
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Nancy Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Chapel Bells* Louise E. Stairs

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Based on Psalm 34)*

Pastor: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

All: *Blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him!*

Pastor: The LORD redeems the life of His servants;

All: *none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INTROIT *Beyond All Praising* G. Holst / Mark Hayes
Chancel Choir

***HYMN #3** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy and loving God, we confess that we have failed to love others according to Your will. We judge them and make assumptions about others without ever trying to take the time to understand them. We see them not with the eyes of Jesus, but with our selfish eyes. Please forgive us and help us to remember that Jesus came to give His life for all people. May we show grace and mercy to others just as You have done for us. *(Silent Confession)*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE**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 *We Are One with You, O Lord* Jay Althouse
Chancel Choir

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

OFFERTORY *Prayer* Sylvia Riggs

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Thanks be to you, O God, for all good gifts, and especially for Your inexpressible gift of the Lord Jesus. Help us, O Lord, to see how we have been blessed and use our offering as a blessing to others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***HYMN #147** *How Great Thou Art (vs. 1,3,4)*

SCRIPTURE 2 Samuel 24:18-25

MESSAGE *An Altar* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

COMMUNION HYMN *In Remembrance* Courtney/Red

COMMUNION

***HYMN #596** *I Surrender All (vs. 1,2,3)*

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE #571** *Trust and Obey (Refrain)*

POSTLUDE *I Love To Tell The Story* arr. Keeney

*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #505429337

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 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	Dave Sifferd
Lynn Lang	Ron Sixt	Rick Berner	
Irene Csontos	Barb Harris	Ernie Lehman	

Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

Marion Brown, *Truewood by Merrill, Port Charlotte*

NOTES

FLOWERS – The flowers are given today to honor the Fallenbeck and McPherson anniversaries.

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

MAY 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 *vimeo livestream*.

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

	April	Year-to-Date
*Tithes & Offerings	\$21,392.84	\$107,439.15
Cash Expenditures	\$25,049.60	\$ 94,774.04
Net	(\$ 3,656.76)	\$ 12,665.11

*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.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS – Next Class will be on May 21st at 9:30am. 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. (For Seasonal Residents, we have an Affiliate Membership, so you can maintain your Membership back home.) Please sign up in the church foyer.

MISSION'S SPRING PROJECTS – Now through May 21st – With your financial donations, the Mission Team will purchase **Tents** for *Jesus Loves You Ministry* and **Wheelchairs** for *Lisa Alfonsi in Lima, Peru*. Please mark your donations for "Tents" or "Wheelchairs". Thank you!

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

PIANO CONCERT – **THIS AFTERNOON at 3:00pm** – The Two Piano Group will present a concert titled "Two Piano Spring Fling" in our Sanctuary. A Free Will Offering will be taken - suggested donation is \$15.00.

PEACE GARDENS – **This Tuesday, May 9th at 9:00am** – Fellowship Team has a tour scheduled to visit the Peace Gardens in Punta Gorda. A docent will lead us on a 1 ½ mile walk for 1 ½ hours. The cost is \$15/person. We will meet at the Peace River Gardens – 5827 Riverside Drive, Punta Gorda. Please sign up in the church foyer.

DONUTS AND DOCTRINE BIBLE STUDY – Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am as we address some of the questions that have arisen from our chronological reading of the Bible, and general questions about the Christian faith. **Questions for May 10:** (1) Who really killed King Saul? Comparing 1 Samuel 31:4, 2 Samuel 21:12, 2 Samuel 1:8-10, and 1 Chronicles 10:14. (2) Why are the events of Samuel/Kings repeated in Chronicles? What is the purpose of Chronicles?

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS DINNER AND MOVIE – **Begins this Wednesday, May 10th at 5:00pm** – Join us for dinner and then stay for Season 3 of *The Chosen*. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of May through August. Sign up in the church foyer.

CROSSROADS MEAL PREP – **Saturday, May 13th**. We are planning to help prepare a meal for the boys at Crossroads Hope Academy. Let's gather at the church at 10:00am and we should return by 3:00pm. Please sign up in the church foyer.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – **Tuesday, May 16th at 10:00am** with Lesson 24 (James 5:19-20 "Demonstrating a Heart of Love" and Lesson 25 "Summary of James" 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.** **Note: We will break for the summer and begin a new study in the Fall.**

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – **Friday, May 19th, 12:00pm** – Please sign up and join us for lunch at *LongHorn in Port Charlotte*. **All ladies are invited!**

PULLEN UP A CHAIR – **Wednesday, June 7th at 5:00pm**. Barksdale and Bo will be hosting 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.

MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

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

May 7th to May 14th

Sunday, May 7

10:30am Communion Sunday
Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am Fellowship Time
3:00pm “Two Piano Spring Fling” Concert
6:00pm Prayer Meeting (FaceBook)

Monday, May 8

10:00am Prayer Shawl Gathering

Tuesday, May 9

9:00am Peace Garden Tour
10:00am Mission Team

Wednesday, May 10

10:00am Donuts & Doctrine
10:00am Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry
5:00pm Dinner and Movie – “The Chosen”

Thursday, May 11

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

Saturday, May 13

Crossroads Meal Prep

Sunday, May 14

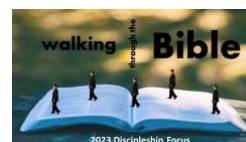
10:30am **HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY**
Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am Fellowship Time
6:00pm Prayer Meeting (FaceBook)

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

2 Samuel 24:18-25

¹⁸ And Gad came that day to David and said to him, “Go up, raise an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.” ¹⁹ So David went up at Gad’s word, as the Lord commanded. ²⁰ And when Araunah looked down, he saw the king and his servants coming on toward him. And Araunah went out and paid homage to the king with his face to the ground. ²¹ And Araunah said, “Why has my lord the king come to his servant?” David said, “To buy the threshing floor from you, in order to build an altar to the Lord, that the plague may be averted from the people.” ²² Then Araunah said to David, “Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good to him. Here are the oxen for the burnt offering and the threshing sledges and the yokes of the oxen for the wood. ²³ All this, O king, Araunah gives to the king.” And Araunah said to the king, “May the Lord your God accept you.” ²⁴ But the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will buy it from you for a price. I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God that cost me nothing.” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. ²⁵ And David built there an altar to the Lord and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the Lord responded to the plea for the land, and the plague was averted from Israel.



Bible Readings

May 7	Psalms 12-17, 19-21
May 8	Psalms 22-26
May 9	Psalms 27-32
May 10	Psalms 35-38
May 11	Psalms 39-41, 53, 55, 58
May 12	Psalms 61-62, 64-67
May 13	Psalms 68-70, 86, 101



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.

May 7, 2023

10:30am

PASTOR	Dr. Barksdale Pullen
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Joan Byron
ORGANIST	Denny Ausman
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN	Debbie Rostad
LITURGIST	John Evans
USHERS	Sam Cessna, Marjorie Haun, Patti MacDonald, Billie Sixt