

10:30am Worship Service

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDELord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy WordPlainsong Melody

CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROITPraise, Praise the LordJay AlthouseChancel Choir

*HYMN #320Beneath the Cross of Jesus

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most holy and gracious God, You have blessed us with gifts from Your Spirit, gifts to help others and gifts to build Your church. Yet, we have neglected those gifts and even hidden them because of our fears and selfishness. As a result, our church is weaker and our witness ineffective. Please forgive us and help us to use those spiritual gifts to strengthen Your church and mission, to the glory and praise of Your name and to the blessings of all around us. (Silent Confession)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*GLORIA PATRI #813

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from The Westminster Confession of Faith)

All those that are justified, God promises, in and for His only Son Jesus Christ, to make partakers of the grace of adoption: by which they are taken into the number and enjoy the liberties and privileges of the children of God; have His Name put upon them; receive the Spirit of adoption; have access to the throne of grace with boldness; are enabled to cry, Abba, Father; are pitied, protected, provided for and chastened by Him as by a Father; yet never cast off, but sealed to the day of redemption and inherit the promises as heirs of everlasting salvation.

ANTHEMThe Holy HeartMary McDonaldChancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSEHear Our PrayerR. P. Curtis

OFFERTORYWhen I Survey the Wondrous CrossGilbert MartinChancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY #815

*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.

SCRIPTUREMatthew 6:1-4

MESSAGESecret GivingPastor Steve Mock

*HYMN #311Hallelujah, What a Savior!

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSEThreefold AmenR. P. Curtis

*Please stand, if able

9:00am New Beginnings Service		
*OPENING		
*PRAISING GOD IN SONG		
PRAYER		
OFFERING		
SPECIAL MUSIC		
	The Holy Heart	Cry of My Heart
	New Beginnings Praise Team	
SCRIPTURE		
MESSAGE	Secret Giving	Matthew 6:1-4 Pastor Steve Mock
*CLOSING SONG		
		God Is Good

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

- 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 ECO as we seek to be a flourishing church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ
 - Pray for Charlotte County, for revival and renewal. Pray for Lisa Alfonsi and Eric Stone & family, missionaries that we support.
 - Pray for Misión Peniel, the mission that we support in Immokalee.
 - Pray for Crossroads Hope Academy, the mission for foster boys in PG.
- Those Who Grieve
- Pray for the family of Nancy Murphy, whose granddaughter, Allison went home to the Lord on February 20th.

Those with Special Needs		
Rachel Pfaender		Rev. Larry Yerger
Kay Callahan		Helen Anderson
Ella Sifferd		Nancy Beasom
Dianne Sizemore		Cara Coletti
Joe Brooks		Joe Cherny
Ken Haun		Rick Berner
Helmut Ehrhardt		Lynn Lang
Jean Cleffi		Dick Peterson
Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes		
Barbara Shinn, The Palms of Punta Gorda		Marion Brown, Royal Palm
Lorraine Sisson, Saginaw, MI		Mae Snyder, Port Charlotte Rehab
Doris Henning, Sandhill Gardens		Bill Frost, Parkside
Please keep the office updated concerning your requests.		

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH OUR HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE		
•	Palm Sunday – March 25 – 9am & 10:30am services	
•	Maundy Thursday – March 29 – 7pm Tenebrae Service	
•	Good Friday – March 30 – 12pm Communion Service	
•	Easter Sunday – April 1	
	– 7:00am	Sunrise Service in east parking lot (please bring your own chair)
	– 9:00am	New Beginnings Praise Worship
	– 10:30am	Traditional Service

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

FLOWERS – The flowers today are given by Kathy and Roy Belville in celebration of their anniversary.

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

PICTURE DIRECTORIES – Available in the church foyer.

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

LET’S PAINT THE CHURCH – If you would like to make a special offering to help paint the exterior of our church, please write “Paint” on the memo line of your check or pew envelope. Thank you for celebrating in God’s blessings to FPC.

GATHER FOR PRAYER – Please join others on **Sunday mornings at 10:10am** in the Conference Room to pray for our worship services. Also, **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 THIS Tuesday, March 20th at 10am. Our study is from Elizabeth George’s *A Woman after God’s Own Heart* series. We meet at the home of Sharon Cuzner, 2615 Rio Grande Drive, PGI. All women are invited.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY — Pastor Larry’s Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall. *All are welcome!*

ST. PATRICK’S DAY DINNER – Please join us **THIS Wednesday, March 21st at 5:30pm** for a St. Patrick’s Day Dinner in Fellowship Hall, featuring corned beef and cabbage. The featured guest is Yvette Fox, Powerlifter, who will speak and present her testimony. A suggested donation for this dinner is \$5.00 per person. Sign up now in the church foyer.

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 **THIS Thursday, March 22nd at 8:00am**. 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, March 22nd at 9:00am** in the Conference Room. We are studying the Gospel of John, (NIV Bible as the textbook). Bring a friend and join us on Thursday morning for a Second Cup.

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 26TH**, so that we can recognize you in the bulletin insert we are publishing.

TENEBRAE SERVICE ON MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 29TH, 7:00PM – On Maundy Thursday our Choir will present a dramatic work called “*Hope in the Shadows*”. This service will be filled with familiar music and narration and culminates in a very familiar and reflective song.

GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNION SERVICE – A Communion Service will be held on Good Friday, **March 30th at 12:00pm**.

LIVING CROSS – We are requesting flowers and greenery for the “living cross” which will be presented Easter morning. Please bring **greeneries at 10am on Saturday, March 31st - and the flowers at 8am on Easter Sunday**. *Please sign up in the church foyer to help decorate the “living cross”.*

SUNRISE SERVICE ON EASTER SUNDAY – The Sunrise Service will be held Easter Sunday morning, **April 1st at 7:00am** in the east parking lot.

“THE STORY OF JESUS” – The Fellowship Team is planning an excursion to see the Passion Play “*The Story of Jesus*” on **Friday, April 6th at 7:30pm** at Cattleman’s Arena, Wauchula, FL. Tickets are \$23.00 per person for bleacher seating. Sign up now in the church foyer.

SOCIABLE SINGLES – Please sign up in the church foyer for these events:
Friday, April 6th, 12:00pm – Olive Garden Restaurant, Port Charlotte. Carpool from the church at 11:30am.
Friday, April 20th, 12:00pm – Olympia Restaurant, Port Charlotte. Carpool from the church at 11:30am.
SAVE THE DATE – Wednesday, April 18th at 5:30pm – Fellowship Team is hosting a Potluck Dinner and a Movie night.
WOMEN’S EVENT APRIL 28TH — The sign up sheet is now available in the church foyer to register for a simulcast presentation by Priscilla Shirer at our church. See the March newsletter for details.
NEIGHBORHOOD WELCOME MINISTRY – Is someone moving into a house down the street from you? Our church’s Visitation Team would like you to call the church office and let us know the address only. We’d love to deliver a Welcome Bag to them. God Bless!
CROSSROADS MINISTRY – If you would like to donate to the ministry of Crossroads Hope Academy, please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and on the memo line write “Crossroads.”
SUPPORT THE “PUNTA GORDA VETERANS VILLAGE” ON TAYLOR ROAD – Please place donated items in the green basket in the church foyer.
HELPING MISIÓN PENIEL – Place donations of *gently used blankets, sheets, towels, long-sleeve t-shirts and regular shirts* in the wicker basket in the church foyer to support our mission work at Misión Peniel.
MISSIONARY SUPPORT – We are financially supporting two missionary families through Antioch Partners. If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to the church and on the memo line write “Stone Family” (Guatemala) or “Lisa Alfonsi” (Peru).
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.**
PRAYER EMAIL LIST – If you would like to be on Pastor Steve’s prayer email list, please email Pastor Steve at steve@fpcpunta.org.
OUR DAILY BREAD – This booklet of daily devotionals is on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.
MUSIC MINISTRY – Special Music is available in an mp3 format by emailing Randy at rpc1220@me.com. Live streaming of services is available on our website homepage (www.fpcpunta.org) by clicking on the link: WATCH LIVE AND RECENT SERVICES HERE.

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK		
March 18th thru March 25th		
<u>Sunday, March 18</u>	Fifth Sunday in Lent	
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting	
<u>Monday, March 19</u>		
1:00pm	Session	
<u>Tuesday, March 20</u>		
10:00am	Women’s Bible Study at the Cuzners	
<u>Wednesday, March 21</u>		
10:00am	Bible Study	
5:30pm	St. Patrick’s Dinner & Guest Speaker	
<u>Thursday, March 22</u>		
8:00am	R.O.M.E.O.S. & J.U.L.I.E.T.S.	
9:00am	Second Cup	
5:30pm	Praise Team	
7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal	
<u>Sunday, March 25</u>	Palm Sunday	
9:00am	New Beginnings Worship	
10:30am	Traditional Worship	
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting	

SERMON NOTES

Matthew 6:1-4 (NIV)

¹“Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. ²“So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Loving...Growing...Going...in Jesus!



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

Fifth Sunday in Lent	
March 18, 2018	9:00am & 10:30am

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	Rev. Steve Mock
ASSISTANT PASTOR	Rev. Larry Yerger
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Randall Curtis
OFFICE MANAGER	Debbie Rostad
LITURGIST	Don Washabaugh
USHERS	Roy Belville, Jean LaMantia, Sharon Russell, Carol Zutter

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