
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Hymn Sing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Variations on Hyfrydol* Benton Price

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Ernie & DeAnn Lehman
*First Candle symbolizes **Hope** and is called the “Prophecy Candle”*

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We come from a world of darkness

All: Into Christ’s world of light.

Pastor: We come from a world of weariness

All: Into God’s strength and hope.

Pastor: We come from a slumbering world.

*All: Strengthened by the Spirit, we come to awaken our souls
and watch for the coming of Christ.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INTROIT *Come to the Light* Joseph Martin
Chancel Choir

***HYMN #244** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Nicene Creed (Unison)

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI #813

ANTHEM *Waiting for the Promise* Lloyd Larson
Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER (*debt/debtors*)

OFFERTORY *O Jesulein Süß* Georg Friedrich Kauffmann

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We give our gifts in love and thanksgiving for all that we have been given. Let our giving, gracious God, be not the end point but rather the beginning. Let our gifts of love and gratitude travel where we do not, making pathways of hope where there is none. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #245** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:1-7

MESSAGE *Hope* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

***HYMN #247** *Let’s Worship and Adore Him*

*BENEDICTION

***RESPONSE #425** *Bind Us Together*

POSTLUDE *Rejoice Greatly in the Lord* Rex Koury

*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth
CCLI #1140231 CVLI #5043864

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

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 Alfonsi and Eric Stone family, missionaries we support in Peru and Guatemala.
- Pray for Crossroads, the mission for foster boys in Punta Gorda.
- 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 Chasen and Katie Brokaw, missionaries we support in Nicaragua.
- Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.

Those with Special Needs

Rachel Pfaender	Kay Callahan	Phyllis Ehrhardt	Dave Sifferd
Lynn Lang	Ron Sixt	Rick Berner	Jack Rothley
Irene Csontos	Barb Harris		

Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

Marion Brown, Royal Palm

NOTES

NEW MEMBERS – Today we welcome Matthew and Maria Greene, Andy and Katie Schulte, and Richard and Linda Wagar as new Covenant Partners.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS – *Advent Devotionals are available in the church foyer.*

NEW NAME TAGS – If you would like a name tag with magnets, please write your name on the sheet. Thanks!

FLOWERS – The flowers are given by Bruce Peters in memory of Myrna.

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

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY – 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.

PRAYER EMAIL LIST – If you would like to be on Pastor Barksdale’s prayer email list, email Pastor Barksdale at bmpullen3@fpcpunta.org.

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) by clicking the logo *vimeo livestream*.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS – *Next class will be January 29, 2023* -- We will have a one class introduction to FPC. If you are interested in joining the church, or just finding out more information about FPC, please join us.

PLEDGE CARD – If you haven’t returned your pledge card for 2023, please do so as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary or in the church foyer. Thank you.

YEAR-END GIVING – To make sure your giving for 2022 gets credited for 2022, please have your offering/gift to the church before December 31, 2022. Any donations received after that date will be applied to one’s 2023 giving. For gifts of stock, please call the church office.

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!

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

GATHER FOR PRAYER – **A prayer meeting is held Sundays at 6pm online.** Please submit any prayer requests to first@fpcpunta.org.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY – A new ministry team has been formed that will be responsible for the planning and serving of the receptions that follow Memorial Services. Joan Hoffman is the Chairperson. If you are interested in helping her, please sign up in the church foyer. This is a good opportunity for someone to be involved with a simple ministry but also a much appreciated one.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA – Remember a loved one this Christmas by giving a poinsettia to help decorate the church. Suggested donation is \$7 per poinsettia. Special envelopes are on the table in the back of the sanctuary. **Please return your envelope by Monday, December 12th** in order to be listed in a special bulletin insert.

TOYS FOR TOTS -- We are helping the Marine Corps Reserve celebrate their 75th Anniversary of *Toys for Tots*. Please bring an unwrapped gift, for infants up to teenagers and place in the special box. Let’s bring smiles to many children this Christmas. **We will collect gifts until December 13th.**

CHRISTMAS OFFERING – This year’s Christmas Offering will be used for Gift Cards for the Veterans Village and Christmas gifts for the children of Misión Peniel. Please use the Christmas Envelope in your Envelope Box or a Pew Envelope.

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

DONUTS AND DOCTRINE WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – *Resumes in January.*

LUNCH ‘N’ LEARN – *This Wednesday, November 30th, 12:00pm* – Presented by the Sheriff’s Department on “Scams & Crimes Pulled on Seniors”. Sub sandwiches will be provided. There will be a \$5.00/person donation. Please sign up in the church foyer.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – *This Friday, December 2nd, 12:00pm* – Join us for lunch at Olive Garden in Port Charlotte. Please sign up. **All ladies are invited!**

CONCERT SERIES – *Next Sunday, December 4th at 3:00pm* – Our next concert is *The Two Piano Group*. Come hear their mix of contemporary and traditional favorites, plus new and innovative ones. A free will offering will be taken – suggested donation is \$15.00. Christmas cookies will be served following the concert.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY – *Tuesday, December 6th at 10:00am* with Lesson 13 (James 3:5-8 “Taming the Tongue” of *Growing in Wisdom & Faith, a study of James* by Elizabeth George from her “A Woman After God’s Own Heart” series. Call Kathy Belville at 508-733-0546 for more information. **All women are invited for study, fellowship, and refreshments.**

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR RON GENSEMER – *Wednesday, December 7th at 2:00pm* – A Celebration of Life Service for Ron Gensemer will be held in our Sanctuary.

BABY SHOWER FOR MISSIONARIES KATIE AND CHASEN BROKAW – *Thursday, December 8th at 2:00pm by ZOOM* -- Due to shipping issues, we are asking for financial donations and a card instead of gifts. Katie will then be able to get the things she needs. Please sign up in the church foyer.

SERVING IN IMMOKALEE – *Friday, December 9th, 11:00am – 1:00pm* – FPC has an opportunity to serve the workers in Immokalee handing out groceries. If you are interested, please sign up in the church foyer.

CHRISTMAS DINNER – *Wednesday, December 14th at 5:00pm* – Turkey and ham will be provided. Please sign up in the church foyer to bring a side dish or dessert. We will have music. Join us for our annual Christmas Dinner.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA – *Sunday, December 18th, during the Worship Service*, the Chancel Choir will present “*Tapestry of Light*” by Joseph Martin.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE – *Saturday, December 24th, 5:00PM.*

CHRISTMAS DAY BREAKFAST – *Sunday, December 25th, 9:30am.* You are welcome to join us for breakfast on Christmas morning and stay for our Worship Service at 10:30am. Please sign up in the church foyer, starting December 4th.

MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

HURRICANE IAN RELIEF: For those wanting to help those in need, you may support relief agencies that are doing work here. One serving locally in Punta Gorda, Englewood, and Fort Myers is Samaritan's Purse (<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/>).

JESUS LOVES YOU MINISTRY SPECIAL NEEDS –

Shower Ministry (Wednesday mornings in our parking lot) – Please place “shower” items in the donation box in Fellowship Hall.

Shower Ministry “Lunches” – Please consider a financial donation to support the lunches that we provide weekly for the Shower Ministry. (mark as “lunches”)

MISSIONS SUPPORT – If you would like to donate to the missionaries and organizations that we are supporting in 2022 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)

Jesus Loves You Ministry (Port Charlotte)

Misión Peniel (Immokalee)

Missionary Ventures (Chasen & Katie Brokaw – Nicaragua)

EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

November 27th to December 4th

Sunday, November 27

**First Sunday in Advent
New Member Sunday**

10:15am Hymn Sing
10:30am Worship Service
11:30am Fellowship Time
6:00pm Prayer Meeting – FaceBook

Wednesday, November 30

10:00am Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry
12:00pm Lunch & Learn

Thursday, December 1

10:00am Game Fellowship
4:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 2

12:00pm Ladies Lunch Bunch

Sunday, December 4

**Second Sunday in Advent
Communion Sunday**

10:30am Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am Fellowship Time
3:00pm Concert Series – The Two Piano Group
6:00pm Prayer Meeting – FaceBook

SERMON NOTES

Isaiah 9:1-7

¹ But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.



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.

We are glad to welcome each guest and friend, and that you have chosen to hear God's call with this congregation.

First Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda

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941-637-3763 (fax)

Email: first@fpcpunta.org

Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday

Website: fpcpunta.org

November 27, 2022

10:30am

PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN
LITURGIST
USHERS

Dr. Barksdale Pullen
Joan Byron
Denny Ausman
Debbie Rostad
Dave Sifferd

Sharon Albright, Kathy Belville, Roy Belville, Billie Sixt