
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Hymn Sing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Near to the Heart of God* Lani Smith

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 138)

One: I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart.
I sing your praise and give thanks for your steadfast love and faithfulness.
You have exalted your name and your word above everything.

All: On the day I called, you answered me. You increased my strength of soul.

One: Though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

**All: Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies.
You stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.**

One: The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me.
Your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

All: Do not forsake the work of your hands.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***HYMN #65** *Stand Up and Bless the Lord*

*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 *Lord, Listen to your Children Praying* Ken Medema

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

OFFERTORY *A Prayer for Peace* Tom Birchwood

*DOXOLOGY

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

SCRIPTURE John 17

MESSAGE *Jesus' High Priestly Prayer* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

***HYMN #446** *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*

*BENEDICTION

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #419** *The Family of God*

POSTLUDE *Praise Ye The Lord* Jane Carrier

*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 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

NOTES

PRAYER QUOTE – “The reality is, my prayers don’t change God. But, I am convinced prayer changes me. Praying boldly boots me out of that stale place of religious habit into authentic connection with God Himself.” – Lysa TerKeurst

FLOWERS – The flowers are given by Joan Hoffman in loving memory of George-husband, father, and grandfather.

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

FEBRUARY 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>December 2024</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Tithes & Offerings	\$20,613.56	\$279,758.04
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$21,139.63</u>	<u>\$259,997.54</u>
Net	(\$526.07)	\$ 19,760.50**

** Due to your generosity, we were able to transfer \$10,000.00 to the Capital Reserve Fund, to help with our Air Conditioner repairs needed in 2025.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

NEED FOR MORE USHERS – If you would like to serve on Sunday mornings as an usher, please sign up in the church foyer or contact Bev Brady for more information.

GROUNDS CREW – Looking for 5-6 people, with line trimmers, to serve on the Grounds Crew of the church. Our main focus will be the pond area and Memorial Garden, every couple of months or so. Sign up in the church foyer or contact Sam Cessna if interested. Thank you!

CHORAL ENSEMBLE – You are invited to join with others singing a song in Worship on February 16th and March 16th as part of our music ministry. We will rehearse on Thursdays, February 6th and 13th at 3:30pm. Come join in the fun shared through music.

WILDFIRE RELIEF – We are so grateful for all of you who have reached out to help with Southern CA wildfire relief. ECO's SoCal and Mission presbyteries have coordinated for giving and distributing funds. In addition, Convoy of Hope and World Renew are trusted partners and friends who are already very hard at work. If you would like to contribute from FPC, please place your gift in the special envelope. Thank-you.

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

DONUTS & DOCTRINE – **Wednesday, January 29th at 10:00am** – Join us on Wednesday mornings for Donuts & Doctrine as we study “A Resilient Faith” using II Timothy. *All are welcome!*

MISIÓN PENIEL – Our next trip to Immokalee is **Friday, January 31st** – we will help at the Mission in the afternoon. Meet at the church at **12:15pm**. *We need 12 people for these mission trips!* Sign up in the church foyer.

SERMON ON THE SAND – **Sunday, February 2nd, at 8:00am**. This is held every Sunday from 8:00-8:30am at Fishermen’s Village. Pastor Barksdale delivers the Message on February 2nd.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY – **Tuesday, February 4th, 10:00am in Fellowship Hall**. We are studying “Becoming A Woman of Beauty & Strength” (a book about *Esther*) by Elizabeth George. **We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.** On February 4th we study Lesson 22, Esther 9:16-19, “Celebrating God’s Goodness”. Call Kathy Belville at 508-733-0546 for more information – All are welcome!

PULLEN UP A CHAIR – **Wednesday, February 5th 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 office 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.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – **Friday, February 7th, 12:00pm** – Sign up for Skillet’s Restaurant in Port Charlotte.

CONGREGATIONAL / CORPORATION MEETING – **Sunday, February 9th, following the Worship Service**. Please plan to attend. Annual reports are available.

VALENTINE’S DAY POTLUCK DINNER – **Wednesday, February 12th, 5:00pm** – Sign up in the church foyer for dinner followed by a movie.

ANNUAL VALENTINE MEMORIAL SERVICE – **Sunday, February 16th at 11:30am**. This is a short service of remembrance for those who passed away in 2024 from our church family and in memory of other loved ones. We will begin in the Sanctuary and move to the Lowell Kvam Memorial Garden.

LUNCH ‘N’ LEARN – **Wednesday, February 26th at 12:00pm**. Join us for lunch and a seminar on “End of Life Preparations”. Sign up in the church foyer.

MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

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.

EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

January 26th – February 2nd

Sunday, January 26

- 9:30am Membership Class
- 10:15am Hymn Sing
- 10:30am Worship Service (Also Online)
- 11:30am Fellowship Time
- 6:00pm Prayer Meeting-FB

Wednesday, January 29

- 10:00am Donuts & Doctrine
- 10:00am Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry

Thursday, January 30

- 10:00am Game Fellowship

Friday, January 31

- 12:15pm Mission Trip to Immokalee

Sunday, February 2nd

- 10:30am **Communion Sunday**
Worship Service (Also Online)
- 11:30am Fellowship Time
- 6:00pm 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

John 17



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.

January 26, 2025

10:30am

PASTOR	Dr. Barksdale Pullen
ORGANIST	Denny Ausman
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN	Debbie Rostad
LITURGIST	Sam Cessna
USHERS	Merrilyn Ellison, Susie Lorenz, Linda Wagar, Don Washabaugh
AV TECH	George Fallenbeck, Gene McPherson, Jim Nuznoff