
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Spiritualls

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *The Penitent Heart* Esther S. Higgins

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP – *Salvation By Grace* Hymn #524
from John 1:17; Ephesians 2:4-9; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7 (NASB)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INTROIT *To God Be the Glory* Wm. Doane/Mary McDonald
Chancel Choir

***HYMN #431** *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

*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

ANTHEM *Portrait of Grace* Joseph M. Martin
Chancel Choir

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

OFFERTORY *Bring Your Thanks to God* Paul Taylor

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Accept these gifts we offer, gracious God. We dedicate this offering to You, the giver of all good gifts, and pray that it would be a scattering of seeds in good and fertile soil. Use both the work of our hands and the giving of our resources, so that the gospel may bloom and its roots grow deep, both in this place, and throughout the world. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

***HYMN #705** *It Is Well with My Soul*

SCRIPTURE Acts 4:1-31

MESSAGE *Boldness* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

***HYMN #572** *Blessed Assurance*

*BENEDICTION

***RESPONSE** *Peace, God’s Wonderful Peace* William M. Runyan
Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name* Tom Birchwood

*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth
CCLI #1140231 CVLI #505465757

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, Eric Stone family, 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 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 the family of Barbara Harris, who went home to the Lord on November 25, 2023.

Those with Special Needs

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

Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

Marion Brown - *Life Care, Punta Gorda*

NOTES

FLOWERS – The flowers are given today to the Glory of God.

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

FEBRUARY 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.

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 **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

	January 2024	Year-to-Date
Tithes & Offerings	\$24,546.16	\$24,546.16
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$25,270.68</u>	<u>\$25,270.68</u>
Net	(\$724.52)	(\$724.52)

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

CHANCEL CHOIR – Singers are needed to balance out our church choir. Rehearsals are one hour long on Thursday and before services on Sunday. We sing from October through May. Call Joan Byron at 941-661-1553 or see her after services on Sunday. **Come and join us in the pleasures of singing praises to God.**

DEACON’S FUND OFFERING TODAY – Our monthly collection supports our efforts to help congregation needs, emergency needs, Misión Peniel devotionals, and others.

SEASON OF LENT DEVOTIONALS – We have devotionals for you to choose from in the church foyer to help you prepare for Holy Week (**March 24 – March 30**).

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 on the cross 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 the cross Easter Sunday representing His resurrection – His victory over sin, death and Satan.

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES – THIS AFTERNOON at 3:00pm – The Goldtones. Tickets are available in the church office and at the door.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY – Tuesday, February 20th at 10:00am – “Chasing the ‘Little Foxes’” – Esther 3:1-6. Join us for our study of “Esther”, based on “*Becoming a Woman of Beauty & Strength*” by Elizabeth George. We meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month in Fellowship Hall. Call Kathy Belville at 508-733-0546 for more information. **All women are invited for study, fellowship, and refreshments.**

DONUTS & DOCTRINE – Wednesday, February 21st at 10:00am. The book of Daniel is a favorite for Sunday school teachers and students alike. And for good reason. It has all the makings of a great story—memorable characters, cliff-hanger drama, and science fiction–like visions. Yet therein lies a potential danger. Because the human actors and events are so fascinating, we are tempted when studying this book to fix our gaze on the human plane. But when this happens, we can inadvertently lose sight of the fact that this book is ultimately not about Daniel or his three friends, but about God and his victory in the world. Sure, the book of Daniel tells Daniel’s story—and a fascinating and instructive story it is. But the main purpose of Daniel is to reveal to us who God is—his character, his purposes, his way of working in the world for the good of his people. The main lesson of Daniel, then, is not, as is often assumed (and taught!), *Dare to be a Daniel!* Rather, the main point is this: *Dare to trust in Daniel’s God! All are welcome!*

CHURCH WORK DAY - Join us **Thursday, February 22nd from 9:00 - 11:00am** for various projects around the church: Garage Clean Out, shrubbery trimming, parking lot striping, etc. Sign up in the church foyer.

MISIÓN PENIEL – Our next trip to Immokalee is **Friday, February 23rd** – we will help at the Mission in the afternoon. Please meet at the church at 12:15pm. We will return about 8-9pm. *We need 12 people to go*, so please sign up in the church foyer.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – Friday, March 1st, 12:00pm – Please sign up and join us for lunch at Olive Garden, Port Charlotte. **All ladies are invited!**

PULLEN UP A CHAIR – Wednesday, March 6th at 5:00pm. Barksdale and Bo host get-together dinners at their home for groups of eight. You can sign up in the church foyer, or call/email the church office to reserve a night. There is no agenda, lesson, or study; just a time to get together for fellowship and to learn more about one another.

ST. PATRICK’S DAY DINNER – Wednesday, March 20th, 5:00pm – Plan now to attend our annual St. Patrick’s Day Dinner with corned beef and cabbage and fixings, along with “green” desserts. Nancy Smith will play piano, and we will sing Irish songs. Pastor Barksdale will do a trivia game. Suggested donation is \$7.00. Sign up in the church foyer.

MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

DISASTER RELIEF SUPPORT – A reminder that 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 SPECIAL NEEDS – Shower Ministry (Wednesday mornings in our parking lot) – Please place “shower” items in the donation box in Fellowship Hall.

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)

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

February 18th to February 25th

Sunday, February 18

10:30am
11:30am
3:00pm
6:00pm

First Sunday in Lent
Deacon’s Fund Sunday
Worship Service (Also Online)
Fellowship Time
Concert Series – The Goldtones
Prayer Meeting-FB

Monday, February 19

2:00pm

Session

Tuesday, February 20

10:00am

Women’s Bible Study

Wednesday, February 21

10:00am
10:00am

Donuts & Doctrine
Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry

Thursday, February 22

10:00am
3:30pm

Game Fellowship
Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, February 25

10:15am
10:30am
11:30am
6:00pm

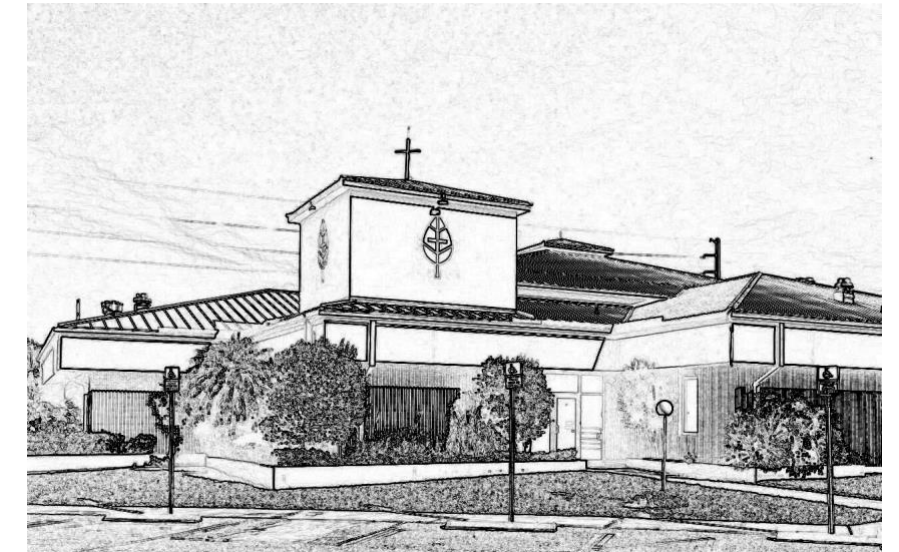
Second Sunday in Lent
Hymn Sing
Worship Service (Also Online)
Fellowship Time
Prayer Meeting-FB

First Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda
25250 Airport Road Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941-639-1959 (phone) 941-637-3763 (fax)
Email: first@fpcpunta.org Website: fpcpunta.org
Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday

SERMON NOTES

Acts 4:1-31

¹And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. ⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” ¹³Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. ¹⁴But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. ¹⁵But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, ¹⁶saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. ¹⁷But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” ¹⁸So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, ²⁰for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” ²¹And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. ²²For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old. ²³When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, “‘Why did the Gentiles rage and the peoples plot in vain? ²⁶The kings of the earth set themselves and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’— ²⁷for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” ³¹And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.



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.

February 18, 2024

10:30am

PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN
LITURGIST
USHERS

Dr. Barksdale Pullen
Joan Byron
Denny Ausman
Debbie Rostad
John Evans

Marjorie Haun, Katie Schulte, Andy Schulte, Linda Wagar