



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
July 26, 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

"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable."

- *Psalm 145:3*

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

“Londonderry Aire”
arr. Fred Swan

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of Invocation

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 98:1-3

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things;

All: his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

Leader: The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations...

All: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Hymn of Praise

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

HYMN TO JOY

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!*

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning over us, brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us Sunward in the triumph song of life.*

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

based on 1 Corinthians 15:3-7; Colossians 1:15-20

Leader: This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

All: Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Most holy and merciful Father; we acknowledge and confess before you; our sinful nature, prone to evil and slothful in good, and all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned; in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. But you, O Lord, have pity on us; who are ashamed and sorry for all the ways we have displeased you. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of your dear Son. Most holy and loving Father, we also pray that you help us to live in your light and walk in your ways; according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Reflection No. 429

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

NETTLETON

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

“In Christ Alone”

Summer Choir

Ms. Jordan Walker, piano

*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!*

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 5:20-21 ESV

²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Our Substitute and Our Identity”

Rev. Ken Chivers

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Hymn of Response No. 277

“Before the Throne of God Above”

BEFORE THE THRONE

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

The Rejoicing from “Music for Royal Fireworks”

G. F. Handel

Announcements

Next Sunday's Worship Services ~ August 2nd

We will have two worship services, 9am in the Sanctuary and 11am in King Hall. Our Sunday School Hour is from 10:05am to 10:50am.

Congregational Meeting ~ Today, following the 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. The Session has put the following names for this year's Officer Nominating Committee: Tommy Manning (Chair/Elder), Sandy Hosea (Elder), Karen Johnson (member), Erin Evans (member), Russ Gates (Elder), Gary Burkhalter (Deacon), Garrett Cochran (Deacon). Congregation members are free to place other names in nomination in one of these three categories as well, as long as the person is willing to serve.

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.

Ambassadors for Christ ~ 40 Day Devotion

This devotional on Evangelism is what we will use as a church family to journey through 40 days of Word and prayer. Our 40 days will begin Monday, July 27th, and continue through Friday, September 4th. This easy-to-follow devotional has the specific dates and weeks noted in the document. Thank you to all our church members who contributed to the devotional content. Don't forget to pick up your copy after worship or from the church office!

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!

Save the Date ~ Annual Church Picnic – August 16th following combined 10am Worship in King Hall

Our annual block-style picnic is coming soon. There will be water activities for children of all ages, along with food and fun for everybody.

Advancing God's Kingdom: An Evening with the FPC Argentina Team ~ Sunday, August 30th at 6pm

Join us in King Hall to hear incredible stories and witness remarkable glimpses of the Kingdom of God's progress in Buenos Aires, Argentina. These firsthand accounts, shared by members of the FPC team, will inspire you to actively contribute to advancing God's Kingdom in the region where He has placed you. A nursery will be provided for children aged 8 weeks through 5 years; please contact Mrs. Nell.

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.

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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