



# First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

The Lord's Day  
September 4, 2022  
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**

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 CONFESSIO 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

Opening Scripture

Psalm 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Prelude

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*arr. Robert J. Powell*

Ms. Faye Kesler

Welcome and Announcements

Peace and Greetings

## DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Colossians 2:13-14; Psalm 32:11

*Leader: Grace and peace to you who were dead in your sins, for God has made you alive with Christ and forgiven all your sins.*

**All: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are now upright in heart**

Hymn of Praise No. 128

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

ELLACOMBE

## AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' 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.

## CONFESSING OUR SINS AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Psalm 25:6-7, 11, 16-18

Remember, O Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, and my rebellious ways: according to your love remember me, for you are good, O Lord...For the sake of your name, O Lord, forgive my iniquity, though it is great. Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me from my anguish. Look upon the affliction of my distress and take away all my sins.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Reflection No. 581

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

TRUST IN JESUS

## OFFERING OUR FELLOWSHIP AND GIFTS

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"Alleluia! Sing Praise"

*Bach-Hirt*

Chancel Choir

Dr. Timothy Renner, director

Ms. Jordan Walker, piano

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Exodus 4:18-31 ESV

Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, "Please let me go back to my brothers in Egypt to see whether they are still alive." And Jethro said to Moses, "Go in peace." And the Lord said to Moses in Midian, "Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead." So Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand.

And the Lord said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the miracles that I have put in your power. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go. Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, Israel is my firstborn son, and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.'"

At a lodging place on the way the Lord met him and sought to put him to death. Then Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son's foreskin and touched Moses' feet with it and said, "Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me!" So he let him alone. It was then that she said, "A bridegroom of blood," because of the circumcision.

The Lord said to Aaron, "Go into the wilderness to meet Moses." So he went and met him at the mountain of God and kissed him. And Moses told Aaron all the words of the Lord with

which he had sent him to speak, and all the signs that he had commanded him to do. Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the people of Israel. Aaron spoke all the words that the Lord had spoken to Moses and did the signs in the sight of the people. And the people believed; and when they heard that the Lord had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshiped.

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Obedience Driven By a Promise"  
Rev. Jimmy Latham

## **SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH**

Hymn of Response No. 728

"Am I a Soldier of the Cross?"  
ARLINGTON

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

"Whoever Lets Dear God Rule Him"  
*J.S. Bach*  
Ms. Faye Kesler



*John Martin, The Seventh Plague of Egypt, 1823*

## **"OBEDIENCE DRIVEN BY A PROMISE"**

### **EXODUS 4:18-31 ESV**

#### **BIG IDEA**

Because the Christian life is full of questions, fears and doubts, we must daily listen to and rehearse the promises of God to ourselves and recommit our lives to His call.

#### **OUTLINE**

1. Promised Security
2. Promised Judgement
3. Promised Freedom

Where we have been:

(John D. Curid, A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: The Gospel Promised)

Exodus 2:1-2. Moses is born a slave in Egypt; he is born under oppression and persecution; and Pharaoh attempts to murder him.

Exodus 2:3-10. Moses undergoes a water ordeal and is delivered.

Exodus 2:11-12. Moses escapes to Midian/Sinai.

Exodus 3:1-22. God appears to Moses in a theophany on Mount Sinai.

Exodus 4:1-18. Moses hesitates and doubts, but God is faithful.

# SERMON NOTES

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

“The book of Genesis ends with the Hebrew word which literally means ‘in Egypt.’ This, of course, provides the setting for the book of Exodus, and in reality, it is a foreboding comment because the Hebrews at the beginning of Exodus have been enslaved in Egypt for over four hundred years since the ending of Genesis. This slavery fulfills the prophecy God gave to Abraham in Genesis 15, in which he says, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years” (15:13). However, in the midst of that covenantal ceremony, God makes another promise to Abraham: “But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions” (15:14). The central message of the book of Exodus is God’s keeping of that promise by delivering Abraham’s offspring from slavery in the land of Egypt.”

- John D. Curid, *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: The Gospel Promised*

**PRAISE TO JESUS-** Give praise to Jesus for the cross which is the LORD’s symbol of hope and deliverance from oppression of every form; it is your assurance of God’s promise and ability to save his people and to save you. Give praise to the LORD for his Word which is a more powerful symbol than Moses’ staff because it is the very words of God. It is living, active (Hebrews 4:12), it can soften the hardest heart, and it is available to US in any and every moment.

**REPENTANCE THROUGH JESUS-** Confess and repent of the times when you have been unavailable or impatient with a neighbor, family member, or church family member who was in a season of uncertain and doubt. Confess and repent of the times when you have relied on your own resources (or have been shipwrecked by lack of resources) to give you assurance instead of resting in God’s promises of purpose, provision, and protection.

**CONSECRATION FOR JESUS-** The LORD calls us daily to obey him. To obey God is an invitation to Joy in Him. Christ has set us free from slavery to sin to freedom to obey and live. He provided his Son, the cross, His Word, the Holy Spirit and His people as signs and miracles to assure and fortify us to walk into an uncertain and fearful day declaring God’s message of deliverance through Jesus to ourselves, to our families, to our neighbors and co-workers. Let’s take up our cross for Jesus and go!



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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).