



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day

July 12, 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

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..."

- *1 Peter 1:3*

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

“Aria for Organ”

Andrew Carter

Mr. Herb Buffington, organ

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of Invocation

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Responsive Call to Worship

Isaiah 42:6-8

Leader: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles,

All: to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

Leader: I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols.

Hymn of Praise No. 157

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

LAUDES DOMINI

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

Ephesians 2:4-10

Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in our transgressions—it is by grace who you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Song of Response

The Doxology
OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise Him, all creatures here below!
Praise him above, ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! AMEN*

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Corporate Prayer of Confession

**You asked for my hands, that you might use them for your purpose.
I gave them for a moment, then withdrew them, for the work was hard.
You asked for my mouth to speak out the gospel.
I gave you a whisper that I might not give offense.
You asked for my eyes to see the pain of poverty.
I closed them, for I did not want to see.
You asked for my life, that you might work through me.
I gave a small part, that I might not get too involved.
Lord, forgive my calculated efforts to serve you—only when it is convenient for me to do so, only in those places where it is safe to do so, and only with those who make it easy to do so. Father, forgive me, renew me, send me out as a usable instrument, that I might take seriously the meaning of your cross. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Reflection No. 438

“I Love to Tell the Story”
I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“Abide with Me”

arr. Jantz A. Black

Summer Choir

Ms. Jordan Walker, piano

*Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.*

*I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.*

*Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee:
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

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

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 ESV

¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;¹⁵and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“When Love Takes Hold”
Dr. Bill Pardue

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Hymn of Response No. 338

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
HAMBURG

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

“Festival Voluntary”
Flor Peeters
Mr. Herb Buffington, organ

Announcements

Next Sunday's Worship Services ~ July 19th

We will have one worship service at 11am in King Hall. Our Sunday School Hour is from 10:05am to 10:50am.

The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated on July 19th. May we use this week to prepare our hearts and minds to rightly receive this gift of God. We will remain in our seats while the Elders distribute the elements.

Congregational Meeting ~ Sunday, July 26th after 11am Combined Worship

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, July 26th, to elect this year's Officer Nominating Committee. The meeting will be held immediately following our 11:00 am combined worship service in the Sanctuary.

Fellowship Breakfast – Sunday, July 19th, and 26th

Since we will be combined for worship at 11am in July, the Congregational Life team would like to invite you to a light breakfast in the atrium outside of King Hall before Sunday school (9:30-10am). Come enjoy some food and time with your church family. There will be gluten-free options and there will be food for children. If you have any questions, then please contact Pastor Ken (kenc@fpcrome.org).

Ambassadors for Christ: Persuading and Pleading with the Message of Reconciliation” ~ 2026-2027 Church Theme

based on 2 Corinthians 5:20 - “Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” This year's theme calls us to persuasively and urgently proclaim the message of reconciliation. In 2 Corinthians 5, Paul teaches that gospel witness is shaped by the fear of the Lord, controlled by the love of Christ, entrusted with the message of reconciliation, and carried out as ambassadors through whom God makes His appeal. Therefore, we do not merely hope people notice our faith; we lovingly, clearly, persuasively, and urgently implore others: be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ.

- July 12th - Sanctuary
- July 19th - King Hall, the Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated
- July 26th - Sanctuary

Summer Choir

Have you ever thought about singing in the choir but weren't sure how to get started? This summer is the perfect time to jump in! We're inviting anyone who loves to sing (or has always wanted to try) to join us for Summer Choir on one more upcoming Sunday:

- **July 26th – In Christ Alone**

We'll warm up at 10:30 a.m. in the choir room and sing during the 11:00 a.m. service. No robes, no pressure, no weekly commitment, just a chance to make music and worship together! The anthems are easy, joyful, and fun. No experience is necessary, and you don't have to read music. You can even just show up that morning and sing with us. We'd love to have your voice with us!

Women's Fellowship Fiesta on Wednesday, July 29, at 6pm at El Zarape on Broad Street

Grab your amigas and join us for a night of laughter, connection, and good food. This is the perfect chance to step away from the busy pace of life, enjoy a great meal, and build deeper friendships within our women's ministry. Whether you're new or have been around for years, there's a seat at the table just for you. Be sure to sign up by noon on July 29th at www.fpcrome.org/women so we can save you a spot—we don't want you to miss out! Come hungry, come ready to laugh, and come expectant for sweet fellowship. We can't wait to see you there!

July Community Ministry Spotlight: Salvation Army

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination. There is a table set up outside the church office where a representative will be available to discuss their ministry.

Operating Budget Update Through June

<u>Tithes & Gifts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Over/(Short)</u>
\$1,471,061.97	\$1,450,488.04	\$20,573.93



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 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

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

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	Senior Pastor
Dr. Jonathan Schwartz	Associate Pastor Evangelism and Outreach
Rev. Ken Chivers	Associate Pastor Family Ministry
Dr. Paul Neal	Director of Classic Music Ministry
Mr. Brandon Trapp	Director of Convergent Music/Ministry Technology
Ms. Judy Powell	Classic Music Ministry Associate
Ms. Jordan Walker	Pianist - Classic Music Ministry
Mrs. Pamela Radford	Organist - Classic Music Ministry
Mr. Rob Davis	Director of Adult Discipleship and Missions
Mrs. Mandy Williams	Director of Women's Ministry
Mr. Martin Foster	Director of Seniors and Visitation
Mrs. Nell Milner	Director of Nursery Ministry
Mrs. Andrea Sartorato	Director of Children's Ministry
Mr. Rob Edens	Senior Director of Student Ministries
Mrs. Mabrey Couch	Co-Director of Student Ministries, Girls
Mr. Caleb Sanders	Co-Director of Student Ministries, Guys
Mrs. Sarah Pope	Admin. Asst. to Senior Pastor/Operations Director
Mrs. Cheri McElroy	Admin. Asst. to Pastor Evangelism/Outreach/Adults
Ms. Tina Wilson	Admin. Asst. to Pastor Family/Shepherding
Mrs. Lisa Claytor	Financial Director
Mrs. Jessica Baker	Communications Coordinator
Mrs. Brenda Lacey	Director of Building and Grounds
Mrs. Blanca Cruz	Custodial Team Member
Mrs. Berta Mazariegos	Custodial Team Member

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