
SWORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Classical Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Amazing Grace* arr. Fred Bock
Debbie Rostad, Piano; Denny Ausman, Organ

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP #346 *This Is Love*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

INTROIT *O Worship the Lord (Psalm 96)* Robert McCutchen
Chancel Choir

***HYMN #444** *I Love to Tell the Story*

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Wondrous and generous God, You have blessed us with gentle rains, glorious sunsets and sun-warmed days. You bless us with loving families, kind friends and a caring church. Let us receive these gifts with thankfulness and humility. We cannot earn nor do we deserve such generosity, but we graciously open our hearts and hands to receive. Forgive us when we are hardhearted and tight-handed, when we don't let Your goodness flow through us, when we hide our talents and turn away from the needs of the world. Release us, Holy One, from fear, and create a contagious spirit of giving that touches the world with hope. *(Silent Confession)*

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***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 *Bread and Wine, Wine and Bread* John Carter/Mary Kay Beall
Chancel Choir

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

OFFERTORY *Offertory* David H. Hegarty

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We give our gifts in love and thanksgiving for all that we have been given. Let our giving, gracious God, be not the end point but rather the beginning. Let our gifts of love and gratitude travel where we do not, making pathways of hope where there is none. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #347** *And Can It Be?*

SCRIPTURE Acts 20:17-38

MESSAGE *Paul at Ephesus* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

COMMUNION HYMN *O Lord, You're Beautiful*

COMMUNION

***HYMN #648** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE** *God Be with You till We Meet Again* Rankin/Vaughan Williams
Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE *Rejoice, Be Glad* Todd Kendall

*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth
CCLI #1140231 CVLI #505465757

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 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

Pray for the family of Ron Beasom, who went home to the Lord on April 22nd. A Memorial Service will be held in our Sanctuary on Saturday, May 11th at 10:00am.

Those with Special Needs

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

Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

Marion Brown - *Life Care, Punta Gorda*

NOTES

FLOWERS – The flowers are given today by Marguerite O'Brien in memory of All Mothers.

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

MAY 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

	<u>April 2024</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Tithes & Offerings	\$16,136.71	\$90,636.30
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$22,455.08</u>	<u>\$92,650.98</u>
Net	(\$6,318.37)	(\$2,014.68)

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

THE TWO PIANO GROUP – *This afternoon at 3:00pm* – The Two Piano Group returns for a “Spring Concert” in our Sanctuary. A Freewill offering will be taken – suggested donation is \$15.00.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – *Tuesday, May 7th at 10:00am* – “*Taking the High Road*” – *Esther 5:9-14*. 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 & DOCTRINE – *Wednesday, May 8th at 10:00am* -- We have just begun a new study on *Psalms – Prayers of the Heart*, which will take us through May 29th.

MEMORIAL SERVICE – A Memorial Service for Ron Beasom will be held in our Sanctuary on *Saturday, May 11th, at 10:00am.*

SERMON ON THE SAND – *Sunday, May 12th at 8:00am.* Sermon on the Sand is held every Sunday from 8:00-8:30am at Fishermen's Village. Pastor Barksdale will deliver the Message on May 12th.

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST – *Sunday, May 12th at 9:00am* – Sign up now to join us for breakfast and then stay for the Worship Service at 10:30am.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – *Friday, May 17th, 12:00pm* – Please sign up and join us for lunch at Wally's BBQ in Port Charlotte. **All ladies are invited!**

MISIÓN PENIEL – Our next trip to Immokalee is *Friday, May 31st* – we will help at the Mission in the morning. Please meet at the church at 9:15am, leaving at 9:30am. *We need 5-6 people to go*, so please sign up in the church foyer.

MEMORIAL SERVICE – A Memorial Service for former member Fran Koon will be held in our Sanctuary on *Friday, May 31st, at 11:00am.* A Burial Service will follow at the National Cemetery in Sarasota at 2:30pm.

THE CHOSEN SEASON 4 – Now rescheduled to begin *Wednesday, June 12th.* Dinner will be served at 5:00pm, followed by the first episode of The Chosen Series-Season 4. 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 2024 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)

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.

EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

May 5th to May 12th

Sunday, May 5

10:30am

11:30am

3:00pm

6:00pm

Communion Sunday

Worship Service (Also Online)

Fellowship Time

The Two Piano Group Spring Concert

Prayer Meeting-FB

Monday, May 6

1:00pm

Worship Team

Tuesday, May 7

10:00am

1:00pm

Women’s Bible Study

Fellowship Team

Wednesday, May 8

10:00am

10:00am

Donuts & Doctrine

Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry

Thursday, May 9

10:00am

3:30pm

Game Fellowship

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, May 11

10:00am

Memorial Service for Ron Beasom

Sunday, May 12

8:00am

9:00am

10:30am

11:30am

6:00pm

Happy Mother’s Day

Sermon on the Sand – Pastor Barksdale

Mother’s Day Breakfast

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

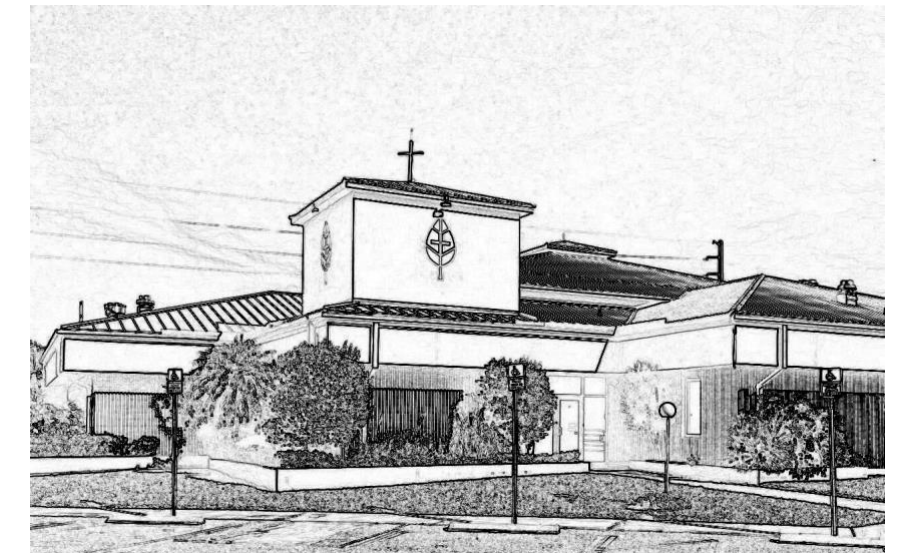
Website: fpcpunta.org

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

SERMON NOTES

Acts 20:17-38

¹⁷ Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸ And when they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰ how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹ testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²² And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴ But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵ And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶ Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. ³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I coveted no one’s silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵ In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” ³⁶ And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. ³⁷ And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, ³⁸ being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.



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.

May 5, 2024

10:30am

PASTOR

Dr. Barksdale Pullen

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Joan Byron

ORGANIST

Denny Ausman

OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN

Debbie Rostad

LITURGIST

Sam Cessna

USHERS

Maria Greene, Patti MacDonald, Katie Schulte, Andy Schulte