



# First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day  
January 8, 2023  
9:00 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**

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*

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# God's People Gather for Worship

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## PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Scripture

1 Peter 2:9

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

Prelude

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

*Dale Wood*

Ms. Faye Kesler, organ

## DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

*Leader: When Moses gathered the people of Israel, God said,*

**All: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."**

*Leader: As we gather here today, let us worship the Lord, who continues to be our God, who loves us as his treasured possession, and who still brings us out of the places of our bondage.*

Hymn of Praise

"Lo! God Is Here; Let Us Adore"

ST. CATHERINE

*And own how dreadful is this place;*

*Let all within us feel His pow'r,*

*And humbly bow before His face.*

*Who knows His pow'r, His grace who proves,*

*Serve Him with awe, with rev'ence love.*

*Lo, God is here, whom day and night*

*United choirs of angels praise;*

*To Him, enthroned above all height,*

*The host of heav'n their anthems raise.*

*Disdain not, Lord, our meaner song,*

*Who praise Thee with a stamm'ring tongue.*

*Almighty Father, may our praise  
Thy courts with grateful fragrance fill;  
Still may we stand before Thy face,  
Still hear and do Thy sov'reign will.  
To God whom earth and heav'n adore,  
Be praise and glory evermore.*

## **AFFIRMING OUR FAITH**

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead: I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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**

Prayer of Confession

*Leader: God of everlasting love, we confess that we have been unfaithful to our covenant with you and with one another. We have worshipped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience. We have served our own self-interest instead of serving only you and your people. We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves.*  
**All: Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our covenant with you and one another. Through Christ, our Lord.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Reflection No. 466

"Jesus, Our Lord and King"  
TRENTHAM

## OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Peace and Greetings  
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"And Can It Be?"  
*arr. Eric Nelson*  
Chancel Choir  
Dr. Timothy Renner, director  
Ms. Faye Kelsner, organ

## INTERCEDING FOR GOD'S WORLD

Prayers of the People  
The Lord's Prayer

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Exodus 19:1-9 ESV

On the third new moon after the people of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that day they came into the wilderness of Sinai. They set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, while Moses went up to God. The Lord called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel." So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. All the people answered together and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do." And Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord. And the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever."

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Delivered to Gospel Holiness"  
Dr. Bill Pardue

# SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Psalm of Response

"Psalm 29"  
ST. DENIO

*You sons of the gods, give the Lord as his right,  
Ascribe to the Lord both great glory and might.  
And unto the Lord's name its glory accord;  
In splendor of holiness worship the Lord.*

*The Lord's voice is over the waters abroad;  
And thunder proceeds from the glorious God.  
Above the great waters the Lord from his height!  
The Lord's voice of splendor! The Lord's voice of might!*

*The Lord's voice in flashes of lightning exclaims,  
The places it strikes all burst out into flames;  
The voice of the Lord makes the wilderness quake;  
The Lord makes the desert of Kadesh to shake.*

*The Lord ruled as King as the floodwaters raged,  
And still shall the Lord rule throughout every age.  
The Lord will the strength of his people increase;  
The Lord gives his people the blessing of peace.*

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

"Praise Be To Almighty God"

*J.S. Bach*

Ms. Faye Kesler, organ

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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 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).

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# Pray for Our Church Leaders

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## CHURCH STAFF

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## THE SESSION

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