



# First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day

November 27, 2022

11:00 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**

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*

---

# God's People Gather for Worship

---

## PREPARING OUR HEARTS

Gathering Song

"Christmas Offering"

Welcome and Announcements

## DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis and LeeAnne Darville

*The Advent candles represent Jesus who is the light of the world. Each week of Advent we light an additional candle to represent the progression of light coming into the world with the birth of Jesus. This year's Advent readings are taken from Christopher Ash's Advent devotional entitled Repeat the Sounding Joy. May we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus this Advent season as we remember His coming that first Christmas and as we look forward to His return.*

Corporate Prayer of Preparation

O God, our Father, creator of the universe, whose Son, Jesus Christ, came to our world, pour your Holy Spirit upon your church, that all peoples, being led through the knowledge of your truth to worship you, may offer the gold of praise, the frankincense of repentance, and the myrrh of consecration to him who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns for ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

Song of Praise

"Come Thou Almighty King"

*Come, Thou Almighty King, Help us Thy name to sing,  
Help us to praise. Father, all glorious,  
O'er all victorious, Come, and reign over us,  
Ancient of Days. Ancient of Days.*

*Come, Thou incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty sword,  
Our prayer attend: Come, and Thy people bless,  
And give Thy word success; Spirit of holiness, On us descend.*

***Come and reign, Come and reign,  
Come and reign our King, Our One and only King.***

*Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear,  
In this glad hour: Thou who Almighty art,  
Now rule in every heart, And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.*

*To Thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises be,  
Hence evermore: Thy sov'reign majesty,  
May we in glory see, And to eternity Love and adore*

**(chorus)**

## AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

Westminster Confession (MESV), Chap. VIII, Sec. 2-3

We believe that the Son of God, the second person of the Trinity, being truly and eternally God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time had come, take upon himself human nature, with all its essential properties and common frailties, yet without sin. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the virgin Mary, and of her substance. In this way, two whole natures, the divine and the human, perfect and distinct, were inseparably joined together in one person without being changed, mixed, or confused. This person is truly God and truly man, yet one Christ, the only mediator between God and man. In his human nature, united to the divine nature, the Lord Jesus was set apart and anointed with the Holy Spirit beyond measure, having in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. In him the Father was pleased to have all fullness dwell, so that—being holy, blameless, and undefiled, full of grace and truth—he might be completely equipped to fulfill the office of a mediator and guarantor. He did not take this office to himself but was called to it by his Father, who put all power and judgment into his hand and commanded him to execute it.

Song of Praise

"Before The Throne Of God Above"

*Before the throne of God above, I have a strong, a perfect plea,  
A great High Priest whose name is Love, Who ever lives and pleads for me.*

*My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;  
I know that while in heav'n He stands, o tongue can bid me thence depart,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.*

*When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see him there Who made an end to all my sin.  
Because the sinless Saviour died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
For God the Just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,  
To look on Him and pardon me.*

*Behold Him there! The risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness;  
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!  
One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased with His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Saviour and my God,  
With Christ, my Saviour and my God.*

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"Come Let Us Worship And Bow Down"

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Zechariah 1:7-17 NIV

Matthew 1:20-23 NIV

On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo. During the night I had a vision—and there before me was a man riding a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in a ravine. Behind him were red, brown and white horses. I asked, “What are these, my lord?” The angel who was talking with me answered, “I will show you what they are.” Then the man standing among the myrtle trees explained, “They are the ones the LORD has sent to go throughout the earth.” And they reported to the angel of the LORD, who was standing among the myrtle trees, “We have gone throughout the earth and found the whole world at rest and in peace.” Then the angel of the LORD said, “LORD Almighty, how long will you withhold mercy from Jerusalem and from the towns of Judah, which you have been angry with these seventy years?” So the LORD spoke kind and comforting words to the angel who talked with me. Then the angel who was speaking to me said, “Proclaim this word: This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘I am very jealous for Jerusalem and Zion, but I am very angry with the nations that feel secure. I was only a little angry, but they added to the calamity.’ “Therefore, this is what the LORD says: ‘I will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and there my house will be rebuilt. And the measuring line will be stretched out over Jerusalem,’ declares the LORD Almighty. “Proclaim further: This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘My towns will again overflow with prosperity, and the LORD will again comfort Zion and choose Jerusalem.’”

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” - which means, “God with us.”

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Immanuel—God With Us"  
Dr. Jonathan Schwartz

## SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Song of Response

"God With Us"

*Oh You've come to bring peace, to be Love,  
To be nearer to us, You've come to bring life to be Light,  
To shine brighter in us, Oh Emmanuel God with us.*

***Our Deliverer, You are Savior. In Your presence we find our strength  
Over ev'rything, our Redemption. God with us, You are God with us.***

*Oh You've come to be Hope, to this world. For Your honor and name,  
And You've come to take sin, to bear shame,  
And to conquer the grave, Oh, Emmanuel, God with us.*

**(chorus)**

*You are here, You are holy, We are standing in Your glory, Lord*

**(chorus)**

Commissioning and Benediction



---

# 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](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 Tracy Dupree at [tracyd@fpcrome.org](mailto: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](mailto:robd@fpcrome.org).