



First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day

August 28, 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

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 CONFESSIO OF FAITH CHAPTER 21, 1-2

God's People Gather for Worship

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Opening Scripture

Psalm 121:1-2

I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

Prelude

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

arr. Emma Lou Diemer

Ms. Faye Kesler

Welcome and Announcements

Peace and Greetings

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Psalm 103:1-5, 22

Leader: Praise the Lord, O my soul;

All: all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Leader: Praise the Lord, O my soul,

All: and forget not all his benefits--

Leader: who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases

All: who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

Leader: who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

All: Praise the Lord , O my soul.

Hymn of Praise No. 1

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

ANDREWS

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 1

My only comfort in life and in death is that I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, 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 the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

CONFESSING OUR SINS 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 worshiped 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. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Response No. 650

"O for a Heart to Praise My God"

AZMON

OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"Psalm 121"

arr. Millard Walker

Chancel Choir

Dr. Timothy Renner, director

Ms. Jordan Walker, piano

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Exodus 4:1-17 ESV

Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The Lord did not appear to you.'" The Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. But the Lord said to Moses, "Put out your hand and catch it by the tail"—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand—"that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you." Again, the Lord said to him, "Put your hand inside your cloak." And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow. Then God said, "Put your hand back inside your cloak." So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh. "If they will not believe you," God said, "or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign. If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground."

But Moses said to the Lord, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue." Then the Lord said to

him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak." But he said, "Oh, my Lord, please send someone else." Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses and he said, "Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Delivered to God's Sovereignty and Sufficiency"

Dr. Bill Pardue

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Hymn of Response No. 343

"Amazing Grace"

AMAZING GRACE

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

"Prelude on Lobe den Herren"

Max Reger

Ms. Faye Kesler

Scriptures for further study:

Exodus 3:10

Ephesians 6:10

Ephesians 6:10

Corinthians 9:8

“It is to Moses that the task of rescuing the people is allotted. He is now divinely commissioned to be the instrument through whom God will work. It is part of the divine scheme of salvation for mankind that it is worked out through mankind. Though deliverance is only possible by supernatural intervention and power, yet God raises up individuals through whom he will work.”

- John Mackay

“The sovereignty of God is his absolute, independent right of disposing of all creatures according to his own pleasure.”

- Jonathan Edwards



John Martin, The Seventh Plague of Egypt, 1823

BIG IDEA

The Father uses the cross and resurrection of His Son to strengthen us by His Spirit to follow His calling and shatter the excuses we bring forth against His sovereignty and sufficiency.

OUTLINE

1. Calling
2. Excuses
3. Signs & Wonders
4. Sovereignty & Sufficiency

SERMON NOTES

“Next to faith this is the highest art - to be content with the calling in which God has placed you.”

- Martin Luther

“Labeling something as impossible is frequently my way of excusing myself from doing something simply because it’s more difficult than I would like it to be.”

- Craig Lounsbrough

“The sovereignty of God is the fact that he is the Lord over creation; as sovereign, he exercises his rule. This rule is exercised through God’s authority as king, his control over all things, and his presence with his covenantal people and throughout his creation.”

- John Frame

“There are no maverick molecules in a universe where God is sovereign. Ultimately, everything bends the knee to His will and work.”

- R.C. Sproul

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.