



First Presbyterian
— R O M E —

The Lord's Day
September 11, 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 CONFESSIO OF FAITH CHAPTER 21, 1-2

God's People Gather for Worship

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Opening Scripture

James 4:8, 10

"Come near to God and he will come near to you...Humble yourselves before the Lord,
and he will lift you up."

Prelude

"Prelude on ELLACOMBE"
Brass Quintet

Welcome and Announcements

Peace and Greetings

DECLARING GOD'S PRAISE

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Psalm 105:1-4

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.
Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the
hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face
always.

Hymn of Praise

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" *arr. S. Drummond Wolff*
Chancel Choir and Congregation
Dr. Timothy Renner, director
Ms. Faye Kesler, organ
Brass Quintet

*Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone;
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.*

*To this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of Hosts today!
With thy faithful lovingkindness, hear thy people as they pray,
And thy fullest benediction shed within these walls away.*

*Here vouch-safe to all thy servants what they ask of thee to gain;
What they gain from thee forever with the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.*

*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory, while unending ages run.*

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Affirmation of Faith

from the Belgic Confession

Q: What do you believe about the work of God?

A: We believe that God--who is perfectly merciful and also very just--sent his Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by his most bitter passion and death.

Q: And what do you believe about the work of Jesus Christ?

A: We believe that Jesus Christ presented himself in our name before his Father, to appease his wrath with full satisfaction by offering himself on the tree of the cross and pouring out his precious blood for the cleansing of our sins, as the prophets had predicted.

Q: Why did he endure all this?

A: He endured all this for the forgiveness of our sins.

Q: What comfort does this give you?

A: We find all the comfort in his wounds and have no need to seek or invent any other means to reconcile ourselves with God than this one and only sacrifice, once made, which renders believers perfect forever.

Song of Response

"Doxology"

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 SINS AND EMBRACING OUR FORGIVENESS

Prayer of Confession

Psalm 40:11-13

Do not withhold your mercy from me, O Lord; may your love and your truth always protect me. For troubles without number surround me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see. They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails within me. Be pleased, O Lord, to save me; O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Reflection No. 567

"Nearer, Still Nearer"

MORRIS

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 5:1-6:1 ESV

Afterward Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.'" But Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and moreover, I will not let Israel go." Then they said, "The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God, lest he fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword." But the king of Egypt said to them, "Moses and Aaron, why do you take the people away from their work? Get back to your burdens." And Pharaoh said, "Behold, the people of the land are now many, and you make them rest from their burdens!" The same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their foremen, "You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as in the past; let them go and gather straw for themselves. But the number of bricks that they made in the past you shall impose on them, you shall by no means reduce it, for they are idle. Therefore they cry, 'Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.' Let heavier work be laid on the men that they may labor at it and pay no regard to lying words." So the taskmasters and the foremen of the people went out and said to the people, "Thus says Pharaoh, 'I will not give you straw. Go and get your straw yourselves wherever you can find it, but your work will not be reduced in the least.'" So the people were scattered throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw. The taskmasters were urgent, saying, "Complete your work, your daily task each day, as when there was straw." And the foremen of the people of Israel, whom Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were beaten and were asked, "Why have you not done all your task of making bricks today and yesterday, as in the past?" Then the foremen of the people of Israel came and cried to Pharaoh, "Why do you treat your servants like this? No straw is given to your servants, yet they say to us, 'Make bricks!' And behold, your servants are beaten; but the fault is in your own people." But he said, "You are idle, you are idle; that is why you say, 'Let us go and sacrifice to the Lord.' Go now and work. No straw will be given you, but you must still deliver the same number of bricks." The foremen of the people of Israel saw that they were in trouble when they said, "You shall by no means reduce your number of bricks, your daily task each day." They met Moses and Aaron, who were waiting for them, as they came out from Pharaoh; and they said to them, "The Lord look on you and judge, because you have made us stink in the sight of Pharaoh and his servants, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us." Then Moses turned to the Lord and said, "O Lord, why have you done evil to this people? Why did you ever send me? But the Lord said to Moses, "Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for with a strong hand he will send them out, and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Delivered to an Authentic Relationship in Christ"

Dr. Bill Pardue

SCATTERING AS CHRIST'S CHURCH

Hymn of Response No. 790

"We Gather Together"

KREMSER

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

"Ouverture (from Royal Fireworks Music)"

George Handel

Ms. Faye Kesler

Scriptures for further study:

1 Peter 4:12-13

1 John 3:13

John 3:16

Psalm 34:8

Romans 8:28

Psalm 10:1

Psalm 22:1

Psalm 44:24

Matthew 11:28

1 Peter 5:6-7

Numbers 23:19

Titus 1:2 Job 40

“When we cannot trace
God’s hand, we must simply
trust His heart.”

– Charles Spurgeon

“I utterly deny God to be
the author of sin. He does
not commit sin in willing
that there be sin. God has
established a world in
which sin will indeed
necessarily come to pass by
His permission but not by
his positive agency.”

– Jonathan Edwards



John Martin, The Seventh Plague of Egypt, 1823

DELIVERED TO AN AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIP IN CHRIST EXODUS 5:1-6:1 ESV

BIG IDEA

The grace of God to us in Jesus Christ welcomes our authentic response to the hitches and hindrances in life yet we must always be prepared for His authentic response to our less than perfect moments of faith as we bend our lives to His lordship.

OUTLINE

1. Hitches and Hinderances

2. Our Authentic Response

3. God’s Authentic Response

SERMON NOTES

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.