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**WORSHIP SERVICE**

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**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC** Gospel Music

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *In A Quiet Garden* Louise E. Stairs

**CALL TO WORSHIP****PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**\*HYMN #539** *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

**\*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** *Send The Light / This Little Light of Mine* arr. Joseph Martin  
Choral Ensemble

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

**OFFERTORY** *Antiphon* Gordon Young

**\*DOXOLOGY****\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Loving God, as You have shared life and love with us, lead us to share even more generously our lives and our love. May we know that as we give and share, others come to know You in our lives and our love. Direct our steps in discipleship and renew our devotion to You so that through Your church we might be helpful and generous in love to a world in great need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN #479** *Softly and Tenderly*

**SCRIPTURE** Philippians 2:5-8

**MESSAGE** *Humility* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

**\*HYMN #572** *Blessed Assurance*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #669** *Make Me a Servant*

**POSTLUDE** *Spring Praise* Chester Nordman

\*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth  
CCLI #1140231 CVLI #505503731

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**MINISTRY OF PRAYER**

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**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**

Rachel Pfaender	Phyllis Ehrhardt	Rick Berner
Lynn Lang	Ron Sixt	Dave Sifferd

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**NOTES**

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**PRAYER QUOTE** – “God always gives you what you would have asked for if you knew everything he knows.” – Tim Keller

**FLOWERS** – The flowers are given today by Roy and Kathy Belville in honor of their 56th wedding anniversary.

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

**MARCH NEWSLETTER** – Available in the church foyer and on our website.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – 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](mailto: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](http://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**

	<u>February 2025</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Tithes & Offerings	\$24,036.42	\$47,783.68
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$23,256.20</u>	<u>\$46,209.44</u>
Net	\$ 780.22	\$ 1,574.24

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**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

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**GATHER FOR PRAYER** – A prayer meeting is held Sundays at 6pm online. Please submit any prayer requests to [first@fpcpunta.org](mailto:first@fpcpunta.org).

**SEASON OF LENT DEVOTIONALS** – We have devotionals for you to choose from in the church foyer to help you prepare for Holy Week (**April 13th – April 20th**).

**SANCTUARY CROSS** – The Colors of the Cross are a symbolic depiction of the Easter season. For the beginning of the Lenten Season the cross is draped in purple. The purple cloth remains on the cross from Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday representing royalty – the King of kings has come. The black cloth remains on the cross from Good Friday through Saturday – representing His death. The white cloth is placed on the cross Easter Sunday representing His resurrection – His victory over sin, death and Satan.

**EASTER POSTCARD** – Pick up an Easter Postcard in the church foyer and invite a neighbor to church Easter Week.

**CHORAL ENSEMBLE** – You are invited to join with others in singing a song on Easter Sunday. We will rehearse on Thursdays, April 3rd, 10th, and 17th at 3:30pm.

**DEACON'S FUND OFFERING TODAY** – Our monthly collection supports our efforts to help congregation needs, emergency needs, Misión Peniel Spanish devotionals, and others.

**ACTIVITIES / EVENTS**

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** – **Tuesday, March 18th, 10:00am in Fellowship Hall.** We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. On March 18th we will do Lesson 24, Esther 9:29-32, “Sending Out the Word”. Call Kathy Belville at 508-733-0546 for more information – *All are welcome!*

**DONUTS & DOCTRINE** – **Wednesday, March 19th at 10:00am** – Join us on Wednesday mornings as we begin a new study on the **“History of the Early Church – Christ, Characters & Confessions”**. *All are welcome!*

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER** – **Wednesday, March 19th, at 5:00pm.** Join us for our St. Patrick's Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. Suggested Donation is \$7.00. Sign up in the church foyer.

**LADIES LUNCH BUNCH** – **Friday, March 21st, 11:30am** – Sign up in the church foyer for Pita & Puff in Port Charlotte.

**MISIÓN PENIEL** – Our next trip to Immokalee is **Friday, March 28th** – we will help at the Mission in the afternoon. Meet at the church at **12:00pm.** *We need 12 people for these mission trips!* Sign up in the church foyer.

**PEACE RIVER GARDENS TOUR** – **Tuesday, April 8th at 9:00am.** Plan to meet us at Peace River Gardens. Cost is \$15.00. Sign up in the church foyer.

**BURGERS FOR BADGES** – **Monday, April 21st, from 11:00am – 1:00pm.** Help us show our appreciation to our local and retired First Responders as we grill out hamburgers and hotdogs. Sign up in the church foyer to bring cookies or desserts. If you would like to make a donation to help defray the costs of this outreach event, please designate it as “B4B”.

**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS** – **Sunday, April 27th at Noon.** If you are interested in joining the church, or just finding out more information about FPC, **please join us for lunch and a one class introduction to FPC.** (For Seasonal Residents, we have an Affiliate Membership, so you can maintain your Membership back home.)

**PULLEN UP A CHAIR** – **Wednesday, May 7th at 5:00pm.** Barksdale and Bo host get-together dinners at their home for groups of eight. Sign up in the church foyer, or call/email the church to reserve a night. There is no agenda, lesson, or study; just a time to get together for fellowship and to learn more about one another.

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**MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES**

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**JESUS LOVES YOU MINISTRY SPECIAL NEEDS – Shower Ministry** (Wednesday mornings in our parking lot) – Please place “shower” items on the table in the back of Fellowship Hall.

**MISSIONS SUPPORT** – If you would like to donate to the missionaries and organizations that we are supporting in 2025 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)
- 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.

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**EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

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**March 16th – March 23rd**

**Sunday, March 16**

10:30am  
11:30am  
6:00pm

**Second Sunday in Lent**

**Deacon’s Fund Sunday**  
Worship Service (Also Online)  
Fellowship Time  
Prayer Meeting-FB

**Monday, March 17**

1:00pm

Session

**Tuesday, March 18**

10:00am

Women’s Bible Study

**Wednesday, March 19**

10:00am  
10:00am  
5:00pm

Donuts & Doctrine  
Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry  
St. Patrick’s Day Dinner

**Thursday, March 20**

10:00am

Game Fellowship

**Friday, March 21**

11:30am

Ladies Lunch Bunch

**Sunday, March 23**

10:30am  
11:30am  
6:00pm

**Third Sunday in Lent**

Worship Service (Also Online)  
Fellowship Time  
Prayer Meeting-FB

**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](mailto:first@fpcpunta.org) Website: [fpcpunta.org](http://fpcpunta.org)

Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday

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**SERMON NOTES**

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**Philippians 2:5-8**

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;  
rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!



***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.*

**March 16, 2025**

**10:30am**

**PASTOR**

Dr. Barksdale Pullen

**ORGANIST**

Denny Ausman

**OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN**

Debbie Rostad

**LITURGIST**

Kathy Belville

**USHERS**

Donna DeBree, Pete DeBree, Patti MacDonald, Sam Cessna

**AV TECH**

George Fallenbeck, Gene McPherson, Jim Nuznoff