WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Rachel Cox, Violin; Denny Ausman, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Give Thanks* Henry Smith; setting by Joel Raney

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***HYMN #36** *He Is Exalted (1 time)*
***HYMN #38** *Ye Servants of God*

***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 *This Little Light of Mine* setting by Joel Raney
Rachel Cox, Violin; Denny Ausman, Piano

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

OFFERTORY - ** *Song of Gratitude* Ethel B. Clarke

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Lord, receive our tithes and offerings as a token of our devotion and love for You. Multiply them and use them to build Your church in this community. May they extend Your love and grace to those in need as well as empower the witness to Jesus of Your people. In His name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #526** *The Solid Rock*

SCRIPTURE Mark 8:27-33

MESSAGE *Who Do You Say I Am?* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

***HYMN #605** *Living for Jesus*

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE #231** *Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Heart*

POSTLUDE *Praise The Lord, Ye Nations* May F. Lawrence

*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 #50554113

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 with Special Needs

Phyllis Ehrhardt Rick Berner Lynn Lang 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 by Billie Sixt in Memory of Ron.

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 **$45.00***. 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 Missions Newsletters, notes and messages of interest on the Bulletin Board in the church foyer.

OUR DAILY BREAD – A booklet of daily devotionals is in the back of the Sanctuary.

STREAMING MINISTRY – Live stream our services on our website homepage (fpcpunta.org) by clicking the logo ***YouTube***.

FACEBOOK PAGE – If you are on Facebook, don't forget to follow our page for the latest happenings – https://www.facebook.com/FPCPGFL.

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

	October 2026	Year-to-Date
Tithes & Offerings	$23,883.19	$206,593.26
Cash Expenditures	$21,791.97	$207,928.89
Net	$2,091.22	($1,335.63)

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.

HURRICANE SEASON – If a storm is in the area, please don't travel if you are not comfortable, but you may join us online. We have a text messaging system to notify folks if Services/Events are canceled. ***Please note: You cannot reply to these text messages.***

CHURCH LIBRARY – Looking for a good book, help with a theological question, Christian biography, or a devotional? Just log on to this website and search: https://www.librarycat.org/lib/FPCPG. ***Check out our book display in the foyer***.

THANKSGIVING SPECIAL GIFTING – Support St. Vincent de Paul through a "Thanksgiving Meals Project". Please consider making a financial donation and use the Special Gifting envelopes on the tables in the back of the Sanctuary and in the church foyer. Return envelopes by November 22nd.

ANGEL / CARDINAL TREE – Stop by the Christmas Tree to take a tag and bag to support our Christmas gift giving to the children at Misión Peniel in Immokalee. Return the tag and bag with an *UNWRAPPED* gift of $25 - $30 by November 22nd. Thank you for helping make Christmas special to these children.

CONGREGATIONAL / CORPORATION MEETING – Sunday, November 15th following the Worship Service – The purpose is to present the 2027 budget and answer any questions and also to elect corporate officers.

PLEDGE SUNDAY – Sunday, November 22nd – *If you did not receive a Narrative Budget/Pledge card packet in the mail, there are extras in the church foyer.*

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

GRIEFSHARE SEMINAR – Monday, November 9th, 10am – 12pm – "Surviving The Holidays". This seminar offers practical, actionable help for navigating the holiday season after loss. The two-hour program includes a video featuring people who have experienced grief during the holidays, as well as insight from Christian counselors, pastors, and psychologists. Participants will receive a *Holiday Survival Guide* with practical strategies, encouraging words, exercises, questions and answers, and journaling ideas. The holiday season may not be easy, but you can walk through it in a way that honors your loved one and supports health and healing. Sign up now.

GROUND UP MINISTRIES – The Ground Up Ministry provides a safe home for girls. At their safe house in Cape Coral, we will do activities such as crafts and baking. (We will sign an NDA (Non-disclosure agreement). ***See Patti MacDonald to sign up for Tuesday, November 10th at 2:00pm.***

DONUTS & DOCTRINE – Wednesday, November 11th at 10:00am. We are studying Paul's letter to the Romans. Everyone is invited, led by Pastor Barksdale.

LADIES CARDS FELLOWSHIP – Thursday, November 12th, 10:00am -- All ladies are welcome!

CHOIR – Rehearses Thursday, November 12th, 4:30pm and Sings on Sunday, November 15th. Our anthem is "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms".

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Tuesday, November 17th – Joshua! *This study by Jen Wilkin is led by Kathy Belville. We meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 10:00am. All are welcome!*

WELCOME BACK SUPPER -- Wednesday, November 18th, 5:00pm. Join us at this church potluck as we reconnect with our seasonal friends. Sign up now.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – Friday, November 20th, 11:30am – Sign up for Riviera Restaurant in Punta Gorda. See Barbara Floyd for more info or to sign up.

MISIÓN PENIEL – Our next trip to Immokalee is ***Friday, November 20th, 12:30pm***. Please meet at church. We need 12 people to sign up in the church foyer.

HANGING OF THE GREENS – Saturday, November 28th at 9:00am. *Sign up!*

SAVE THE DATE – Christmas Walk Peace Gardens - Monday, December 7th.

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 2026 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)
St. Vincent de Paul (Punta Gorda)
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

November 8 – November 15

Sunday, November 8	**Stained Glass Dedication Sunday**
9:00am	Breakfast - Potluck
10:30am	**Worship Service (Also Online)**
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting-FB
Monday, November 9	
1:00pm	Worship Team
Tuesday, November 10	
10:00am	Missions Team
2:00pm	Ground Up Ministries
Wednesday, November 11	**Veteran's Day**
10:00am	Donuts & Doctrine
10:00am	Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry
Thursday, November 12	
10:00am	Ladies Cards Fellowship
4:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, November 15	**Deacon's Fund Sunday**
10:30am	**Worship Service (Also Online)**
11:30am	Congregational / Corporation Meeting
11:30am	Fellowship Time
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting-FB

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

Who Do You Say I Am?
Mark 8:27-33

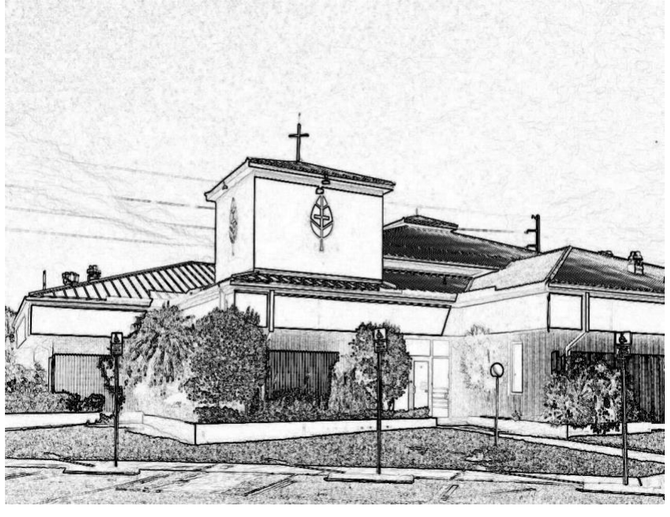
ELDERS

Kathy Belville – Deacons / Missions
Bev Brady – Fellowship / Worship / Finance
Sam Cesssna – Admin / Property / Worship
Merrilyn Ellison – Missions / Fellowship
Bruce Peters – Admin / Finance
Barksdale Pullen – Discipleship / Worship
Andy Schulte – Admin / Property
Gail Thornton – Clerk of Session / Missions

DEACONS

Merrilyn Ellison – Deacon of Visitation
Linda Wagar – Deacon of Loaves and Fishes
Katie Schulte – Deacon of Parish Nursing
Marjorie Haun – Deacon of Communications
Patti MacDonald – Deacon of Bereavement
Laurel Aumend – Deacon of Flowers
Roy Belville – Deacon of Helping Hands
Kathy Belville – Deacon of Communion
Lili Bush – Deacon of Kitchen
Susie Lorenz – Deacon of Prayer Shawl
Maria Greene – Deacon of Library
Sharon Fant – Assistant Librarian

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN Punta Gorda



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.

November 8, 2026 **10:30am**

PASTOR	Dr. Barksdale Pullen
ORGANIST	Denny Ausman
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN	Debbie Rostad
LITURGIST	Sam Cessna
USHERS	Kathy Belville, Roy Belville, Marjorie Haun, Billie Sixt
A/V TECH	George Fallenbeck, Jim Nuznoff, Gene McPherson