



First Presbyterian  
— R O M E —

The Lord's Day  
May 3, 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**

"It is the Lord your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear."

- *Deuteronomy 6:13*

## **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

Mrs. Andrea Sartorato

Welcome

Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 60

*Leader - How are you righteous before God?*

**All - Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments, of never having kept any of them, and of still being inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without any merit of my own, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me – if only I accept this gift with a believing heart.**

## DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Song of Praise

“Behold Our God”

*Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice, all creation rises to rejoice.*

***Behold our God seated on His throne, come let us adore Him.  
Behold our King, nothing can compare, come let us adore Him!***

*Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of His words?  
Who can teach the one who knows all things? Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds?*

**(chorus)**

*Who has felt the nails upon His hands bearing all the guilt of sinful man?  
God eternal, humbled to the grave, Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign.*

**(chorus)**

*You will reign forever! (Let Your glory fill the earth.)*

**(chorus)**

## CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Response

“Laden with Guilt”

*Laden with guilt and full of fears, I fly to Thee, my Lord,  
And not a glimpse of hope appears, but in Thy written Word.  
The volumes of my Father's grace does all my griefs assuage;  
Here I behold my Savior's face in every page.*

*This is the field where, hidden, lies the pearl of price unknown,  
That merchant is divinely wise who makes the pearl his own.  
Here consecrated water flows to quench my thirst of sin.  
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows, no danger dwells within.*

*This is the judge that ends the strife, where wit and reason fail.  
My guide to everlasting life through all this gloomy vale.  
Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God, my roving feet command,  
Nor I forsake the happy road that leads to Thy right hand.*

## CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT

The Sacrament of Baptism

Master John Thomas Ralston

## OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Beauty of Your Peace”

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

*Bright skies will soon be overhead, we'll enter in to Heaven's rest;  
There'll be no death, there'll be no pain the things of old will pass away.*

***To lead us to the place where You'll restore our souls  
and all our earthly strivings come to cease.  
Take from our souls the strain and stress and let our ordered lives confess,  
the beauty of Your peace. The beauty of Your peace.***

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Psalm 27 ESV

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? <sup>2</sup>When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. <sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. <sup>4</sup>One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple. <sup>5</sup>For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. <sup>6</sup>And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord. <sup>7</sup>Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! <sup>8</sup>You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, Lord, do I seek."<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation! <sup>10</sup>For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in. <sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. <sup>12</sup>Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. <sup>13</sup>I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! <sup>14</sup>Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Confidence in the Presence of God"  
Dr. Bill Pardue

## SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

“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)***

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 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

### CLASS OF 2029

Dr. Paul Brock  
Mr. Sandy Hosea  
Mr. Ross Johnson  
Dr. Eddie Johnston  
Mr. Charlie Williams

## THE BOARD OF DEACONS

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Mr. Gary Burkhalter  
Mr. Chris Congdon  
Mr. Chris Earnest  
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

### CLASS OF 2029

Mr. Braden Burns  
Mr. Garrett Cochran  
Mr. Cooper Evans  
Mr. Jeff Giddens  
Mr. Blake Hall  
Mr. Kris Palin  
Mr. Chase Tolbert

## TRUSTEES

Mr. King Askew

Mr. Walter Matthews

Mr. Charlie Williams

## CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Bill Pardue

Dr. Jonathan Schwartz

Rev. Ken Chivers

Dr. Paul Neal

Mr. Brandon Trapp

Ms. Judy Powell

Ms. Jordan Walker

Mrs. Pamela Radford

Mr. Rob Davis

Mrs. Mandy Williams

Mr. Martin Foster

Mrs. Nell Milner

Mrs. Andrea Sartorato

Mr. Rob Edens

Mrs. Mabrey Couch

Mr. Caleb Sanders

Mrs. Sarah Pope

Mrs. Cheri McElroy

Ms. Tina Wilson

Mrs. Lisa Claytor

Mrs. Jessica Baker

Mrs. Brenda Lacey

Mrs. Blanca Cruz

Mrs. Jessy Suriel-Lagares

Mrs. Berta Mazariegos

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor Evangelism and Outreach

Associate Pastor Family Ministry

Director of Classic Music Ministry

Director of Convergent Music/Ministry Technology

Classic Music Ministry Associate

Pianist - Classic Music Ministry

Organist - Classic Music Ministry

Director of Adult Discipleship and Missions

Director of Women's Ministry

Director Seniors and Visitation

Director of Nursery Ministry

Director of Children's Ministry

Senior Director of Student Ministries

Co-Director Student Ministries, Girls

Co-Director Student Ministries, Guys

Admin. Asst. to Senior Pastor/Interim Operations Director

Admin. Asst. to Pastor Evangelism/Outreach/Adults

Admin. Asst. to Pastor Family/Shepherding

Financial Director

Communications Coordinator

Director of Building and Grounds

Custodial Team Member

Custodial Team Member

Custodial Team Member

[billp@fpcrome.org](mailto:billp@fpcrome.org)

[jonathans@fpcrome.org](mailto:jonathans@fpcrome.org)

[kenc@fpcrome.org](mailto:kenc@fpcrome.org)

[pauln@fpcrome.org](mailto:pauln@fpcrome.org)

[brandont@fpcrome.org](mailto:brandont@fpcrome.org)

[1jcjpowell@att.net](mailto:1jcjpowell@att.net)

[jordandwa@gmail.com](mailto:jordandwa@gmail.com)

[pamelaradford@comcast.net](mailto:pamelaradford@comcast.net)

[robd@fpcrome.org](mailto:robd@fpcrome.org)

[mandyw@fpcrome.org](mailto:mandyw@fpcrome.org)

[mfoster78@comcast.net](mailto:mfoster78@comcast.net)

[nellm@fpcrome.org](mailto:nellm@fpcrome.org)

[andreas@fpcrome.org](mailto:andreas@fpcrome.org)

[robe@fpcrome.org](mailto:robe@fpcrome.org)

[mabreyc@fpcrome.org](mailto:mabreyc@fpcrome.org)

[calebs@fpcrome.org](mailto:calebs@fpcrome.org)

[sarahp@fpcrome.org](mailto:sarahp@fpcrome.org)

[cherim@comcast.net](mailto:cherim@comcast.net)

[tinaw@fpcrome.org](mailto:tinaw@fpcrome.org)

[lisac@fpcrome.org](mailto:lisac@fpcrome.org)

[jessicab@fpcrome.org](mailto:jessicab@fpcrome.org)

[brendal@fpcrome.org](mailto:brendal@fpcrome.org)