
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Classical Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *O How I Love Jesus* arr. John E. Boalt

CALL TO WORSHIP**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

INTROIT *This is the House of the Lord* Donald Moore
Chancel Choir

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Our gracious and patient God, we confess that we too often allow our fears to determine what we do and say. We fail to trust Your promises or believe in Your power. We forget that You are greater than any of our fears or problems. Please forgive our lack of faith and remind us that there is nothing in this world that we need to fear for You are always with us. (*Silent Confession*)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***HYMN #225** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

***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**

ANTHEM *In You, We Are One* Jay Althouse
Chancel Choir

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

OFFERTORY *Song of Gratitude* Ethel B. Clarke

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We honor You, O gracious God. Accept these gifts, we pray, as a sign of our obedience to You, our love for You and our desire to take Your reign into the world. Transform them into Your blessing for others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

SCRIPTURE Matthew 16:13-18; 1 Peter 2:4-12

MESSAGE *The Church Established* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

COMMUNION HYMN *One Bread, One Body*

COMMUNION

***HYMN #401** *The Church's One Foundation*

***BENEDICTION**

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

POSTLUDE *Praise to The Lord, The Almighty* arr. David Paxton

*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 who Grieve

Please pray for the family of Diane Culver-Truby, who went home to the Lord on October 25th. A Memorial Service will be held this Saturday, November 4th at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary, followed by a Reception in Fellowship Hall.

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 by Joan and Ray Byron in honor of their 38th wedding anniversary.

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 **\$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@fcpunta.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 (fcpunta.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

	September 2023	Year-to-Date
Tithes & Offerings	\$13,019.05	\$208,034.64
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$23,195.56</u>	<u>\$206,829.27</u>
Net	(\$10,176.51)	\$ 1,205.37

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

GATHER FOR PRAYER – A prayer meeting is held Sundays at 6pm online. Please submit any prayer requests to first@fcpunta.org.

HURRICANE SEASON – During this hurricane season we want to remind everyone that if a storm is in the area, please don't travel if you are not comfortable, join us online.

BIBLE READING PLAN -- Reading guides and Bibles are in the church foyer.

FALL MISSION PROJECT – Through mid-November we will collect Bath Towels (white) and Jeans (Sizes 30-36) for *Jesus Loves You Ministry*. You may bring in these items OR you may donate to this cause. Use Special Gifting or Pew envelopes. Thanks for your generosity.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING – This year we will support *St. Vincent de Paul's* "Thanksgiving Meals Project". Please use the Special Gifting or Pew envelopes for your donations through November 19th. Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS JOY-DRIVE – Misión Peniel (Immokalee) – Be a blessing to needy children and families this Christmas. Choose a gift tag on the tree in the church foyer, buy a gift, and return it in a gift bag by November 26th. Donations are also accepted.

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

TOWN HALL MEETING – TODAY, following the Worship Service. Plan to stay for our annual Town Hall Meeting.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Tuesday, November 7th at 10:00am – "Setting the Scene" – Esther 1:1-9. Join us for our study of "Esther", based on "*Becoming a Woman of Beauty & Strength*" by Elizabeth George. We meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month in Fellowship Hall. Call Kathy Belville at 508-733-0546 for more information. **All women are invited for study, fellowship, and refreshments.**

DONUTS AND DOCTRINE BIBLE STUDY – Wednesday, November 8th, at 10:00am. The Gospel of 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.

WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST – NEXT Sunday, November 12th at 9:00am – Join us for breakfast at 9:00am and stay for Worship at 10:30am. Sign up in the church foyer.

MURAL WALK – Monday, November 13th at 9:30am – Sign up to take a walking tour of downtown Punta Gorda and learn the history of the murals by our guide, Pastor Barksdale.

PEACE RIVER GARDENS – Tuesday, November 14th at 9:00am – Sign up now to tour the beautiful Peace River Gardens in Punta Gorda.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – Friday, November 17th, 12:00pm – Please sign up and join us for lunch at Laishley Crab House in Punta Gorda. **All ladies are invited!**

CROSSROADS ACADEMY – A Night with Jimmy Wayne, Friday, November 17th, at 7:00pm. Join us for a benefit concert held at Burnt Store Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$40/person and are available in our office or from Burnt Store Presbyterian Church.

PLEDGE DEDICATION SUNDAY - Sunday, November 19th, we will offer our 2024 pledges to God in thanksgiving for His many blessings. Let's respond to God's generosity with generous giving to His church.

ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES -- Sunday, November 19th at 3:00pm, featuring the Barefoot Trio. This trio of flute, viola and harp will perform an enchanting fall performance of music presenting works by Claude Debussy, Carl Nielsen, Andre Jolivet and more. A free will offering will be taken – suggested donation is \$15.00.

MISIÓN PENIEL – Our next trip to Immokalee is **Friday, December 1st** – we will be helping at the Mission in the afternoon. Please meet at the church at 12:30pm. We will return about 8-9pm. Sign up in the church foyer.

PUNTA GORDA CHRISTMAS TRADITION - Join us for a tour of the residential canals in Punta Gorda to view Christmas lights, displays and decorations on homes, boats, seawalls and docks. The cost is \$27/person. We will gather at **6:30pm on Friday, December 15th** at the Pier at Fishermen's Village. Sign up in the church foyer.

MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

DISASTER RELIEF SUPPORT – A reminder that 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 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

November 5th to November 12th

Sunday, November 5

10:30am

11:30am

11:30am

6:00pm

Communion Sunday

Worship Service (Also Online)

Town Hall Meeting

Fellowship Time

Prayer Meeting (Facebook)

Monday, November 6

1:00pm

Worship Team

Tuesday, November 7

10:00am

1:00pm

Women’s Bible Study

Fellowship Team

Wednesday, November 8

10:00am

10:00am

Donuts & Doctrine

Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry

Thursday, November 9

10:00am

4:30pm

Game Fellowship

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 12

9:00am

10:30am

11:30am

6:00pm

Welcome Back Breakfast

Worship Service (Also Online)

Fellowship Time

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

Matthew 16:13-18

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

1 Peter 2:4-12

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸ and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

Bible Readings

November 5	Mark 15:42-47; 16:1-11 Matthew 27:57-66; 28:1-15 Luke 23:50-56; 24:1-12 John 19:38-42; 20:1-18
November 6	Luke 24:13-49 Mark 16:12-18 John 20:19-21:25 Matthew 28:16-20
November 7	Mark 16:19-20 Luke 24:50-53 Acts 1:1-2:47
November 8	Acts 3:1-5:42
November 9	Acts 6:1-8:1
November 10	Acts 8:1-9:43
November 11	Acts 10:1-12:5



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 5, 2023

10:30am

PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN
LITURGIST
USHERS

Dr. Barksdale Pullen
 Joan Byron
 Denny Ausman
 Debbie Rostad
 John Evans

Sharon Albright, Kathy Belville, Roy Belville, Sam Cessna