
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Classical Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Autumn Zephyrs Roy E. Nolte

CALL TO WORSHIP**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

***HYMN #215** When Morning Gilds the Skies

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Father in heaven, have mercy on us. We are sinful, prideful, selfish people. We spend so much time looking out for ourselves, trampling on the people closest to us as a result. We have broken our relationships with friends, with our children, with our spouses. Oh, how desperately we need a Savior! Break our hearts and teach them how to love again. Help us not to fear love, but to love courageously. Forgive us for failing. Thank You for picking us up and restoring us. We trust You and love You. In Your holy name, Amen. *(Silent Confession)*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE**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.

GLORIA PATRI*PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER** *(debt/debtors)*

OFFERTORY Jesus, Dear Savior Rex Koury

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Father, these gifts we bring are our expression of our thanks for who You are and what You mean to us. As we present them to You, we also commit ourselves to love and serve You with grateful hearts, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

***HYMN #548** As the Deer

SCRIPTURE Matthew 4:12-17

MESSAGE Matthew - The King has Come Pastor Barksdale Pullen

COMMUNION HYMN Let Us Break Bread Together

COMMUNION

***HYMN #436** Freely, Freely

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE #232** God Be with You (vs. 2)

POSTLUDE Rigaudon Jean-Baptiste Lully

*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #50542933

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 those who are still recovering from Hurricane Ian.
- 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 with Special Needs

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

Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

Marion Brown, Truewood by Merrill, Port Charlotte

NOTES

FLOWERS – The flowers are given today by Larrie and Marjorie Tisdale in celebration of their 63rd wedding anniversary on October 3rd.

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

OCTOBER 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

	August 2023	Year-to-Date
*Tithes & Offerings	\$13,789.43	\$195,015.59
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$21,919.86</u>	<u>\$183,633.71</u>
Net	(\$8,130.43)	\$ 11,381.88

*The YTD amount includes \$20,700 in fulfilled annual pledges given in January

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

HURRICANE SEASON – We are in the heart of hurricane season and wanted to remind everyone that if a storm is in the area, please don't travel if you are not comfortable, join us online. Also, we have a text messaging system to notify members if Services/Events are canceled. If you do not want to receive a text message, please notify the church office. **Please note: You cannot reply to these text messages.**

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS – **Sunday, October 29th at 9:15am**. If you are interested in joining the church, or just finding out more information about FPC, please join us for a one class introduction to FPC. (For Seasonal Residents, we have an Affiliate Membership, so you can maintain your Membership back home.)

BIBLE READING PLAN – In our church wide chronological reading of the Bible – Walking Thru the Bible – I want to encourage those of you that may have stopped to pick it back up. We have just started the New Testament; so set a personal goal to finish out 2023 reading the New Testament. Reading guides and Bibles are on the Church Information Table.

FALL MISSION PROJECT – Through mid-November we will collect Bath Towels (white) and Jeans (Sizes 30-36) for **Jesus Loves You Ministry**. You may bring in these items OR you may donate to this cause. Use the Special Gifting or Pew envelopes. Thank you for your generosity.

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – **Tuesday, October 3rd at 10:00am**. Join us for an introduction to our new study on the Bible book 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 AND DOCTRINE BIBLE STUDY – **Wednesday, October 4th, at 10:00am**. We continue our study of Mark. Mark is written primarily to Gentiles, and the ultimate purpose and theme of Mark's Gospel is to present and defend Jesus' universal call to discipleship.

PULLEN UP A CHAIR – **Wednesday, October 4th at 5:00pm**. Barksdale and Bo host a get-together dinner at their home. This will be in groups of eight, and you can sign up in the church foyer, or call/email the church office. There is no agenda, lesson, or study; just a time to get together for fellowship and to learn more about one another.

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS – **Thursdays at 4:30pm**. Rehearsals last about an hour. If you love to sing, please join us for rehearsals on Thursdays and church services on Sunday mornings. The choir begins singing anthems on October 8th. Call Joan Byron at 941-661-1553 for more information.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – **Friday, October 6th, 12:00pm** – Please sign up and join us for lunch at Riviera's Restaurant in Punta Gorda. **All ladies are invited!**

BURGERS FOR BADGES – **Monday, October 16th, 11:00am – 1:00pm** – Help us show our appreciation to our Sheriff's Department as we grill out hamburgers and hotdogs. Have lunch with us in Fellowship Hall and say thank-you to our local first responders. Sign up in the church foyer for a shift – see the sign-up sheet for specific jobs. **If you would like to make a donation to help defray the costs of this outreach event, please designate it as "B4B".**

ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES for 2023-2024 is set. The Season Brochure is available in the church foyer or on our website www.fpcpunta.org under Ministries / Concert Series. **The first concert is Sunday, November 19th at 3:00pm, featuring the Barefoot Trio.**

PUNTA GORDA CHRISTMAS TRADITION - Join us for a tour of the residential canals in Punta Gorda to view Christmas lights, displays and decorations on homes, boats, seawalls and docks. The cost is \$27/person. We will gather at 6:30pm on Friday, December 15th at the Pier at Fishermen's Village. 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)

EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

October 1st to October 8th

Sunday, October 1

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

Communion Sunday

Worship Service (Also Online)
Fellowship Time
Prayer Meeting (FaceBook)

Monday, October 2

1:00pm

Worship Team

Tuesday, October 3

10:00am
1:00pm

Women’s Bible Study
Fellowship Team

Wednesday, October 4

10:00am
10:00am
5:00pm

Donuts & Doctrine
Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry
Pullen Up a Chair

Thursday, October 5

10:00am
4:30pm

Game Fellowship
Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 6

12:00pm

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Sunday, October 8

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

Worship Service (Also Online)
Fellowship Time
Prayer Meeting (FaceBook)

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

Matthew 4:12-17

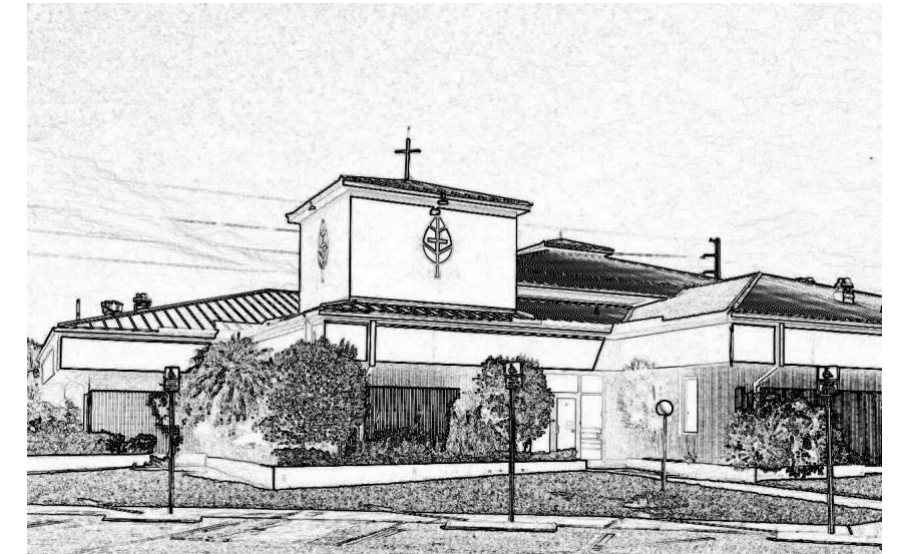
¹² Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³ And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶ the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Bible Readings

October 1 John 5:1-47
Mark 2:23-28; 3:1-6
Matthew 12:1-21
Luke 6:1-11
October 2 Mark 3:7-19
Luke 6:12-36
Matthew 5:1-48; 6:1-4
October 3 Matthew 6:5-7:29
Luke 6:37-49
October 4 Matthew 8:5-13; 11:1-30
Luke 7:1-50
October 5 Luke 8:1-3; 8:19-21; 8:4-8
Mark 3:20-35; 4:1-20
Matthew 12:22-50; 13:1-9
October 6 Matthew 13:10-52; 8:23-27
Luke 8:9-18; 8:22-25
Mark 4:21-41
October 7 Mark 5:1-43
Matthew 8:28-34; 9:18-26
Luke 8:26-56



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.

October 1, 2023

10:30am

PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN
LITURGIST
USHERS

Dr. Barksdale Pullen
Joan Byron
Denny Ausman
Debbie Rostad
Sam Cessna

Kathy Belville, Roy Belville, Bev Brady, Patti MacDonald