
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Hymns for Meditation* arr. Carol Tornquist
Debbie Rostad, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Almost Persuaded* Edward Broughton

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Hymn #608 – Keep His Commandments)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***HYMN #139** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

***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**

SPECIAL MUSIC *He Touched Me* William J. Gaither
Debbie Rostad and Denny Ausman

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

OFFERTORY *Poeme* Lani Smith

DOXOLOGY**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Our gracious Lord, we stand before You as a living offering. You shower us with blessings, all free and totally undeserved. Bless us and use us as instruments for Your will. Bless, too, these financial gifts to Your holy purpose. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***HYMN #638** *I Need Thee Every Hour*

SCRIPTURE Malachi 4:4-6

MESSAGE *Elijah* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

***HYMN #688** *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE #232** *God Be with You (vs. 2)*

POSTLUDE *Ancient of Days* Roger C. Wilson

*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #50542933

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 still 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 |
| Lynn Lang | Ron Sixt | Rick Berner |
| Irene Csontos | Barb Harris | Dave Sifferd |

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 our First Responders.

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

SEPTEMBER 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 **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

| | July 2023 | Year-to-Date |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| *Tithes & Offerings | \$22,011.12 | \$181,226.16 |
| Cash Expenditures | \$24,622.99 | \$161,713.85 |
| Net | (\$2,611.87) | \$ 19,512.31 |

*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.

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. Also, we have a text messaging system to notify members if Services/Events are canceled. If you do not want to receive a text message, please notify the church office. **Please note: You cannot reply to these text messages.**

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS – *Sunday, October 29th at 9:15am.* If you are interested in joining the church, or just finding out more information about FPC, please join us for a one class introduction to FPC. (For Seasonal Residents, we have an Affiliate Membership, so you can maintain your Membership back home.)

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

DONUTS AND DOCTRINE BIBLE STUDY – *Wednesday, September 13th, at 10:00am.* We continue our study of Mark. Mark is written primarily to Gentiles, and the ultimate purpose and theme of Mark’s Gospel is to present and defend Jesus’ universal call to discipleship.

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS – *Thursdays at 4:30pm.* Rehearsals last about an 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 1st. Call Joan Byron at 941-661-1553 for more information.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – *Friday, September 15th, 12:00pm* – Please sign up and join us for lunch at Luigi’s Restaurant in Port Charlotte. **All ladies are invited!**

WEDNESDAY EVENING DINNER AND MOVIE – *Wednesday, September 20th at 5:00pm* – Join us for a Potluck Dinner and stay to watch the new movie *Jesus Revolution*.

MISIÓN PENIEL – Our next trip to Immokalee is *Friday, September 29th* -- we will be helping at the Mission from 11:00am - 1:00pm. Please meet at the church between 9:15-9:30am. Sign up in the church foyer.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY – *Tuesday, October 3rd at 10:00am.* Join us for an introduction to our new study on the Bible book of “Esther”. This study is based on “*Becoming a Woman of Beauty & Strength*” by Elizabeth George. We will meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Call Kathy Belville at 508-733-0546 for more information. **All women are invited for study, fellowship, and refreshments.**

PULLEN UP A CHAIR – *Wednesday, October 4th at 5:00pm.* Barksdale and Bo host 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.

ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES for 2023-2024 is set. The Season Brochure is available in the church foyer or on our website www.fpcpunta.org under Ministries / Concert Series. **The first concert is Sunday, November 19th at 3:00pm, featuring the Barefoot Trio.**

MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

MAUI SUPPORT – A reminder that our trusted partners at World Renew are ECO's go-to resource for long-term disaster relief. We echo their current request for prayer for those affected by the Maui wildfires. We will keep our ECO family updated if they are able to respond or if they will recommend partner organizations to support. You may learn more about how World Renew Disaster Response Services rebuilds hope and shares God's love through holistic disaster recovery work here:

<https://worldrenew.net/disaster-response-services-us/disaster-response-services>

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

September 10th to September 17th

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday, September 10 | Grandparents Day |
| 10:30am | Worship Service (Also Online) |
| 11:30am | Fellowship Time |
| 6:00pm | Prayer Meeting (FaceBook) |
| Monday, September 11 | |
| 10:00am | Prayer Shawl Gathering |
| Tuesday, September 12 | |
| 10:00am | Mission Team |
| Wednesday, September 13 | |
| 10:00am | Donuts & Doctrine |
| 10:00am | Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry |
| Thursday, September 14 | |
| 10:00am | Game Fellowship |
| 4:30pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| Friday, September 15 | |
| 12:00pm | Ladies Lunch Bunch |
| Sunday, September 17 | Deacons Fund Sunday |
| 10:30am | 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

Malachi 4:4-6

⁴“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

Bible Readings

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|--------------|---|
| September 10 | Daniel 10:1-12:13 Ezra 4:24-5:1 Haggai 1:1-15 |
| September 11 | Haggai 2:1-9 Zechariah 1:1-6 Haggai 2:10-19 Ezra 5:2 Haggai 2:20-23 Zechariah 1:7-5:11 |
| September 12 | Zechariah 6:1-15 Ezra 5:3-6:14 Zechariah 7:1-8:23 |
| September 13 | Zechariah 9:1-14:21 |
| September 14 | Ezra 6:14-22 Ezra 4:6 Esther 1:1-4:17 |
| September 15 | Esther 5:1-10:3 |
| September 16 | Ezra 4:7-23 Ezra 7:1-8:36 |



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.

September 10, 2023

10:30am

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| PASTOR | Dr. Barksdale Pullen |
| MUSIC DIRECTOR | Joan Byron |
| ORGANIST | Denny Ausman |
| OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN | Debbie Rostad |
| LITURGIST | Don Washabaugh |
| USHERS | Marjorie Haun, Katie Schulte, Andy Schulte, Billie Sixt |