. Greg Davidson  
Mr. Jonathan Johnson  
Dr. John Pittman  
Mr. Dathan Sorrow

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Mr. Sam Echols  
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Mr. John Goodrich  
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Mr. Doug Holstein  
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Mr. Travis Hill  
Mr. Jackson Keene  
Mr. Braden Keith

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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

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Mrs. Jessy Suriel-Lagares	Custodial Team Member	
Mrs. Berta Mazariegos	Custodial Team Member	