
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Hymn Sing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

O Jesu, So Sweet

Franklin Ritter

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Colossians 1, Philemon 2, Revelation 19)

Worship Leader: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him.

Everyone: He is King of kings and Lord of lords!

Worship Leader: He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy.

Everyone: He is King of kings and Lord of lords!

Worship Leader: Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name.

Everyone: He is King of kings and Lord of lords!

Worship Leader: At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

Everyone: He is King of kings and Lord of lords!

Worship Leader: And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

Everyone: HE IS KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN #43

All Hail the power of Jesus' Name

*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

SPECIAL MUSIC

How Great Thou Art

Joshua Shenkle and Denny Ausman

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

OFFERTORY - **

I'd Rather Have Jesus

Rhea Miller/George Beverly Shea

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Our gracious Lord, we stand before You as a living offering. You shower us with blessings, all free and totally undeserved. Bless us and use us as instruments for Your will. Bless, too, these financial gifts to Your holy purpose. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*HYMN #314

What Wondrous Love Is This

SCRIPTURE

John 11:17-27; 38-44; 12:1-12

MESSAGE

Setting the Stage

Pastor Barksdale Pullen

*HYMN #210

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #656

Take Time to Be Holy (vs. 2)

POSTLUDE

Marche Jubilant

Robert W. Thygerson

*Please stand, if able

**You may give securely online at www.fpcpunta.org

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #505541137

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 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.

Those with Special Needs

Rachel Pfaender

Phyllis Ehrhardt

Rick Berner

Lynn Lang

Ron Sixt

Dave Sifferd

NOTES

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

PRAYER REQUESTS – Email your praise or petition to 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 Billie and Ron Sixt in celebration of their 62nd wedding anniversary.

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

MARCH 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) 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

	February 2026	Year-to-Date
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

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AND NOTES

GATHER FOR PRAYER – A prayer meeting is held Sundays at 6pm (FaceBook online). Please submit any prayer requests to 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, March 27th, 12:30pm**. Please meet at our church. We need 12 people to sign up in the church foyer.

SERMON ON THE SAND – Pastor Barksdale delivers the message on **Sunday, April 12th at 8:00am at Fishermen's Village**.

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.*

EASTER LILIES FOR EASTER SUNDAY - *You may donate one in remembrance or honor of a loved one. The cost per lily is \$7.00. Special envelopes can be found in the back of the Sanctuary or foyer. Please return by Monday, March 30th.*

LIVING CROSS FOR EASTER SUNDAY - *Please bring flowers and greenery for the "living cross" which will be presented on Easter morning. Please bring both flowers and greenery on Saturday, April 4th, at 9:00am. Also, please sign up in the foyer to help with the cross.*

EASTER POSTCARD – Pick up an Easter Postcard in the church foyer and invite a neighbor to church Easter Week.

CHOIR OPPORTUNITY – *If you would like to sing in a choir once a month in our worship service starting in September, please sign up in the foyer or let Denny know.*

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

DONUTS & DOCTRINE – **Wednesday, March 25th, at 10:00am** – Join us as we begin a study on Holy Week. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday (March 29) and goes through Easter Sunday (April 5). In the Biblical account, significant activities happen every day that week. Come and explore the week with us on Wednesdays in March as we prepare to celebrate Easter (April 5). Everyone is welcome.

LUNCH 'N' LEARN – **Wednesday, March 25th, Noon** – Detective Chris Farley from the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office will give a presentation on the latest Senior Scams. Sign up in the church foyer.

LADIES CARDS FELLOWSHIP – **Thursday, March 26th, at 10:00am** -- All ladies are welcome to join us Thursdays for cards and conversation.

PALM SUNDAY CONCERT – **Sunday, March 29th, 3:00pm**. "Great Christian Music Remembered" by Joshua Shenkle, retired NY Opera singer, James McDuffy, Gospel recording artist, and Denny and Minty Ausman. *No tickets needed -- Just come and enjoy the music in our Sanctuary!*

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.

PULLEN UP A CHAIR – **April 15th at 5:00pm** - Barksdale and Bo will host get-together dinners for groups of eight at their home. There is no agenda, lesson, or study, just a time to get together 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 – **April 20th from 11:00am – 1:00pm** – *Save the Date!*

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

March 22 – March 29

Sunday, March 22

10:15am

10:30am

11:30am

6:00pm

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Hymn Sing

Worship Service (Also Online)

Fellowship Time

Prayer Meeting-FB

Wednesday, March 25

10:00am

10:00am

12:00pm

Donuts & Doctrine

Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry

Lunch ‘n’ Learn

Thursday, March 26

10:00am

Ladies Cards Fellowship

Friday, March 27

12:30pm

Mission Trip to Immokalee

Sunday, March 29

10:30am

11:30am

3:00pm

6:00pm

PALM SUNDAY

Worship Service (Also Online)

Fellowship Time

Palm Sunday Concert

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 Website: fpcpunta.org
 Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday
 (and by appointment)

SERMON NOTES

John 11:17-27; 38-44; 12:1-12

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus’ honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. “Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.” Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him. The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS (details to follow)

March 29th to April 12th – St. Vincent Food Drive

March 29th – Palm Sunday

March 29th – Palm Sunday Concert, 3:00pm

April 2nd – Maundy Thursday Service, 5:00pm

April 3rd – Good Friday Service, Noon

April 4th – Living Cross, 9:00am

April 5th – Easter Sunday

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



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.

March 22, 2026

10:30am

PASTOR
ORGANIST
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN
LITURGIST
USHERS
A/V TECH

Dr. Barksdale Pullen
 Denny Ausman
 Debbie Rostad
 Bev Brady
 Kathy Belville, Roy Belville, Patti MacDonald, Sam Cessna
 George Fallenbeck, Jim Nuznoff, Gene McPherson