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## WORSHIP SERVICE

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**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC** Erik Rostad, Violin

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *Air and Variation* Ludwig van Beethoven

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**\*HYMN #562** *Be Thou My Vision*

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful Savior, we confess that in the heat of the moment, we allow our tempers, our impatience and our selfishness to overcome the heart of goodness and compassion You have created within us. We respond in ways that hurt one another and do not honor You. We confess that though we long to have the mind of Christ and to respond in all situations as He has modeled for us, we sometimes fail. We are short-sighted, forgetful and fearful. We ask for Your forgiveness, Lord. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and the love of all humankind. *(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 #813**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *Concerto No. 2, 3rd Movement* F. Seitz  
Erik Rostad, Violin and Debbie Rostad, Piano

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

**OFFERTORY** *Jesus is All the World to Me* arr. Robert J. Hughes  
*(Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad down your row)*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Dear Lord, here and now we bring our gifts to You and to the church. We ask You to receive our gifts for ministry and service. But more, Lord, receive our love, and with our love and Your divine love, may we keep on building Your kingdom here as it is in heaven. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN #328** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

**SCRIPTURE** 1 Corinthians 1:18

**MESSAGE** *The Work of the Cross* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

**COMMUNION HYMN** *Sanctuary*

**COMMUNION**

**\*HYMN #450** *Lift High the Cross*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE #426** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds (vs. 3)*

**POSTLUDE** *Lift High the Cross* arr. Lani Smith

\*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #5043864

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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 Lisa Alfonsi and Eric Stone family, missionaries we support in Peru and Guatemala.
- 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 Chasen and Katie Brokaw, missionaries we support in Nicaragua.
- Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.

**Those Who Grieve**

Pray for the family of Dr. Hal Freeburn, former member, who went home to the Lord. Details will follow.

**Those with Special Needs**

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

**Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes**

Marion Brown, *Royal Palm*

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## NOTES

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**NEW NAME TAGS** – We have had a request for new name tags with magnets instead of our current clip ones. This Sunday on the Name Tag Table there will be an example of a new Magnetic Name Tag. If you would like one of these, please write your name on the sheet. Thanks!

**FLOWERS** – The flowers are given today by Debbie Rostad in honor of her mother's 96th birthday on September 14th.

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

**SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER** – Available in the church foyer and on our website.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – Available in the church office.

**LIBRARY IS OPEN** – Stop by the expanded library and see the new titles and resources available to help in your Christian walk. (The puzzles are also there. 😊)

**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 **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!

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## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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**C.L.A.S.S. 101 – DISCOVERING CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?** – Simply go to our website at [fpcpunta.org](http://fpcpunta.org) and look under the *Home* tab. There you will find information about becoming a covenant partner at FPC. Or see Pastor Barksdale for a DVD set.

**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** – 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. We have a text messaging system to notify members if Services/Events are canceled. If you are a regular attender and wish to be included on the text message, please note that on the Fellowship Pad.

**A/V TEAM** – Anyone interested in being part of the A/V Team on Sunday mornings, please see Jim or George in the A/V booth on Sunday. Great ministry to folks watching from home!

**GREETER TEAM** – Looking for a few individuals to rotate monthly in the foyer as Greeters. If interested, see Barksdale or Bev Brady.

**LUNCHESES FOR JESUS LOVES YOU SHOWER MINISTRY** – We have been preparing weekly lunches for over a year now (between 250 and 300 lunches to-date)! These lunches are supported by individual donations, so if you would like to help us continue this ministry, please consider donating (mark as "lunches").

### ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

**ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES** for 2022-2023 is set. Flyer is available in the church foyer or online at:

[https://www.fpcpunta.org/files/ugd/fabbbb\\_c02d61b08b5143acab42070d98452846.pdf](https://www.fpcpunta.org/files/ugd/fabbbb_c02d61b08b5143acab42070d98452846.pdf)

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Tuesday, September 6th at 10:00am** with Lesson 8 (**James 2:1-4**) 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 to join us for study, fellowship, and refreshments.*

**DONUTS AND DOCTRINE – Wednesday mornings at 10:00am.** This fall we will be looking at the *Name Above All Names* – a study of the names of God as they describe His attributes in the Old Testament and New Testament. God's many names reveal not only different dimensions of His character but also point to their fulfillment in the Person and work of Jesus Christ. We can now see God in new lights and angles as we learn of His justice, His unbounded love, His preeminence, and His character - all through His names. *This study will also be online, simply go to our website at: <https://www.fpcpunta.org/name-above-all>.*

**PULLEN UP A CHAIR – Wednesday, September 7th, 5:00pm** – Barksdale and Bo will be hosting get-together dinners at their home on **September 7th, October 5th, and November 2nd**. This will be in groups of eight, and you can sign up for a Wednesday night in the church foyer, or call/email the church office to reserve a night. 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 – Resume on Thursday, September 8th at 4:30pm.** Rehearsals last about one 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 2nd. Call Joan Byron at 941-661-1553 more information.

**LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – Friday, September 16th, 12:00pm** – Join us for lunch at Riviera Bar & Grill in Punta Gorda. Please sign up. *All ladies are invited!*

**BURGERS FOR BADGES – Monday, September 19th, 11:00am – 1:00pm** – Help us show our appreciation to our Fire and Sheriff Departments as we grill out hamburgers and hotdogs. Have lunch with us by the BBQ Pit and say thank-you to our local first responders. Sign up in the church foyer. *If you would like to help underwrite this event, simply place a check in the offering plate and write "Burgers" in the memo line.*

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**MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES**

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**UKRAINE RELIEF:** For those wanting to help those in need in Ukraine, here are four relief agencies that are doing work there now: Convoy of Hope (<https://convoyofhope.org/>), Samaritan's Purse (<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/>), World Renew (<https://worldrenew.net/ukraine-response>), and The Outreach Foundation (<https://www.theoutreachfoundation.org/ukraine-appeal>).

**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.

**Shower Ministry “Lunches”** – Please consider a financial donation to support the lunches that we provide weekly for the Shower Ministry. (mark as “lunches”)

**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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**September 4th to September 11th**

**Sunday, September 4**

10:30am

6:00pm

**Communion Sunday**

Worship Service

Prayer Meeting – FaceBook

**Monday, September 5**

**Office Closed for Labor Day**

**Tuesday, September 6**

10:00am

1:30pm

Women’s Bible Study

Fellowship Team

**Wednesday, September 7**

10:00am

5:00pm

Donuts & Doctrine Bible Study

Pullen Up a Chair

**Thursday, September 8**

10:00am

4:30pm

Game Fellowship

Choir Rehearsal

**Sunday, September 11**

10:30am

6:00pm

Worship Service (Also Online)

Prayer Meeting – FaceBook

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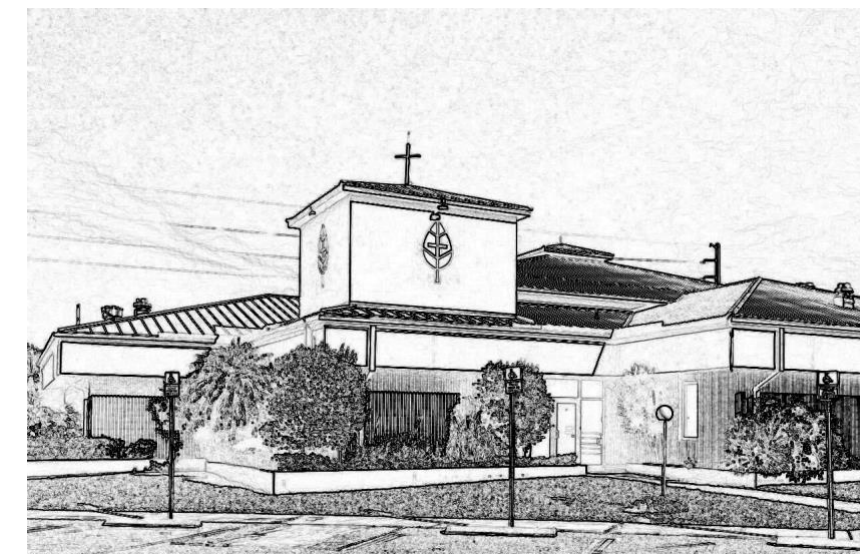
**SERMON NOTES**

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**1 Corinthians 1:18**

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.



***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.*

**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)

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

Website: [fpcpunta.org](http://fpcpunta.org)

**September 4, 2022**

**10:30am**

**PASTOR**

Dr. Barksdale Pullen

**MUSIC DIRECTOR**

Joan Byron

**ORGANIST**

Denny Ausman

**OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN**

Debbie Rostad

**LITURGIST**

Dave Sifferd

**USHERS**

Kathy Belville, Roy Belville, Maria Greene, Matthew Greene