



# First Presbyterian

— R O M E —

*"God does not throw down men at random on the earth, to go wherever they please, but guides all by his secret purpose."*

John Calvin

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THE LORD'S DAY

November 4, 2018



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# God's People Gather for Worship

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..." (excerpted from FPC Rome Mission Statement)

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## Preparing our Hearts

Prelude

Grace Garnett, organ scholar

Invocation

## Declaring God's Praise

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 119:1-8

*Leader: Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,  
who walk according to the law of the LORD.*

**ALL: Blessed are those who keep his statutes  
and seek him with all their heart—**

*Leader: they do no wrong  
but follow his ways.*

**ALL: You have laid down precepts  
that are to be fully obeyed.**

*Leader: Oh, that my ways were steadfast  
in obeying your decrees!*

**ALL: Then I would not be put to shame  
when I consider all your commands.**

*Leader: I will praise you with an upright heart  
as I learn your righteous laws.*

**ALL: I will obey your decrees;  
do not utterly forsake me.**

Hymn No. 225

Come, Christians, Join to Sing  
MADRID

## Confessing Our Sin and Embracing Our Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Divine Pardon

Hymn of Response No. 686

O God, Our Help in Ages Past  
ST. ANNE

## Offering Our Gifts

Welcome

*(Children ages 6 years old – 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be dismissed at this time for Children's Worship in God's Garden.)*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

O Love

*arr. Elaine Hagenberg*

## Interceding for God's World

Prayer for God's People, Work and World and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Hearing God's Word

Scripture Reading

Esther 2:1-23

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

**ALL:** Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Guided by God's Secret Purpose"

Rev. Jeff Chadwick

## Scattering as Christ's Church

Hymn No. 724

Lead On, O King Eternal

LANCASHIRE

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



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# Ministry Opportunities

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## TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICES (11/4/18):

Convergent Service in the King Hall (10:30am):  
Rev. Bill Pardue preaching  
Matthew 3:13-17 (*This message was preached on October 21 at the Classic Service*)

Classic Service in the Sanctuary (10:30am):  
Rev. Jeff Chadwick preaching  
Esther 2:1-23

## NEXT SUNDAY'S WORSHIP SERVICES (11/11/18) – STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS SUNDAY:

Convergent Service in the King Hall (10:30am):  
Rev. Jeff Chadwick preaching

Classic Service in the Sanctuary (10:30am):  
Dr. Jonathan Schwartz preaching

***Both services on 11/11 will include the dedication of our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. If you have packed one at home and have not delivered it to the church prior to next Sunday, please bring it with you and add it to the boxes in the front of the Sanctuary or King Hall as you enter for worship.***

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM WILL BE CELEBRATED AT OUR CONVERGENT SERVICE TODAY** – We welcome Jack Good and Emma Good as they present themselves for baptism based on their profession of faith in Jesus Christ. Jack and Emma are the son and daughter of John Good.

**OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE EARNEST FAMILY** – We offer our condolences to Chris Earnest and family (Heather, Ashlyn, Lillian and Madeline) in the passing of his mother, Mrs. Sadie Marie Watson, on October 29, 2018. A memorial service will be held on November 10, 2018 at 11:00am in Hardy Chapel.

**SARTORATO MISSIONARY LUNCHEON** – Raphael, Kaylee and Ezeqiel will be with us Sunday, November 18! The Missions Ministry Team is hosting a luncheon for you to become acquainted with their ministry and give you an opportunity to join with them through your prayer and financial support. *Please sign up for the luncheon* in your Sunday Morning Community or email Natalie Pettegrew at [nataliep@fpcrome.org](mailto:nataliep@fpcrome.org). Lunch details will be emailed to you.

**STEWARDSHIP/COMMITMENT EMPHASIS** will be held next Sunday, November 11. At the close of each of our services on November 11, we will have the opportunity to present our 2019 Financial Commitment Cards, indicating what we have prayerfully felt called to give in grateful response to what God has provided for us and as an act of faith that he will continue to provide for all of our needs. Spend time in prayer between now and November 11 seeking what God would have your 2019 financial commitment to the Lord's work through FPC to be.

**DID YOU KNOW** that First Presbyterian has two rooms of prayer? The PRAYER ROOM (#206) is located upstairs in the Christian Life Center and just down the hall, the beautiful PRAYER CHAPEL (#208) can be found. What a blessing to be able to pray with others, or privately in these special places.

### CARRY ON THE CONVERSATION

(Each week we use this space to provide a glimpse into what our children are learning in Children's Worship, and what you might ask to "carry on the conversation" with them at home.)

Key Theme: The Bible is the ultimate authority because it is God's Word.

John 17:17b ...your word is truth.

Ask: What does it mean when a person has "authority"?

Since God's Word is right and it is always the final authority, it must be obeyed.

Is it sometimes hard for you to obey God's Word?

What makes it especially hard?

**THE OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE YOUR INPUT** – The Officer Nominating Committee is beginning their work of seeking the mind of God as to the names they will present to the congregation for election as elders and deacons for the next three years. They would very much welcome input from members of the church in that process. Forms were mailed to members last week and can also be found, along with boxes to return them, at the Welcome Center outside the church office, and in the atrium of King Hall. Forms will be accepted through Wednesday, November 7th.

As you prayerfully consider your suggestions, keep in mind that an elder is primarily called to maintain focus on the ministry of prayer and the Word of God and should be committed to and capable of seeking the mind of God for the mission and vision of this body and guiding us to fulfill that, all the while guarding the Gospel message in every aspect of our church's life, and by doing these things fulfilling their call to shepherd the flock that is the body of Christ here. A deacon should be committed to partnering with the elders, taking responsibility for certain aspects of the church's ministry entrusted to them, which primarily call for the gift of service so that the mission of our church might be advanced through that service. These are distinctly different roles that call for distinctly different gifts, exercised in both offices by spiritually mature people called and equipped by God for that particular ministry.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY GATHERINGS CONTINUE NOVEMBER 7** – Meal from 5:30 – 6:15: Provino's will cater our meal which will include Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad and Dessert. The children's menu will be Chick-fil-A Sandwiches, Chips and Dessert. The home page of our website ([www.fpcrome.org](http://www.fpcrome.org)) provides easy access to make your reservations, which are due by NOON on Monday, November 5. You may also email your reservation by that same deadline to [reservations@fpcrome.org](mailto:reservations@fpcrome.org), call the church office at 706-291-6033, use the green cards in the Sanctuary pew racks, or sign up in the back of King Hall at the Convergent Service. *We do not make standing reservations, so please make your reservations on a week-to-week basis to ensure an accurate count for our caterer.*  
Program from 6:15 – 7:15

- A Reasoned Faith: Apologetics for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Rev. Charles Looney) – Fellowship Hall
- Marriage Enrichment Small Groups (Dr. Jonathan Schwartz) – Meet in CLC Room 204
- Light, Life and Love (Phyllis Pemerton) – CLC Room 203
- Bible Zone 2/3 Year olds – Education Bldg. Room 208
- Bible Zone 4/Kinders – Education Bldg. Room 206
- Communicants (6<sup>th</sup> grade) – Education Bldg. Hardy Classroom #1
- The Summit for children 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades – Education Bldg. in God's Garden
- Junior High (6:00-7:15) – In the Crossing
- Senior High (6:00-7:15) – In the Boy Scout Room
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal (6:15-7:30)

*Cost: Adults \$7.00 – Students and Children \$3.00 (Note: Family Max is \$20.00)*

**LIGHT, LIFE AND LOVE... A STUDY OF 1<sup>ST</sup> JOHN CONTINUES** – As believers, we are born of God, we have fellowship with God, and our eternal home is with God. Yet, for now, we live in a world that is opposed to the things of God. How do we live faithfully in such a world? The Apostle John gives us beautiful insight and guidance. God is Light, God is Life, and God is Love. As we abide in Him, we overcome the world. Let's journey together through the first epistle of John and meditate on the One who is perfect Love. This class is led by Phyllis Pemerton in CLC Room 203.

**A REASONED FAITH: APOLOGETICS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY CONTINUES** – This class seeks to give an introduction to Christian Apologetics by establishing the purpose, limits, and need for the discipline. During this course, we will also address some common critiques of the faith as well as present a few classic and more modern arguments for the existence of God. This class is led by Rev. Charles Looney in the Fellowship Hall.

**ADULT SUNDAY MORNING COMMUNITIES** – Our Sunday Morning Communities continue and include six different communities. See the church website or information racks for details.

**POWER MINISTRY** – This is a great opportunity for men to serve God together on a mission trip that will change your life forever. Men from our church will be traveling to Texas to join forces with other men from across the nation to serve others in several towns along the border. Registration starts soon – Start praying about this opportunity now! Trip dates are January 10-16, January 17-23, OR we will offer a spring trip this year March 28-April 3. Most men from our area will be going one of the weeks in January but we'll have men on all trips. Contact Tim Morgan at 770-548-4909 for more information.

**CLASSIC SERVICE GREETERS** – Our friendly greeters today are Rivers Roser and Frank Brown. They volunteer often to be a blessing while blessing those who enter through the main Sanctuary doors to worship. They say the pay increases the more you serve. You, too, can be rewarded just for greeting for 15 minutes. Call Betty Carver at 706-512-4455 and tell her when you want to serve.

**"KNOWING GOD" MEN'S BIBLE STUDY TAUGHT BY REV. CHADWICK** – All men are invited to join us as we begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the study of J.I. Packer's classic work, "Knowing God", that began last spring. Two options to participate in the study will be offered:

- Monday mornings from 6:45 am – 7:45 am beginning October 29
- Wednesday afternoons from noon – 1:00 pm

Whether or not you joined us for the first part of this study, you'll be able to jump right in with us as Packer has designed the study in two distinct, but interrelated parts. If you're interested in signing up, please contact Tracy Dupree in the church office at 706-291-6033 or [tracyd@fpcrome.org](mailto:tracyd@fpcrome.org). You can also contact Rev. Chadwick to sign up or ask questions at [jeffc@fpcrome.org](mailto:jeffc@fpcrome.org).

**CALLING ALL MEN! COVENANT KEEPERS STEAK DINNER NIGHT THIS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6** – We feel very blessed to have secured Nathan Phillips with Battlefield Ministry as our key note speaker. Nathan will be addressing the topic, Cultural Masculinity and Gospel Leadership in the home. The event will begin at 6:00pm and end at 7:30pm. The cost will be \$10 per person, with Dempsey and crew back with the best Ribeyes in town! Please remember to bring a friend for Great Fellowship, Food and a Gospel message! Make your reservations by contacting the church office at [706-291-6033](tel:706-291-6033) or [info@fpcrome.org](mailto:info@fpcrome.org).

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PACKING PARTY** will be held TODAY at 12 noon until 4:00pm in King Hall on the walking track. Want to participate, but need help packing a box? Let us pack it for you! We will pack your shoeboxes for \$15, which will include the \$9 shipping donation. Place a check in the offering plate or donation box located in the atrium of the CLC building. Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church with designation for Operation Christmas Child (OCC) in the memo line. Finally, if you want to pack your own box at home, we have empty shoeboxes available in the atrium of the CLC building for you to take home to fill and bring back to church for the dedication of all boxes on Sunday, November 11. Bring joy and Jesus to a hurting child. Each box is a Gospel opportunity. Contact Carol Brown for questions at 334-803-4555.

**TIME TO CLEAN OUT THOSE WINTER COATS!** – Temperatures are beginning to cool down and with that comes digging in the closet for last year's winter coat. If you find it is too small or a little worn, we have the place to bring it. The month of October and November, we will collect gently used coats for the Salvation Army. Drop boxes will be in the CLC building. We will collect these coats on November 14 for the Salvation Army to hand out.

**VISITORS** – As a way to welcome you to First Presbyterian Church, we would like to gift you with a cross by local artist, Cabell Sweeney. You'll find your cross at the Welcome Areas (near the Welcome banners), at both Convergent and Classic Services. Connect Forms are available to let us know you have visited, request information, and to register your children in Nursery, Children, and Student Ministries.

# *Sermon Notes*



# Pray for Our Church Leaders and Missionaries

## THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Jeff Chadwick	jeffc@fpcrome.org
Pastor of Adult Discipleship Ministries	Rev. Bill Pardue	billp@fpcrome.org
Pastor of Family Ministries	Dr. Jonathan Schwartz	jonathans@fpcrome.org
Director of Student Ministries	Mr. Sonny Walker	sonnyw@fpcrome.org
Assistant Director of Student Ministries	Ms. Jordan Orr	jordans@fpcrome.org
Assistant Director of Student Ministries	Ms. Linda Oliver	lindao@fpcrome.org
Assistant Director of Student Ministries	Mr. Oscar Palin	oscarp@fpcrome.org
Assistant Director of Student Ministries	Mr. Brad Roberts	bradr@fpcrome.org
Director of Children's Ministry	Mrs. Andrea Sartorato	andreas@fpcrome.org
Director of Connections Ministry/Missions Coordinator	Mrs. Natalie Pettegrew	nataliep@fpcrome.org
Director of Classic Music Ministries	Dr. Aaron Rice	aaronr@fpcrome.org
Assistant to the Director of Classic Music Ministries	Ms. Judy Powell	1jcpowell@att.net
Choir Accompanist	Mr. Kyle Coleman	kylec@fpcrome.org
Director of Nursery Ministry	Mrs. Nell Milner	nellm@fpcrome.org
Director of Senior Adult Ministries/Visitation	Mr. Martin Foster	mfoster78@comcast.net

## THE SESSION

### CLASS OF 2019

Dr. John Cowan, Jr.  
Mr. Greg Garrett  
Mr. Ross Johnson  
Mr. Bob Ogletree  
Mr. Jarrett Shadday  
Mr. Alan Storey (Clerk of Session)  
Mr. Kenneth Studdard

### CLASS OF 2020

Mr. King Askew  
Dr. Tom Carver  
Mr. Rob Davis  
Dr. Dan Pate  
Mr. Dathan Sorrow

### CLASS OF 2021

Mr. Bill Brewster  
Dr. Paul Brock  
Mr. Frank Brown  
Dr. John Pittman  
Mr. Charlie Williams  
**Elder Emeritus:**  
Mr. Vance Luke

## THE BOARD OF DEACONS

### CLASS OF 2019

Mr. David Abernathy  
Mr. Justin Bruce  
Mr. Mark Brewster  
Mr. Ryan Earnest  
Mr. Tim Morgan, Chairman  
Mrs. Beth Tharp

### CLASS OF 2020

Mr. Tommy Atha  
Mr. Andy Garner  
Mr. Rick Gilbert  
Mr. Chick Harvey  
Mr. Nate Masters  
Dr. Jay Riley  
Mr. John Rix  
Dr. Ryland Scott  
Mr. Harris York

### CLASS OF 2021

Mr. Rodger Duncan  
Mr. Travis Hill  
Mr. Doug Holstein  
Mr. Lance Maffett  
Mr. Anthony McClain  
Mr. Roger Sartorato  
Mr. Charles Stevens

## OUR MISSIONARIES

Rev. & Mrs. Paul Branch, EPC – Guatemala  
Ms. Margaret-Elliott Czentnar, Serge – England  
Dr. Ellis Deibler, Wycliffe Bible Translators  
Rev. & Mrs. John Fain, EPC/Pioneers - SE Asia  
Mr. & Mrs. Cyrus Farmer, Cru – Germany  
Mrs. Dan Gill, Ethnos360 – Bolivia  
Rev. & Mrs. Keith Haywood, OM  
Mr. Kent Howard, FCA - Rome  
Rev. & Mrs. Guille MacKenzie, EPC – Argentina  
Mr. & Mrs. Nate Mast, Blue Sky – Kenya  
Mr. & Mrs. George Mixon, Serge – Kenya  
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Pouncy, Ethnos360  
Rev. Julian Reese, InterVarsity - UT Knoxville  
Mr. & Mrs. Raphael Sartorato, 100 Fold Studio  
Gregg & Julie Nicholson, United World Mission - Thailand

Rev. & Mrs. Robert Shaffer, Entrust – Austria  
Mr. & Mrs. Shawn Stewart, EPC  
Rev. & Mrs. Phil Thrash, EPC  
Rev. & Mrs. David Walker, EPC/OC - SE Asia  
Dr. Stephen Woodworth, EPC/ITEN  
Mr. & Mrs. Randy H., EPC/Frontiers - SE Asia  
Jesse & Bobbie - North Asia  
Mike & Stephanie K., EPC - Arab World  
Tim & Karen, EPC/SEND - Muslim World  
John & Carlene, EPC - Muslim World  
Rob & Iris, EPC/Frontiers - Muslim World  
Sean & Angie, EPC/Pioneers - Muslim World  
Stephen & Belinda, EPC - Muslim World  
Tim & Kim, EPC/Pioneers - Muslim World  
Adger & Sandra M., EPC Muslim World/Refugees

Atlanta Youth Project  
Campus Outreach - Berry College  
Casa de Alfarero - Rome, GA  
Centro Shalom - Tijuana  
Community Kitchen - Rome, GA  
EPC World Outreach  
Family Resource Center - Rome, GA  
Good Neighbor Ministries - Rome, GA  
Habitat For Humanity - Rome, GA  
Hands of Love – Bolivia  
Haven Health Clinic - Rome, GA  
Hospitality House - Rome, GA  
Power Ministry - Texas/Mexico  
Rome Action Ministries - Rome, GA  
Salvation Army - Rome, GA  
Davies Homeless Shelter - Rome, GA