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## REFORMATION DAY SERVICE

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**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC** Hymn Festival led by Gail Thornton

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *How Firm a Foundation* Edward Broughton

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

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**INTROIT** *O Jesus, Sweet Jesus* George F. Root  
Chancel Choir

**\*HYMN #214** *He Has Made Me Glad*

**\*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**

**ANTHEM** *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* Dale Wood  
Chancel Choir

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

**OFFERTORY** *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now* Melchior Vulpus

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Lord God, who has given to us so many gifts, Your generosity is sometimes even more than we can comprehend. We praise You for all Your loving gifts. Now we bring to You our gifts and our lives, dedicating them to You for service and ministry. May all that we do show to the world Your great love for all humankind. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN #406** *Wonderful Words of Life*

**SCRIPTURE** John 11:17-27

**MESSAGE** *Believe* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

**\*HYMN #151** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE #695** *Lead Me, Lord*

**POSTLUDE** *The Army of Christ* David Hegarty

\*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #50542933

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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 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	Diane Truby
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*

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## NOTES

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**FLOWERS** – The flowers are given today by Jene Shafer in memory of her son Dick.

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

**NOVEMBER 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](mailto: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](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>September 2023</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Tithes & Offerings	\$13,019.05	\$208,034.64
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$23,195.56</u>	<u>\$206,829.27</u>
Net	(\$10,176.51)	\$ 1,205.37

**Third-Quarter Contribution Statements have been mailed.**  
**If you did not receive one, please contact the office.**  
**Thank you for your stewardship.**

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## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

**HURRICANE SEASON** – During this hurricane season we want to remind everyone that if a storm is in the area, please don't travel if you are not comfortable, join us online.

**BIBLE READING PLAN** -- 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 Special Gifting or Pew envelopes. Thanks for your generosity.

**THANKSGIVING OFFERING** – This year we will support **St. Vincent de Paul's** "Thanksgiving Meals Project". Please use the Special Gifting or Pew envelopes for your donations through November 19th. Thank you for your generosity.

**CHRISTMAS JOY-DRIVE** – **Misión Peniel (Immokalee)** – Be a blessing to needy children and families this Christmas. Choose a gift tag on the tree in the church foyer, buy a gift, and return it in a gift bag. Donations are also accepted.

**ACTIVITIES / EVENTS**

**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.)

**DONUTS AND DOCTRINE BIBLE STUDY** – **Wednesday, November 1st, at 10:00am.** The Gospel of 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.

**MISSIONARY LUNCHEON** – **Wednesday, November 1st, 11:30am.** The first week in November we will be welcoming our missionaries Chasen & Katie Brokaw and their children Alexander and Bailey from Nicaragua. Please join us for lunch and the opportunity to meet them and learn about their ministry and current climate in the country. Mark your calendars now and sign up in the church foyer.

**LADIES LUNCH BUNCH** – **Friday, November 3rd, 12:00pm** – Please sign up and join us for lunch at Cheddar's Restaurant in Port Charlotte. **All ladies are invited!**

**MEDICARE SEMINAR** – **Saturday, November 4th, 10:00am – 12:00pm.** Denny Ausman will hold an educational event to help with your plans for 2024. No products will be sold during this meeting; it is informational.

**CONGREGATIONAL TOWN HALL MEETING** – **Sunday, November 5th, following the Worship Service.** The purpose of the meeting will be to present the 2024 budget and answer any questions you may have. No action will be taken at this meeting, it is informational.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** – **Tuesday, November 7th at 10:00am – "Setting the Scene" – Esther 1:1-9.** 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.**

**WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST** – **Sunday, November 12th at 9:00am** – Join us for breakfast at 9:00am and stay for Worship at 10:30am. Sign up in the church foyer.

**MURAL WALK** – **Monday, November 13th at 9:30am** – Sign up to take a walking tour of downtown Punta Gorda and learn the history of the murals by our guide, Pastor Barksdale.

**PEACE RIVER GARDENS** – **Tuesday, November 14th at 9:00am** – Sign up now to tour the beautiful Peace River Gardens in Punta Gorda.

**CROSSROADS ACADEMY** – **A Night with Jimmy Wayne, Friday, November 17th, at 7:00pm.** Join us for a benefit concert held at Burnt Store Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$40/person and are available in our office or from Burnt Store Presbyterian Church.

**ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES** -- **Sunday, November 19th at 3:00pm, featuring the Barefoot Trio.** This trio of flute, viola and harp will perform an enchanting fall performance of music presenting works by Claude Debussy, Carl Nielsen, Andre Jolivet and more.

**MISIÓN PENIEL** – Our next trip to Immokalee is **Friday, December 1st** – we will be helping at the Mission in the afternoon. Please meet at the church at 12:30pm. We will return about 8-9pm. Sign up in the church foyer.

**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.

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**MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES**

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**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)

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**EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

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**October 29th to November 5th**

**Sunday, October 29**

9:15am	Reformation Sunday
10:15am	Membership Class
10:30am	Hymn Festival
11:30am	Worship Service (Also Online)
6:00pm	Fellowship Time
	Prayer Meeting (Facebook)

**Wednesday, November 1**

10:00am	Donuts & Doctrine
10:00am	Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry
11:30am	Mission Luncheon

**Thursday, November 2**

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

**Friday, November 3**

12:00pm	Ladies Lunch Bunch
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**Saturday, November 4**

10:00am	Daylight Saving Time Ends Medicare Seminar
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**Sunday, November 5**

10:30am	Communion Sunday
11:30am	Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am	Town Hall Meeting
6:00pm	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](mailto:first@fpcpunta.org) Website: [fpcpunta.org](http://fpcpunta.org)**  
**Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday**

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**SERMON NOTES**

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**REFORMATION SUNDAY**

Presbyterians, and other Protestant denominations, celebrate the tradition that grounds their faith on Reformation Sunday. It is always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. The purpose of Luther’s call for reform came to be known as the Five Solas, Latin for slogans: sola Scriptura (Scripture alone), sola fide (faith alone), sola gratia (grace alone), solus Christus (Christ alone), and Soli Deo Gloria (to the glory of God alone.) Luther sought to return the focus of faith back to the source of it ...Jesus.

**John 11:17-27**

<sup>17</sup> Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup> So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

**Bible Readings**

October 29	Mark 14:1-2; 10-26 Matthew 26:1-5; 14-30 Luke 22:1-30 John 13:1-30
October 30	John 13:31-38; 14:1-15:17 Mark 14:27-31 Matthew 26:31-35 Luke 22:31-38
October 31	John 15:18-17:26
November 1	John 18:1-24 Mark 14:32-52 Matthew 26:36-56 Luke 22:39-53
November 2	Mark 14:53-72; 15:1 Matthew 26:57-75; 27:1-10 Luke 22:54-71 John 18:25-27
November 3	Mark 15:2-20 Matthew 27:11-31 Luke 23:1-25 John 18:28-40; 19:1-16
November 4	Mark 15:21-41 Matthew 27:32-56 Luke 23:26-49 John 19:17-37



***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.*

<b>October 29, 2023</b>	<b>Reformation Sunday</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
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<b>PASTOR</b>		Dr. Barksdale Pullen
<b>MUSIC DIRECTOR</b>		Joan Byron
<b>ORGANIST</b>		Denny Ausman
<b>OFFICE &amp; WORSHIP ADMIN</b>		Debbie Rostad
<b>LITURGIST</b>		Bev Brady
<b>USHERS</b>	Kathy Belville, Roy Belville, Katie Schulte, Andy Schulte	