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## WORSHIP SERVICE – First Sunday in Lent

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PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Hymn Sing

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *The Penitent Heart* Esther S. Higgins  
A Meditation for Lent

### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (from Isaiah 40)

Pastor: Have you not known? Have you not heard?

**All: The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.**

Pastor: He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

**All: He gives power to the faint,  
and to him who has no might he increases strength.**

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INTROIT *O Worship the Lord (Psalm 96)* Anonymous  
Chancel Choir

\*HYMN #2 *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

### \*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

MISSION MOMENT Crossroads Hope Academy – John Davidson

ANTHEM *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee* Theodore Dubois  
Chancel Choir

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

OFFERTORY *The Inward Heart* Gilbert M. Martin

### \*DOXOLOGY

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord God, You give us so much love. You fill us with abundance and mercy. Your gifts to us are constant and numerous. Now we bring to You our dollars and our talents. We bring to You our love and our skills. We bring to You our devotion and our time. Take all of this and take all of us and dedicate us and our gifts to ministry and service. In the name of Jesus Christ, we offer all now. Amen.

\*HYMN #444 *I Love to Tell the Story*

SCRIPTURE Numbers 2

MESSAGE *God at the Center* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

\*HYMN #143 *This Is My Father's World*

### \*BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE #426 Blest Be the Tie That Binds, vs. 1

POSTLUDE *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* Michael Krentz

\*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #505429337

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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 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 who Grieve

Pray for the family of Dave Woods, who went home to the Lord on February 8th. A Graveside Service was held on February 13th.

### Those with Special Needs

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

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

Marion Brown, *Royal Palm*

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## NOTES

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**FLOWERS** – The flowers are given by Roy and Kathy Belville in honor of their 54th 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 DIRECTORY** – 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 [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

	January	Year-to-Date
*Tithes & Offerings	\$38,611.51	\$38,611.51
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$26,373.02</u>	<u>\$26,373.02</u>
Net	\$12,238.49	\$12,238.49

\*This amount includes \$20,700 in fulfilled annual pledges given this month

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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).

**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS** – Next Class will be on May 21st. 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.)

**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 on the cross 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 the cross Easter Sunday representing His resurrection – His victory over sin, death and Satan.

**SEASON OF LENT DEVOTIONALS** – We have devotionals for you to choose from in the church foyer to help you prepare for Holy Week (April 2-9).

**EASTER LILIES** – We will be decorating the church with lilies for Easter. If you would like to donate one in remembrance or honor of a loved one, please use the offering envelopes on the back table of the sanctuary. Suggested donation is \$7 for each lily. **Please have your envelope back by Monday, April 3rd**, in time for the bulletin insert.

**LIVING CROSS** – We are requesting flowers and greenery for the “living cross” for Easter morning. **Please bring both the flowers and greenery at 10:00am on Saturday, April 8th.** Sign up (beginning in March) in the church foyer to help with the “living cross”.

### \*\*\*MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH OUR HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE\*\*\*

- **Palm Sunday – April 2 – 10:30am Worship Service**
- **Maundy Thursday – April 6 – 7:00pm Communion Service**
- **Good Friday – April 7 – 12:00pm Good Friday Service**
- **Easter Sunday – April 9 – 10:30am Easter Sunday Worship Service**

### ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

**DONUTS AND DOCTRINE BIBLE STUDY** – *Wednesday, March 1st, at 10:00am.* Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am for our weekly Bible study. This week we begin a new study on John's epistles.

**LADIES LUNCH BUNCH** – *Friday, March 3rd, 12:00pm* – Please sign up and join us at Luigi's Family Restaurant & Pizzeria, Port Charlotte. **All ladies are invited!**

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** – *Tuesday, March 7th at 10:00am* with Lesson 19 (James 4:11-12 “Refusing to Judge Others” 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.**

**ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES** – *Sunday, March 12th, 3:00pm* – For our last concert of the 2022-2023 series, come to hear Patti Page (a Handbell Soloist) and the Joyful Ringers (a Handbell Choir from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Port Charlotte). A free will offering will be taken.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER** – *Wednesday, March 15th, 5:00pm* – Plan now to attend our annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner with corned beef and cabbage and fixings, along with “green” desserts. Nancy Smith will play piano, and we will sing Irish songs. Pastor Barksdale will do a trivia game. Suggested donation is \$7.00. Sign up in the church foyer.

**BURGERS FOR BADGES** – *Monday, April 17th, 11:00am – 1:00pm* – Help us show our appreciation to our Sheriff's Department 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 make a donation to help defray the costs of this outreach event, please designate it as “B4B”.**

**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**

**February 26th to March 5th**

**Sunday, February 26**

- 10:15am
- 10:30am
- 11:30am
- 6:00pm

**First Sunday in Lent**

- Hymn Sing
- Worship Service (Also Online)
- Fellowship Time
- Prayer Meeting - FaceBook

**Wednesday, March 1**

- 10:00am
- 10:00am
- 5:00pm

- Donuts & Doctrine
- Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry
- Pullen Up a Chair

**Thursday, March 2**

- 10:00am
- 4:30pm

- Game Fellowship
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, March 3**

- 12:00pm

- Ladies Lunch Bunch

**Sunday, March 4**

- 10:30am
- 11:30am
- 6:00pm

**Second Sunday in Lent  
Communion Sunday**

- Worship Service (Also Online)
- Fellowship Time
- Prayer Meeting – FaceBook

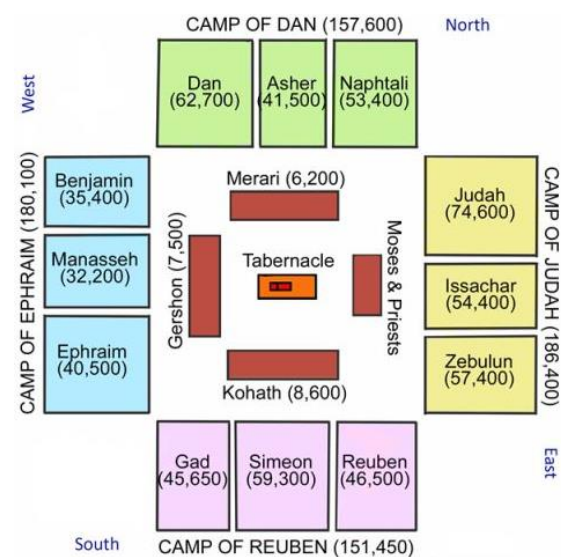
**Bible Readings**

- February 26 Leviticus 27:1-34  
Numbers 1:1-54
- February 27 Numbers 2:1-3:51
- February 28 Numbers 4:1-5:31
- March 1 Numbers 6:1-27  
Numbers 10:1-36
- March 2 Numbers 11:1-13:33
- March 3 Numbers 14:1-15:41
- March 4 Numbers 16:1-18:32

**SERMON NOTES**

**Numbers 2**

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Moses and Aaron: <sup>2</sup>“The Israelites are to camp around the tent of meeting some distance from it, each of them under their standard and holding the banners of their family.” <sup>3</sup>On the east, toward the sunrise, the divisions of the camp of Judah are to encamp under their standard. The leader of the people of Judah is Nahshon son of Amminadab. <sup>4</sup>His division numbers 74,600. <sup>5</sup>the tribe of Issachar will camp next to them. The leader of the people of Issachar is Nethanel son of Zuar. <sup>6</sup>His division numbers 54,400. <sup>7</sup>The tribe of Zebulun will be next. The leader of the people of Zebulun is Eliab son of Helon. <sup>8</sup>His division numbers 57,400. <sup>9</sup>All the men assigned to the camp of Judah, according to their divisions, number 186,400. They will set out first. <sup>10</sup>On the south will be the divisions of the camp of Reuben under their standard. The leader of the people of Reuben is Elizur son of Shedeur. <sup>11</sup>His division numbers 46,500. <sup>12</sup>The tribe of Simeon will camp next to them. The leader of the people of Simeon is Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai. <sup>13</sup>His division numbers 59,300. <sup>14</sup>The tribe of Gad will be next. The leader of the people of Gad is Eliasaph son of Deuel. <sup>15</sup>His division numbers 45,650. <sup>16</sup>All the men assigned to the camp of Reuben, according to their divisions, number 151,450. They will set out second. <sup>17</sup>Then the tent of meeting and the camp of the Levites will set out in the middle of the camps. They will set out in the same order as they encamp, each in their own place under their standard. <sup>18</sup>On the west will be the divisions of the camp of Ephraim under their standard. The leader of the people of Ephraim is Elishama son of Ammihud. <sup>19</sup>His division numbers 40,500. <sup>20</sup>The tribe of Manasseh will be next to them. The leader of the people of Manasseh is Gamaliel son of Pedahzur. <sup>21</sup>His division numbers 32,200. <sup>22</sup>The tribe of Benjamin will be next. The leader of the people of Benjamin is Abidan son of Gideon. <sup>23</sup>His division numbers 35,400. <sup>24</sup>All the men assigned to the camp of Ephraim, according to their divisions, number 108,100. They will set out third. <sup>25</sup>On the north will be the divisions of the camp of Dan under their standard. The leader of the people of Dan is Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai. <sup>26</sup>His division numbers 62,700. <sup>27</sup>The tribe of Asher will camp next to them. The leader of the people of Asher is Pagiel son of Okran. <sup>28</sup>His division numbers 41,500. <sup>29</sup>The tribe of Naphtali will be next. The leader of the people of Naphtali is Ahira son of Enan. <sup>30</sup>His division numbers 53,400. <sup>31</sup>All the men assigned to the camp of Dan number 157,600. They will set out last, under their standards. <sup>32</sup>These are the Israelites, counted according to their families. All the men in the camps, by their divisions, number 603,550. <sup>33</sup>The Levites, however, were not counted along with the other Israelites, as the Lord commanded Moses. <sup>34</sup>So the Israelites did everything the Lord commanded Moses; that is the way they encamped under their standards, and that is the way they set out, each of them with their clan and family.



**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**



**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.*

**February 26, 2023**

**10:30am**

**PASTOR**  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR**  
**ORGANIST**  
**OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN**  
**LITURGIST**  
**USHERS**

Dr. Barksdale Pullen  
 Joan Byron  
 Denny Ausman  
 Debbie Rostad  
 Kathy Belville  
 Roy Belville, Maria Greene, Marjorie Haun, Billie Sixt