



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
November 20, 2022
9:00 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

Opening Scripture

Psalm 124:8

"Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."
Let us exalt his name together.

Prelude

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

Emma Lou Diemer
Ms. Faye Kesler, organ

Welcome and Announcements

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

based on Psalm 91:2; Romans 10:9, 13

Leader: Let us worship God.

All: "He is our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust."

Leader: Let us confess with our mouths, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead.

All: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Leader: Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our hearts, confessing him with our mouths, worshipping him in spirit and in truth.

Hymn of Praise No. 45

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

DIADEMATA

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Q and A #1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

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 upon 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. And O most holy and loving Father, help to live in your light and walk in your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm of Reflection

Psalm 17
FESTAL SONG

*Arise, my gracious God,
And make the wicked flee;
They are but thy chastising rod,
To drive thy saints to thee.*

*Behold, the sinner dies,
His haughty words are vain;
Here in this life his pleasure lies,
And all beyond is pain.*

*Then let his pride advance,
And boast of all his store;
The Lord is my inheritance,
My soul can wish no more.*

*I shall behold the face
Of my forgiving God;
And stand complete in righteousness,
Washed in my Savior's blood.*

*There's a new heav'n begun,
When I awake from death,
Dressed in the likeness of thy Son,
And draw immortal breath.*

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"Alleluia! Sing Praise"

J. S. Bach, arr. Hirt

Chancel Choir

Dr. Timothy Renner, director

Ms. Jordan Walker, piano

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Exodus 18:10-27 ESV

Jethro said, "Blessed be the LORD who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh and has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods, because in this affair they dealt arrogantly with the people." And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, brought a burnt offering and sacrifices to God; and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law before God. The next day Moses sat to judge the people, and the people stood around Moses from morning till evening. When Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, "What is this that you are doing for the people? Why do you sit alone, and all the people stand around you from morning till evening?" And Moses said to his father-in-law, "Because the people come to me to inquire of God; when they have a dispute, they come to me and I decide between one person and another, and I make them know the statutes of God and his laws." Moses' father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone. Now obey my voice; I will give you advice, and God be with you! You shall represent the people before God and bring their cases to God, and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do. Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. And let them judge the people at all times. Every great matter they shall bring to you, but any small matter they shall decide themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. If you do this, God will direct you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Delivered to Godly Counsel and Humility"

Dr. Bill Pardue

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Hymn of Response No. 676

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

ANGEL'S STORY

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

"March in D Major"

David N. Johnson

Ms. Faye Kesler, organ

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 Tracy Dupree at tracyd@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

CHURCH STAFF

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