
WORSHIP SERVICE – PALM SUNDAY

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Gospel Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross* arr. Lani Smith

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP – Hosanna to the Son of David

from Luke 9:51; 19:36; Matthew 21:8; Luke 19:37-38; Matthew 21:9 (NIV)

Pastor: As the time approached for Him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. As He went along, people spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. When He came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

All: “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Pastor: The crowds that went ahead of Him and those that followed shouted:

All: “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest!”

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN #297 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

***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 *The Touch of the Master’s Hand*
Denny Ausman

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

OFFERTORY - ** *Glory In The Cross* James Southbridge

DOXOLOGY**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Hosanna to the Savior! We offer ourselves today in praise and thanksgiving for the One who saves us. Take and bless these gifts as tokens of our very lives, as we follow Jesus on the path to crucifixion and resurrection. Amen.

*HYMN #301 *We Will Glorify*

SCRIPTURE Luke 19:28-40

MESSAGE *The King Has Come* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

*HYMN #437 *Send the Light*

***BENEDICTION**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #656 *Take Time to Be Holy (vs. 2)*

POSTLUDE *Celebration* James Denton

*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 to the Glory of God.

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

APRIL 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, April 24th, 12:30pm*. Please meet at our church. We need 12 people to sign up in the church foyer.

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

PALM SUNDAY CONCERT – THIS AFTERNOON, 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!*

LADIES CARDS FELLOWSHIP – *Thursday, April 2nd, at 10:00am* -- All ladies are welcome to join us Thursdays for cards and conversation.

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.

DONUTS & DOCTRINE – *We will resume on Wednesday, April 8th, at 10:00am* – the book of *Nehemiah*. Nehemiah was a layman, not a priest like Ezra nor a prophet like Malachi. He served the Persian king in a secular position before leading a group of Jews to Jerusalem in order to rebuild the city walls. Everyone is welcome.

PULLEN UP A CHAIR – *April 15th at 5:00pm* - Barksdale and Bo host get-together dinners for groups of eight at their home. 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 – *Monday, April 20th from 11:00am – 1:00pm* – Help us show our appreciation to our local and retired First Responders as we grill out hamburgers and hotdogs. Sign up in the church foyer to bring cookies or desserts. If you would like to attend and thank our First Responders, please sign up (suggested donation of \$5.00 for members). To make a donation to support this event, please designate as “B4B”.

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 29 – April 5

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

Wednesday, April 1

10:00am

Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry

Thursday, April 2

10:00am

5:00pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Ladies Cards Fellowship

Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 3

12:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 4

9:00am

Living Cross

Sunday, April 5

10:30am

11:30am

EASTER SUNDAY

Communion Sunday

Worship Service (Also Online)

Fellowship Time

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

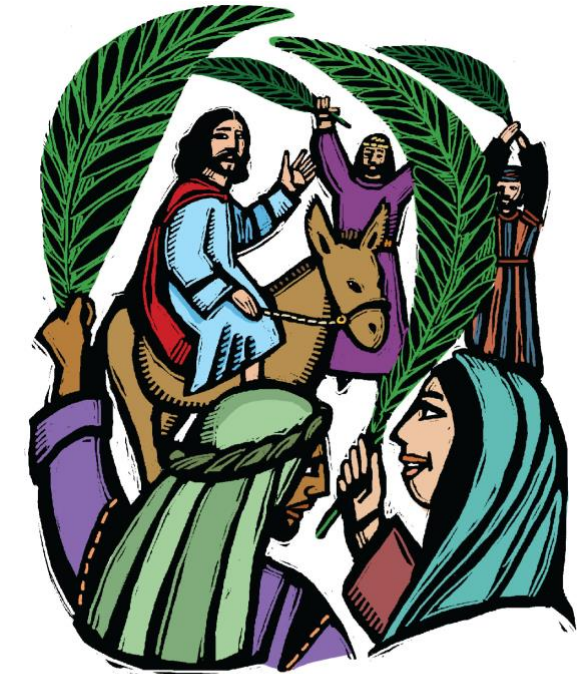
Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday

(and by appointment)

SERMON NOTES

Luke 19:28-40

And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”



“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Luke 19:38, NIV

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.

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

March 29, 2026

PALM SUNDAY

10:30am

PASTOR

Dr. Barksdale Pullen

ORGANIST

Denny Ausman

OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN

Debbie Rostad

LITURGIST

Katie Schulte

USHERS

Merrilyn Ellison, Sharon Fant, Susie Lorenz, Don Willecke

AV TECH

George Fallenbeck, Jim Nuznoff, Gene McPherson