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**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT****10:30am Worship Service**

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**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS****PRELUDE** *Allegro (from Concerto No. 8)* G. F. Handel**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** Don & Mary Anne Washabaugh**CALL TO WORSHIP****INTROIT** *A Jubilant Song* Allen Pote  
Chancel Choir**\*HYMN #244** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, we know we ought to be watching for signs of Your presence and of Your Son's coming. But we are so easily distracted by what is none of our business, like Peter worrying about the Master's love for John; or even by what is our business, like Martha cooking up a storm in her kitchen; or by sheer fatigue, like the disciples in Gethsemane. Forgive our distraction, most patient Lord, and let this Advent season find us alert to Your presence and eagerly looking forward to the coming of Your Son, both at Christmas and at the end of time. (Silent Confession)

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE****\*GLORIA PATRI #813****\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The First Creed – Ephesians 4:4-7 NKJV (*Unison*)

There is **One Body, and One Spirit, even as we are called in One Hope of our calling — One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One God and Father of us all, who is above all, and through all, and in all. Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.** Amen.

**ANTHEM** *Ready My Lord* Jonathan Lewis  
Chancel Choir**PASTORAL PRAYER****RESPONSE** *He's All I Need* R. P. Curtis**OFFERTORY** *Musette* G. F. Handel**\*DOXOLOGY #815****\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Blessed God, we stand before You as Your people, offering to You what we can in anticipation of Your coming again to earth. You give us much, we give You little - yet, You are gracious to bless what we give. Please accept these small gifts and transform them into the work of Your reign on this earth, as we make ready for the newborn Christ. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE** Isaiah 61:1-3**MESSAGE** *Good News – For the Poor* Pastor Steve Mock**\*HYMN #461** *In Remembrance***SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Invitation and Prayer of Dedication

Sharing the Bread and Cup

The Prayer of Thanksgiving &amp; the Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

**\*HYMN #170** *Give Thanks***\*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.**

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #502319310

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**9:00am New Beginnings Service**

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**GATHERING SONG** *Rock of Ages***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE****\*PRAISING GOD IN SONG** *His Love Is Strong*  
*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*  
*Come, Now is the Time to Worship***PRAYER****OFFERING** *Cry of My Heart***SPECIAL MUSIC** *Emmanuel, God With Us*  
New Beginnings Praise Team**SCRIPTURE** Isaiah 61:1-3**MESSAGE** *Good News – For the Poor* Pastor Steve Mock**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER****\*CLOSING SONG** *Emmanuel*

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**MINISTRY OF PRAYER**

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***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 new denomination 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 Rob and Jennifer Taylor, missionaries to Zambia, that we support.

***Those who Grieve***

- Pray for Arlene Gebel and family on the passing of her husband, Paul Gebel, on October 28th, 2015.
- Pray for Don Rebholz on the loss of his brother, Rodney Rebholz, on November 20th, 2015.

***Those with Special Needs***Jerry & Nancy Julius Rev. Larry Yerger  
Helmut Ehrhardt Fred Tabert  
Kay Callahan Arlene Gebel  
Ella Sifferd Carol Foster  
Dianne Sizemore Nancy Beasom  
Helen Anderson Cara Coletti***Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes***Barbara Shinn, *The Palms of Punta Gorda* Dorothy Blue, *Harbor Terrace*  
Lorraine Sisson, *Saginaw, MI* Marion Brown, *Royal Palm*  
Esther Wheeler John Milligan, *Sandhill Gardens*

*Please keep the office updated concerning your requests.*  
*Requests will be listed for 4 weeks and then removed unless updated.*

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***Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the 10:30am service******CELL PHONES*** – Please remember to silence or turn off your mobile devices.***FLOWERS*** – The flowers this morning are given by Diane Truby in memory of her husband, John Truby.***DECEMBER NEWSLETTER*** is available in the foyer and on our website.

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**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

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***PRAYER MEETING*** – 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.***PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY*** meets **THIS Tuesday, December 1st.** We continue with the study of Luke using Elizabeth George's *Living with Passion & Purpose, A Woman After God's Own Heart.* The study meets at the home of Sharon Cuzner, 2615 Rio Grande Drive, PGI. We begin at 10am and meet about 1½ hours with time for fellowship and refreshments.***BIBLE STUDY AT FPCPG*** – Pastor Larry is leading a study on the Book of Ezekiel **Wednesday mornings at 10am.** The study is open to everyone.***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 at 8:00am **THIS Thursday, December 3rd.** 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, December 3rd 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.***CHRISTMAS DINNER*** - The Fellowship Team invites you to their 2015 Christmas Dinner **THIS Saturday, December 5th at 5:30pm.** Ham, beverages and cake will be furnished. Please bring your favorite dish for the buffet table. The Dunnemans will present a Gospel Music Concert for us at 7:00pm. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the church foyer.***CHOOSE YOUR GAME*** – Join us for a Game Morning activity every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 10am to Noon in Fellowship Hall. In December we meet **Tuesdays, December 8th and 22nd.** Curious? Come one and all, men and women – to either play a variety of games, or just to observe.***PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHRISTMAS LUNCH*** – All women of the church are invited to our Christmas Lunch on **Thursday, December 10th at 11am** in Fellowship Hall. Please bring finger sandwiches or desserts to share; as well as cookies and cookie tins to package for shut-ins, veterans and police officers.***CHRISTMAS CANTATA*** – On **Sunday, December 13th, at the 10:30am service,** the Chancel Choir will present a Christmas Cantata called "Go Tell It!". Come join us for this special musical presentation that will open your hearts for the season of Christmas. Invite friends and neighbors to attend with you!***CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA*** – Remember a loved one this Christmas by giving a poinsettia to help decorate the church. Suggested donation is \$7 per poinsettia. Special envelopes for your poinsettia donations are on the table in the back of the sanctuary. **Please return your envelope by December 13th** in order to be listed in a special bulletin insert.***SHOEBOX GIFTING FOR MISIÓN PENIEL*** – Fill a shoebox for the children at Misión Peniel. The shoeboxes will be collected until **Sunday, December 13th.** A list of suggested items is in the church foyer. Mark the box "boy" or "girl" and the age on it. Do not wrap it, as we may add items to each box.***HELPING MISIÓN PENIEL*** – Our next mission trip to Immokalee will be **Friday, December 18th,** when we will deliver the **Shoebbox Gifts.** We will carpool from the church at 12:15pm. Call Dianne Sizemore or the church office to volunteer. Donations of **gently used blankets, sheets, towels, long-sleeve t-shirts and regular shirts** can be put in the wicker basket in the church foyer.***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? Are you willing to deliver a meal that someone else has fixed? If so, please call the church office to volunteer.

**CROSSROADS MINISTRY** – AMI KIDS Crossroads is in need of operating funds. To donate, please make checks payable to the church and on the memo line write “Crossroads.”

**MISSIONARY SUPPORT** – We are financially supporting the Taylor family in their 2-year commitment in Zambia, Africa. Please pray for them. If you would like to donate to this mission, please make checks payable to the church and on the memo line write “Taylor Family.”

**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.**

**FURRY FRIENDS** – Our furry friends need your help! In the church foyer there is a green tub where you can put dog and cat food, animal toys and gently used blankets and towels. For questions, ask Randy or Diane Curtis.

**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).

**OUR DAILY BREAD** – This booklet of daily devotionals is on the back table in the Sanctuary.

**FPC’S 120TH ANNIVERSARY HISTORY BOOK** – If you would like a copy of our church’s history book, please sign up for one in the church foyer.

**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.

**THE FELLOWSHIP TEAM** requests your comments & suggestions for our activities. An “idea box” is on the sign-up table in the church foyer.

**FLOWERS** – May be sponsored for the **cost of \$37**. 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.

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**EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

**November 29th thru December 6th**

<b><u>Sunday, November 29</u></b> 6:00pm	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> Prayer Meeting
<b><u>Tuesday, December 1</u></b> 10:00am	Women’s Bible Study at the Cuzners
<b><u>Wednesday, December 2</u></b> 10:00am	Bible Study
<b><u>Thursday, December 3</u></b> 8:00am 9:30am 5:30pm 7:00pm	R.O.M.E.O.S. & J.U.L.I.E.T.S. Second Cup Praise Team Choir Rehearsal
<b><u>Saturday, December 5</u></b> 5:30pm	Christmas Dinner Party & Program
<b><u>Sunday, December 6</u></b> 9:00am 10:30am 6:00pm	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> New Beginnings Worship Traditional Worship Prayer Meeting

**SERMON NOTES**

**Isaiah 61:1-3 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, <sup>2</sup>to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, <sup>3</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup>and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

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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 – Friday  
Website: [www.fpcpunta.org](http://www.fpcpunta.org)

**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*

**November 29, 2015**

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

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**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  
Dave Sifferd  
Kay Callahan, Nancy Murphy,  
Phyllis Richardson, Pat Patterson