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## WORSHIP SERVICE – EASTER SUNDAY

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**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC** Christian Gospel and Jazz  
Hymn #340 *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** *I Know That My Redeemer Liveth* Handel, arr. Lani Smith

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

\***HYMN #357** *Christ Arose*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God, you have called us to be conformed to the image of your Son, yet we confess how often we resist that transformation. We choose comfort over courage, self-interest over self-giving, and pride over humility. You have shown us the way of Jesus—the path of compassion, forgiveness, and sacrificial love—but we have wandered onto our own roads seeking what pleases us rather than what honors you. Forgive us, Lord. By your Spirit, renew our minds, soften our hearts, and shape our lives so that we reflect your grace. Teach us to love as Christ loves, serve as Christ serves, and forgive as Christ forgives. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen. *(Silent Confession)*

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### \*GLORIA PATRI

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* arr. Denny Ausman  
Hymn #359 (Refrain)

### PASTORAL PRAYER

**OFFERTORY - \*\*** *Jesus Loves Me* arr. David Paxton

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O resurrected Christ, we celebrate this day, the promise for all time of Your unending love! Accept these gifts of celebration – make them be celebrations for others in the world. We praise Your Holy Name! Amen.

\***HYMN #349** *O, How He Loves You and Me*

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew, 1:20-21; John 19:28-30; Luke 24:5-7; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

**MESSAGE** *All That Is Needed* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles’ Creed (Unison)

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 on 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.

**COMMUNION AND HYMN** *Freely, Freely*

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD’S PRAYER *(debts/debtors)*

\***HYMN** *In Christ Alone* Keith Getty/Stuart Townend

### \*BENEDICTION

\***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #10** *Majesty*

**POSTLUDE** *Hallelujah Chorus* G. F. Handel

\*Please stand, if able

\*\*You may give securely online at [www.fpcpunta.org](http://www.fpcpunta.org)  
Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth  
CCLI #1140231 CVLI #505541137

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## MINISTRY OF PRAYER

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### *Prayer Focus*

- Pray for those who serve in the military and their families.
- Pray for First Responders and Healthcare Workers.
- Pray for our church as we seek to be a flourishing church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Pray for Lisa and Clever Alfonsi, Eric and Debbie Stone, and Chasen and Katie Brokaw, missionaries we support in Peru, Guatemala, and Nicaragua.
- Pray for Crossroads, the mission for foster boys in Punta Gorda.
- Pray for Ground Up Ministries, a ministry for human trafficking in Florida.
- Pray for Jesus Loves You Ministry for the homeless in Charlotte County.
- Pray for Misión Peniel, the mission that we support in Immokalee.
- Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.

### *Those who Grieve*

Pray for Linda Wagar and family, whose husband Richard went home to the Lord on March 16th. A Celebration of Life Service and Reception will be held on Saturday, May 23rd at 10:00am.

### *Those with Special Needs*

Rachel Pfaender	Phyllis Ehrhardt	Rick Berner
Lynn Lang	Ron Sixt	Dave Sifferd

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## NOTES

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**PRAYER EMAIL LIST** – If you would like to be on Pastor Barksdale’s prayer email list, email Pastor Barksdale at [bmpullen3@fpcpunta.org](mailto:bmpullen3@fpcpunta.org).

**PRAYER REQUESTS** – Email your praise or petition to [first@fpcpunta.org](mailto:first@fpcpunta.org). Indicate if your prayer is for the Pastor only, church email prayer list, or prayer team on Sundays – or all of the above.

**FLOWERS** – The flowers are given by Barbara Reynolds to the Glory of God.

**CELL PHONES** – Please remember to silence or turn off your mobile devices.

**APRIL NEWSLETTER** – Available in the church foyer and on our website.

**CHURCH DIRECTORIES** – Available in the church office.

**FLOWERS** – May be sponsored for **\$37.50**. To make a donation, sign up in the church foyer, listing the flowers in honor and/or in memory of something or someone.

**BULLETIN BOARD** – Check out notes and messages of interest on the Bulletin Board in the church foyer.

**OUR DAILY BREAD** – This booklet of daily devotionals is on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.

**STREAMING MINISTRY** – Live stream our services on our website homepage ([fpcpunta.org](http://fpcpunta.org)) by clicking the logo **YouTube**.

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** – Following the Worship Service, join us in Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and refreshments. You may bring cookies / treats to share!

### *Comparative Financial Operations / Performance*

	<u>February 2026</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Tithes & Offerings	\$21,549.17	\$44,050.36
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$20,872.61</u>	<u>\$41,971.85</u>
Net	\$676.56	\$2,078.51

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## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AND NOTES

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**GATHER FOR PRAYER** – A prayer meeting is held Sundays at 6pm ([FaceBook](https://www.facebook.com/fpcpunta.org) online). Please submit any prayer requests to [first@fpcpunta.org](mailto:first@fpcpunta.org).

**ST. VINCENT FOOD DRIVE – March 29th to April 12th** -- Bring any non-perishable food item to Fellowship Hall.

**MISIÓN PENIEL** – Our next trip to Immokalee is **Friday, April 24th, 12:30pm**. Please meet at our church. We need 12 people to sign up in the church foyer.

**LAWNMOWER** - If you would like to make a donation towards a used mower, please mark “mower” in the memo line. Thanks!

**SANCTUARY CROSS** -- *The Colors of the Cross are a symbolic depiction of the Easter season. For the beginning of the Lenten Season the cross is draped in purple. The purple cloth remains from Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday - representing royalty - the King of kings has come. The black cloth remains on the cross from Good Friday through Saturday - representing His death. The white cloth is placed on Easter Sunday - representing His resurrection - His victory over sin, death and Satan.*

### ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

**PEACE RIVER BOTANICAL GARDENS** – Monday, April 6th, 10:00am. Sign up to meet us at the Gardens for the “Origami in the Garden” event. The cost is **\$18.00**.

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** – Tuesday, April 7th, at 10:00am – Our study is: “Heaven – When Faith Becomes Sight” (Lesson 4) by Jennifer Rothschild. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall. All ladies are welcome! See Kathy Belville for more information.

**DONUTS & DOCTRINE** – Wednesday, April 8th, at 10:00am – the book of *Nehemiah*. Nehemiah was a layman, not a priest like Ezra nor a prophet like Malachi. He served the Persian king in a secular position before leading a group of Jews to Jerusalem in order to rebuild the city walls. Everyone is welcome.

**LADIES CARDS FELLOWSHIP** – Thursday, April 9th, at 10:00am -- All ladies are welcome to join us Thursdays for cards and conversation.

**PULLEN UP A CHAIR** – April 15th at 5:00pm - Barksdale and Bo will host get-together dinners for groups of eight at their home. No agenda, lesson, or study, just a time for fellowship. Sign up in the church foyer or call/email the church office.

**LADIES LUNCH BUNCH** – Friday, April 17th, 11:30am – Sign up for Wally’s BBQ in Port Charlotte. All ladies welcome!

**BURGERS FOR BADGES** – Monday, April 20th from 11:00am – 1:00pm – Help us show our appreciation to our local and retired First Responders as we grill out hamburgers and hotdogs. Sign up in the church foyer to bring cookies or desserts. If you would like to attend and thank our First Responders, please sign up (suggested donation of \$5.00 for members). To make a donation to support this event, please designate as “B4B”.

**MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES**

**DISASTER RELIEF SUPPORT** – Our trusted partners at World Renew are ECO’s go-to resource for long-term disaster relief.

<https://worldrenew.net/disaster-response-services-us/disaster-response-services>

**JESUS LOVES YOU MINISTRY SHOWER MINISTRY** – (Wednesday mornings in our parking lot) – Please place “shower” items on the table in Fellowship Hall.

**MISSIONS SUPPORT** – If you would like to donate to the missionaries and organizations that we are supporting in 2025 in our church budget, please make checks payable to FPC and on the memo line write the name of the mission.

Antioch Partners – Stone Family (Guatemala) or Lisa Alfonsi (Peru)

Crossroads Hope Academy (Punta Gorda)

Ground Up Ministries (Cape Coral) Jesus Loves You Ministry (Port Charlotte)

Misión Peniel (Immokalee)

Missionary Ventures (Chasen & Katie Brokaw – Nicaragua)

**STAND IN THE GAP FUND** – The purpose of this fund is to assist supported missionaries and ministries of our church, when they face unexpected financial burdens. To donate to this fund, please mark your gift as SITG.

**EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

**April 5 – April 12**

<b>Sunday, April 5</b>	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>
	<b>Communion Sunday</b>
10:30am	<b>Worship Service (Also Online)</b>
11:30am	Fellowship Time
<b>Monday, April 6</b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
10:00am	Peace River Botanical Gardens Tour
5:00pm	Mission Team Dessert with Brokaws
<b>Tuesday, April 7</b>	
10:00am	Women’s Bible Study
1:00pm	Fellowship Team
<b>Wednesday, April 8</b>	
10:00am	Donuts & Doctrine
10:00am	Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry
<b>Thursday, April 9</b>	
10:00am	Ladies Cards Fellowship
<b>Sunday, April 12</b>	
10:30am	<b>Worship Service (Also Online)</b>
11:30am	Fellowship Time
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting-FB

**First Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda**  
 Member of ECO (A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians)  
 25250 Airport Road Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
 941-639-1959 (phone) 941-637-3763 (fax)  
 Email: [first@fpcpunta.org](mailto:first@fpcpunta.org) Website: [fpcpunta.org](http://fpcpunta.org)  
 Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday  
 (and by appointment)

**SERMON NOTES**

**Matthew 1:20-21**

But as he (Joseph) considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

**John 19:28-30**

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Luke 24:5-7**

And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4**

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.



**Loving...Growing...Going...in Jesus!**

*This morning as we join in worship, our hope is that each of us will find renewed life, health and strength in God as we lift our hearts and voices in praise.*

*We are glad to welcome each guest and friend, and that you have chosen to worship God with this congregation.*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** (details to follow)

- March 29th to April 12th – St. Vincent Food Drive
- April 6th – Peace River Botanical Gardens Outing, 10:00am
- April 15th – Pullen Up a Chair
- April 20th - Burgers For Badges, 11:00am – 1:00pm
- May 10th – Mother’s Day
- June 17th – Church Picnic at Ponce de Leon Park, 5:00pm
- June 21st – Father’s Day
- July 15th – Christmas in July Supper & Movie, 5:00pm

<b>April 5, 2026</b>	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
<b>PASTOR</b>		Dr. Barksdale Pullen
<b>ORGANIST</b>		Denny Ausman
<b>OFFICE &amp; WORSHIP ADMIN</b>		Debbie Rostad
<b>LITURGIST</b>		Bev Brady
<b>USHERS</b>	Marjorie Haun, Billie Sixt, Patti MacDonald, Sam Cessna	
<b>A/V TECH</b>	George Fallenbeck, Jim Nuznoff, Gene McPherson	