

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* Johann Gottfried Walther

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

\*HYMN #104 *O Worship the King*

RESPONSIVE READING (Psalm 116:1-2, 5-7)

Leader: I love the Lord for he heard my voice,  
*All: he heard my cry for mercy.*  
Leader: Because he turned his ear to me.  
*All: I will call on him as long as I live.*  
Leader: The Lord is gracious and righteous;  
*All: our God is full of compassion.*  
Leader: The Lord protects the simple hearted;  
*All: when I was in great need, he saved me.*  
Leader: Be at rest once more, O my soul,  
*All: for the Lord has been good to you.*

\*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.

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Gloria Patri*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC *Amazing Grace*  
Gail Thornton

SCRIPTURE 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

SERMON *Still Confused* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

\*HYMN #410 *Standing on the Promises*

\*BENEDICTION

\*HYMN #340 *Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus*

POSTLUDE *Marche Jubilant* Robert W. Thygerson

OFFERING

*CASH & CHECKS - Offering plates are in the back of the church. You may leave your tithe or offering there as you leave today or mail it directly to the church office.*  
*GIVE ONLINE – Visit [www.fpcpunta.org/donate](http://www.fpcpunta.org/donate) for online options.*

\*Please stand, if able  
Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth  
CCLI #1140231 CVLI #504324254

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

*Prayer Focus*

- Pray for peace and healing for our nation at this time of unrest – pandemic and protests. Pray for our leaders that they would have wisdom to navigate all the issues facing our nation.
- Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- Pray for those who serve in the military and their families.
- Pray for First Responders and Healthcare Workers.
- Pray for our church and ECO as we seek to be a flourishing church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Pray for Lisa Alfonsi and Eric Stone & family, missionaries that we support in Peru and Guatemala.
- Pray for Crossroads, the mission for foster boys in Punta Gorda.
- Pray for Jesus Loves You Ministry in Port Charlotte.
- Pray for Misión Peniel, the mission that we support in Immokalee.
- Pray for Chasen and Katie Brokaw, missionaries that we support in Nicaragua.

*Those Who Grieve*

Pray for Joanie Mock and family, whose brother Roger went home to the Lord on February 10th.  
Pray for the family of Marcia Ling, whose husband Cy went home to the Lord on February 11th.  
Pray for the family of Dianne Sizemore, who went home to the Lord on February 21st.

*Those with Special Needs*

Rachel Pfaender	Kay Callahan	Barb Harris
Ella Sifferd	Ron Sixt	Phyllis Ehrhardt
Irene Csontos	Tom Kerr	Rick Berner
Jean Humphreys	Jean LaMantia	Susie Lorenz

*Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes*

Jean Hinman, *The Palms of Punta Gorda* Marion Brown, *Royal Palm*

NOTES

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

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

**PICTURE DIRECTORIES** – Available in the church foyer.

**FLOWERS** – The flowers today are given by Roy and Kathy Belville in celebration of 53 years of marriage.

**ROSE** – The rose on the organ is in celebration of the ninth great grandchild of Marjorie Haun. Ellaina Claire Sassa was born on March 3rd to Marjorie’s grandson Tom Sasso and Leann Drummond of Canastota, New York.

**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. ***There are openings for March and May.***

**NOTE FROM ELAINE SCHULTZ** – *Dear 1st Presbyterian church family. Thank you for letting me join you from Virginia virtually. I so appreciate your talents, singing familiar hymns, voices, piano and organ, those running the sound system, Sue's flute music, Nancy’s Preservice music. The feeling like I am right with you each Sunday, seeing all the familiar faces. The love I have for each of you puts smiles on my face every Sunday morning. Thanks so much. God bless each of you. In Jesus name, Xo Elaine Schultz*

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

- **Palm Sunday – March 28 – 10:30am** Worship Service
- **Maundy Thursday – April 1 – 7:00pm** Communion Service
- **Good Friday – April 2 – 12:00pm** Good Friday Service
- **Easter Sunday – April 4**
  - **7:00am** Sunrise Service in east parking lot
  - **9:00am** Worship Service
  - **10:30am** Worship Service

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**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).  
**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.

**PUNTA GORDA MURAL WALK MARCH 23RD**– Join Pastor Barksdale as we walk through downtown Punta Gorda and see eleven of the murals and learn a little of the history of Punta Gorda. The walk is approximately two miles and we will ***gather at the church at 9:00am on Tuesday, March 23.*** We will finish around 11:00am at Harbor Scoops for a treat. Invite a friend and sign up in the church foyer, limited to twelve people. (We will do the walk again on April 12.)

**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS** – Are you interested in joining the church, or learning a bit more about its history and future? Join Pastor Barksdale on ***Sunday mornings, April 18 & 25, at 9:15.*** (Our denomination, ECO, also has an affiliate membership for those wishing to retain their membership in their home church.)

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY**–***this Tuesday, March 16th, 10-11:30am*** at the church. The study is *If You Want to Walk on Water, You’ve Got to Get Out of the Boat* by John Ortberg. All are welcome!

**DONUTS & DOCTRINE** — Our Wednesday Morning Bible Study, led by Pastor Barksdale Pullen, meets on ***Wednesday, March 17th, at 10:00am*** both at the church and online. In March and April, we will continue with the stories of familiar hymns and look at the Book of James. ***Please join us in person or online.***

**GAME FELLOWSHIP** – Join us on ***Thursdays from 10am to Noon*** in Fellowship Hall. Come to play or just to observe.

**DEACON’S FUND** – ***Next Sunday, March 21st,*** is our monthly collection to help support congregation and emergency needs, Misión Peniel, and others.

**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 offering envelopes on the back table of the sanctuary. Suggested donation is \$7 for each lily. **Please have your envelope back by *Monday, March 29th,*** so that we can recognize you in the bulletin insert we are publishing.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE** – A Communion Service will be held on Thursday, ***April 1st, 7:00pm.***  
**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE** – A Good Friday Service will be held on Good Friday, ***April 2nd, at 12:00pm.***

**LIVING CROSS** – We are requesting flowers and greenery for the “living cross” which will be presented Easter morning. ***Please bring both the flowers and greenery between 9:00am and 10:00am on Saturday, April 3rd.*** Please sign up in the church foyer to help with the “living cross”.

**SUNRISE SERVICE ON EASTER SUNDAY** – The Sunrise Service will be held Easter Sunday morning, ***April 4th, at 7:00am*** in the east parking lot.

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### MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES (CONTINUED)

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**EASTER MORNING SERVICES** – Sunday, April 4th, at 9:00am and 10:30am.  
The 10:30am service will also be live streamed. Please register for the service you plan to attend in the church foyer or call the church office.

**MISSIONS SUPPORT** – If you would like to donate to the missionaries and organizations that we are supporting in 2021 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)

**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 ([www.fpcpunta.org](http://www.fpcpunta.org)) by clicking the logo *vimeo livestream*.

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### EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

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#### March 14th thru March 21st

**Sunday, March 14**  
6:00pm

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
Prayer Meeting (Online)

**Monday, March 15**  
1:00pm

Session

**Tuesday, March 16**  
10:00am

Women’s Bible Study

**Wednesday, March 17**  
10:00am

Bible Study

**Thursday, March 18**  
10:00am

Game Fellowship

**Sunday, March 21**  
10:30am  
6:00pm

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
Worship Service (Also Online)  
Prayer Meeting (Online)

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)

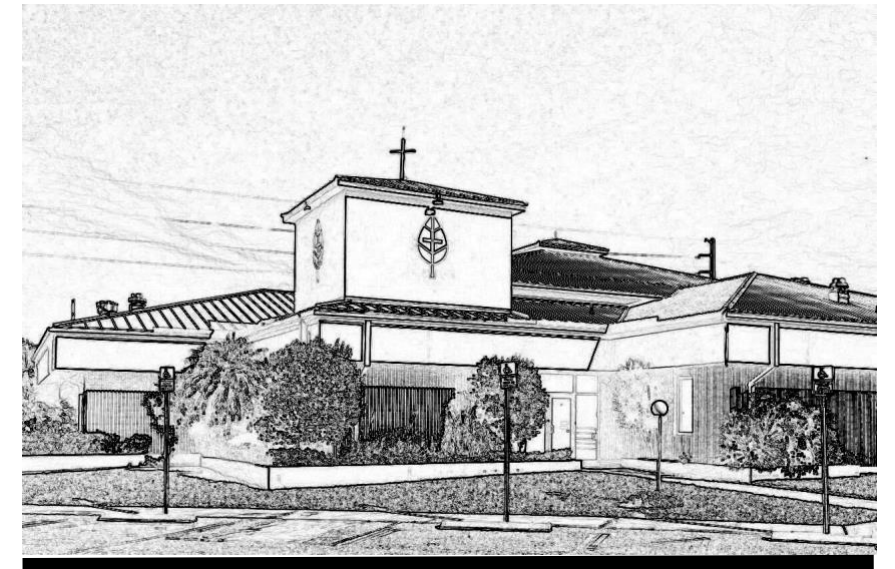
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### SERMON NOTES

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### *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.*

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**March 14, 2021**

**10:30am**

**PASTOR**  
**CHOIR DIRECTOR**  
**ORGANIST**  
**OFFICE MANAGER**  
**LITURGIST**

Dr. Barksdale Pullen  
Joan Byron  
Denny Ausman  
Debbie Rostad  
Ernie Lehman