

**10:30am Worship Service**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *Amazing Grace* arr. Gordon Young

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**INTROIT** *You Shall Have a Song* Harriet Ziegenhals  
Chancel Choir

**\*HYMN #314** *What Wondrous Love Is This*

**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. Amen. *(Silent Confession)*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**\*GLORIA PATRI #813**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Brief Statement of Faith (Lines 7-26) *(Unison)*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

**ANTHEM** *In the Garden* arr. Lloyd Larson  
Chancel Choir

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**RESPONSE** *All Our Cares* R. P. Curtis

**OFFERTORY** *Antiphon* Gordon Young

**\*DOXOLOGY #815**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

You have blessed us with every good gift, generous God. Our hearts overflow with joy and love for the privilege of walking with You and being called Your own. Receive these gifts, we pray, as our faithful and grateful response to Your gifts of grace and mercy in our lives. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew 27:27-31

**MESSAGE** *What About Suffering?* Pastor Steve Mock

**\*HYMN #459** *We Remember You (Repeat once)*

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

Invitation and Prayer of Dedication

Sharing the Bread and Cup

The Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord’s Prayer (debts/debtors)

**\*HYMN #316** *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE** *Threefold Amen* R. P. Curtis

\*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth – please feel free to ask for one.

*Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the 10:30am service*

**9:00am New Beginnings Service**

**\*OPENING SONG** *We Want to See Jesus Lifted High*

**\*PRAISING GOD IN SONG** *Sunrise, Sunset*

*How Majestic is Your Name*

*Love You So Much*

**PRAYER**

**OFFERING** *He Who Began a Good Work*

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *The Holy Heart*

New Beginnings Praise Team

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew 27:27-31

**MESSAGE** *What About Suffering?* Pastor Steve Mock

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**\*CLOSING SONG** *Spirit Song*

**MINISTRY OF PRAYER**

***Prayer Focus***

- Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- Pray for those who serve in the military and their families during the war against terrorism.
- Pray for our church and ECO as we seek ways to reach the lost and needy in our community and world.
- Pray for Charlotte County, for revival and renewal as part of Prayers Over Charlotte initiated by the Sunday Night Prayer meeting.
- Pray for Lisa Alfonsi and Eric Stone & family, missionaries that we support.
- Pray for the property negotiations with Peace River Presbytery.

***Those Who Grieve***

- Pray for Joyce Kiskaddon family on the passing of Joyce on March 19th.

***Those with Special Needs***

Jerry Julius	Rev. Larry Yerger
Kay Callahan	Helen Anderson
Ella Sifferd	Carol Foster
Dianne Sizemore	Nancy Beasom
Cara Gebel	Cara Coletti
Ken Haun	Joe Cherny
Helmut Ehrhardt	Richard Hill
Joan Pfeiffer	

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

Barbara Shinn, <i>The Palms of Punta Gorda</i>	Marion Brown, <i>Royal Palm</i>
Lorraine Sisson, <i>Saginaw, MI</i>	John Milligan, <i>Sandhill Gardens</i>
Doris Henning, <i>Sandhill Gardens</i>	Mae Snyder, <i>Port Charlotte Rehab</i>

*Please keep the office updated concerning your requests.*

.....  
*Requests will be listed for 4 weeks and then removed unless updated.*

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

**FLOWERS** – The flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God.

**THE APRIL NEWSLETTER** is available in the church foyer and on our website.

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

- **Palm Sunday – April 9 – 9am & 10:30am services**
- **Maundy Thursday – April 13 – 7pm Tenebrae Service**
- **Good Friday – April 14 – 12pm Communion Service**
- **Easter Sunday – April 16**
  - 7:00am **Sunrise Service in east parking lot (please bring a chair)**
  - 9:00am **New Beginnings Praise Worship**
  - 10:30am **Traditional Service**

**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

**GATHER FOR PRAYER** – Please join others on **Sunday mornings at 10:10am** in the Conference Room to pray for our worship services. Also, **a prayer meeting is held Sunday evenings at 6pm** in the Conference Room. Come and be a part of what God’s Spirit is doing in our church and community.

**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 special envelopes on the back table of the sanctuary. Suggested donation is \$7 for each lily. **Please have your envelope back by MONDAY, APRIL 10th**, so that we can recognize you in the bulletin insert we are publishing.

**LIVING CROSS** – We are requesting flowers for the “living cross” which will be presented Easter morning. Please bring them to church at **8am on Easter Sunday**.

**TENEBRAE SERVICE ON MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 13TH, 7:00PM** – On Maundy Thursday our Choir will present a dramatic work called “*The Shadow of the Cross*”. This service will be filled with familiar music and narration and culminates in a very familiar and reflective song.

**GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNION SERVICE** – A Communion Service will be held on Good Friday, April 14th, at 12:00pm.

**SUNRISE SERVICE ON EASTER SUNDAY** – The Sunrise Service will be held Easter Sunday morning, April 16th, at 7:00am in the east parking lot.

**WHAT IS YOUR SHAPE?** - Join us **TOMORROW at 10am** for our last session of discovering the unique purpose God has for your life through **S.H.A.P.E.:**

Spiritual Gifts Heart/Passions Abilities Personality Experiences  
**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** meets **THIS Tuesday, April 4th at 10am**.

Our study is “*Everything is Possible with God – Understanding the Six Phases of Faith*” by Rick Warren. We meet at the home of Sharon and Robert Cuzner, 2615 Rio Grande Drive, Punta Gorda Isles on the first and third Tuesday of each month. The study is about one and a half hours long with time for fellowship and refreshments. All women are invited.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** – Pastor Larry’s Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall. Come join Pastor Larry and friends as we study the Words of Scripture. All are welcome!

**R.O.M.E.O.S. (Retired Old Men Eating Out Someplace) & J.U.L.I.E.T.S. (Joyful Understanding Ladies Inconspicuously Eating Together Someplace)** - will meet at Sky View Café at the Punta Gorda Airport **THIS Thursday, April 6th at 8:00am**. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship.

**THE SECOND CUP (of coffee)** – You’re invited to be part of a Bible study discussion group **THIS Thursday, April 6th at 9:30am** in Fellowship Hall. Dave Sifferd leads this study of the Book of Acts, using the NIV Bible as the textbook. Bring a friend and join us on Thursday morning for a Second Cup.

**SINGLES MINISTRY** – “**Sociable Singles**” will meet for dinner the first Friday of each month and for lunch on the third Friday of each month. Our first dinner is **THIS Friday, April 7th, at 5:00pm** at the Smoke’n Pit Bar-B-Q restaurant, 2200 Kings Highway. If you would like to carpool, meet us at the church at 4:30pm. Please sign up in the church foyer.

**“THE STORY OF MOSES” EXCURSION** – **The deadline to sign up is April 9th** for this event to see “The Story of Moses” on **Saturday, April 22nd, 7:00pm**, at Cattlemen’s Arena in Wauchla, FL. The cost is \$22 per person for assigned stadium seating. We will carpool from the church at 5:30pm.

**POTLUCK DINNER & MOVIE** – Plan to attend our next Potluck Dinner on **Wednesday, April 19th, at 5:30pm**. The movie “Risen” will be shown. Please sign up in the church foyer and share the following (last names beginning with):  
(A-H) Meat (I-O) Dessert (P-Z) Salad or Vegetable

**RICE & PINTO BEANS SUNDAY** – We will collect rice & pinto beans for Misión Peniel **next Sunday, April 9th**. Please place your items in the tall container in the church entrance.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** – **Monday, April 10th** for the May newsletter.

**HELPING MISIÓN PENIEL** – Our next mission trip to Immokalee is **Friday, April 28th**. We carpool from the church at 12:15pm. Call Dianne Sizemore at 941-676-7086 or the church to volunteer. Place donations of *gently used blankets, sheets, towels, long-sleeve t-shirts and regular shirts* in the wicker basket.

**SUPPORT THE “PUNTA GORDA VETERANS VILLAGE” ON TAYLOR ROAD** – Please place these items in the green basket in the church foyer: non-perishable foods and miscellaneous household items. Information about the Veterans Village and a suggested list of donations are found by the basket.

**LOAVES AND FISHES MINISTRY** – Are you interested in making a meal when there is a short-term need in the congregation due to an illness or loss? Or deliver a meal that someone else has fixed? If so, please call the church office to volunteer.

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MINISTRY** – Our RED “Welcome Bags” are in the church foyer waiting for you to deliver to a new neighbor in your neighborhood.

**MISSIONARY SUPPORT** – We are financially supporting two missionary families through Antioch Partners. Eric & Debbie Stone and family are serving in Guatemala and Lisa Alfonsi is serving in Peru. Please pray for them. If you would like to donate to either of these missionaries, please make checks payable to the church and on the memo line write “Stone Family” or “Lisa Alfonsi”.

**CROSSROADS MINISTRY** – Crossroads Hope Academy is in need of operating funds for their new phase of ministry. To make a donation, please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and on the memo line write “Crossroads.”

**PLEASE BRING IN FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY** - Let us see the blue food bin overflowing each week. **Some suggestions: peanut butter, jelly, cereal and soup.**

**PRAYER EMAIL LIST** – If you would like to be on Pastor Steve’s prayer email list, please email Pastor Steve at [steve@fpcpunta.org](mailto:steve@fpcpunta.org).

**MUSIC MINISTRY** – Special Music is available in an mp3 format by emailing Randy at [rpc1220@me.com](mailto:rpc1220@me.com). We also have a private Facebook page where music and occasional videos are uploaded for your enjoyment. To gain access to this page, please email Randy. Live streaming of services is available on our website homepage ([www.fpcpunta.org](http://www.fpcpunta.org)) by clicking on the link: WATCH LIVE AND RECENT SERVICES HERE.

**FLOWERS** – May be sponsored for the **cost of \$37.50**. To make a donation, sign up in the church foyer. You may list the flowers in honor and/or in memory of something or someone.

**EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

**April 2nd thru April 9th**

<b><u>Sunday, April 2</u></b>	<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting
<b><u>Monday, April 3</u></b>	
10:00am	Discover your S.H.A.P.E. Class
3:30pm	Worship Team
<b><u>Tuesday, April 4</u></b>	
10:00am	Women’s Bible Study at the Cuzners
<b><u>Wednesday, April 5</u></b>	
10:00am	Bible Study
<b><u>Thursday, April 6</u></b>	
8:00am	R.O.M.E.O.S. & J.U.L.I.E.T.S.
9:30am	The Second Cup
5:30pm	Praise Team
7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
<b><u>Friday, April 7</u></b>	
5:00pm	Sociable Singles
<b><u>Sunday, April 9</u></b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
9:00am	<i>New Beginnings</i> Worship
10:30am	Traditional Worship
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting

**SERMON NOTES**

**Matthew 27:27-31 (NIV)**

<sup>27</sup>Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. <sup>28</sup>They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup>and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. “Hail, king of the Jews!” they said. <sup>30</sup>They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. <sup>31</sup>After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Loving...Growing...Going...in Jesus!*



**ECO**

A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians

**OUR VISION AND PURPOSE**

**LOVING...**

*... God and others through worship and fellowship*

**GROWING...**

*... in our understanding Jesus’ and God’s purposes for us through Bible study, and developing our ministries to serve God and others*

**GOING...**

*... into God’s world with His message of love and salvation through Jesus Christ, and with His ministries of compassion and mercy*

**ALL IN JESUS’ NAME!**

**ECO’S VISION**

*... to build flourishing churches that make disciples of Jesus Christ*

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**April 2, 2017**

**9:00am & 10:30am**

**WELCOME**

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 visitor and friend, and that you have chosen to hear God’s call with this congregation. If you are living in this area, either permanently or for the season, we invite you to join hands in ministry with us by becoming a covenant partner of our congregation.

**PASTOR**  
**ASSISTANT PASTOR**  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR**  
**OFFICE MANAGER**  
**LITURGIST**  
**USHERS**

Rev. Steve Mock  
 Rev. Larry Yerger  
 Randall Curtis  
 Debbie Rostad  
 Ernie Lehman  
 Roy Belville, Jean LaMantia,  
 Nancy Murphy, Sharon Russell

**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: [www.fpcpunta.org](http://www.fpcpunta.org)**