



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

JANUARY 22, 2023



Order of Worship

Third Sunday after Epiphany

** You are invited to stand
(Please remember to silence your cell phone during the service.)

When the prelude begins, let us quiet our hearts and conversation.

Church Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

I Come with Joy to Meet my Lord

Tune: Land of Rest
Trumpet Concerto in E^b
Arr. By: Robert Lau

Call to Worship (responsively)

One: We are here to praise God:

**All: with body and soul, mind and heart, with song and word,
with hands and feet.**

One: We are here to celebrate the differences that otherwise might divide us:

**All: differences of age, of body, of culture, of opinion, of ability,
of religious conviction.**

One: We are here to put things in perspective:

**All: to celebrate what matters, to laugh about things we take too
seriously, to cry about things that truly touch our hearts.**

One: So, may it be this morning:

**All: Speak to us this morning God for we are listening for Your
voice. Amen!**

Adapted from Liturgical Elements by Jim Burklo –
<http://tpec.blogs.com/musings/2012/12/jim-burklos-book-of-common-prayer.html>

Hymn of Faith #57

All Hail The, Power of Jesus' Name

Invocation (unison)

One: Gracious God,
we are students in search of the Teacher,
we are disciples longing for the Master,
we are sinners redeemed by the Savior,
we are Christians following the Christ.

**All: God, we come to worship You; and the Teacher,
Master, and Savior, as the Christ whom You sent to us.**

One: Call each of us by name,

All: as we pause this morning to worship You. Amen.

**Gloria Patri*

Henry W. Greatorex

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen.***

Passing of the Peace

May Christ be with You on Your Journey!
And, also with you!

Edison Laboratory of Faith

**“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the
darkness.”**

-Desmond Tutu

Move to Galilee

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John was arrested, he went to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum, which lies alongside the sea in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ This fulfilled what Isaiah the prophet said:

¹⁵ *Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, alongside the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles,* ¹⁶ *the people who lived in the dark have seen a great light, and a light has come upon those who lived in the region and in shadow of death.* ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to announce, "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!"

Prayer of Hope

One: Lord, we come to You in a time of coldness and darkness, looking for warmth and light. We pray for those around us daily looking for hope in the darkness. There are those whose homes are physically freezing, and there are those whose lives are spiritually chilly. We know that we can help warm people's homes. We also know You can warm people's lives.

All: We pray that there will be no more gloom for those who were in anguish. We pray that You lift away people's burdens. We pray You remove the things that oppress from people's lives. We pray You give courage to those who fear.

One: Lord Your light calls us forth to follow and serve You. Your light still shines for all to see in this world.

All: May we continue to reflect Your light in our lives, in our service, in our words and in our deeds.

~ adapted from a prayer written by Rev. Abigail Carlisle-Wilke, and posted on **Rev Abi's Long and Winding Road**. <http://vicarofwadley.blogspot.ca/2011/01/prayer-for-epiphany-3a.html>



If you light a lamp for
someone else it will also
brighten your path.

Go Light your World

Arr. and written by: Chris Rice

*There is a candle in every soul
Some brightly burning, some dark and cold
There is a Spirit who brings a fire
Ignites a candle and makes His home*

*So carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world*

*Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to
Light his own candle some other way
See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to
Still holds a candle without a flame*

*So carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world*

*'Cause we are a family whose hearts are blazing
So let's raise our candles and light up the sky
Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus
Make us a beacon in darkest times*

*So carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the hopeless, deceived and poor
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world*

*Carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world*

Prayers of the People / Concerns of the People

Our Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Song of Illumination

Open Our Eyes, Lord, We Want to See Jesus

By: Robert Cull; Tune: Open Our Eyes

***Open our eyes, Lord,
we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him,
and say that we love him.***

***Open our ears, Lord,
and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord,
we want to see Jesus.***

Today's Second Scripture

Matthew 4:18-23

Calling of the first disciples

¹⁸ As Jesus walked alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, because they were fishermen. ¹⁹ "Come, follow me," he said, "and I'll show you how to fish for people." ²⁰ Right away, they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ Continuing on, he saw another set of brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father repairing their nets. Jesus called them and ²² immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Ministry to the crowds

²³ Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues. He announced the good news of the kingdom and healed every disease and sickness among the people.

-Common English Bible

Response to the Sharing of God's Story

The Story of God for the People of God!
Thanks Be to God!

Pastoral Words

Prayer of Discipleship (responsively)

One: You call us, Wanderer of seashores and sidewalks,

All: inviting us to sail out of our smug harbors into the uncharted waters of faith.

One: You call us, to wander off from our predictable paths to follow You,

All: into the unpredictable footsteps of the kingdom.

One: You call us, to leave the comfort of our homes and accompany,

All: You into the uncomfortable neighborhoods we usually avoid.

One: You call us, as we wait, in our simple, sometimes crazy, constantly uncertain lives,

All: Speak to us, Spirit of Grace: of that hope which is our anchor; of that peace which is our rock; of that grace which is our refuge. Amen.

~ adapted from a worship order prepared by Rev. Bob Gibson for the London Conference of the United Church of Canada. <http://www.londonconference.ca/>

Gift of Music

Debbie Marino, Vocalist
Congregation joins on V. 5

Lord of the Dance

Songwriter Sydney Carter
Tune: Shaker Traditional

I danced in the morning
When the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon
And the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on the earth,
At Bethlehem
I had my birth.

Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he

I danced for the scribe
And the pharisee,
But they would not dance
And they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen,
For James and John
They came with me
And the Dance went on.

**Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he**

I danced on the Sabbath
And I cured the lame;
The holy people
Said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
And they hung me on high,
And they left me there
On a Cross to die.

**Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he**

I danced on a Friday
When the sky turned black

It's hard to dance
With the devil on your back.
They buried my body
And they thought I'd gone,
But I am the Dance,
And I still go on.

**Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he**

**They cut me down
And I leapt up high;
I am the life
That'll never, never die;
I'll live in you
If you'll live in me -
I am the Lord
Of the Dance, said he.**

**Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he**

Songwriter Sydney Carter
Tune: Shaker Traditional

Invitation to the Offering

*What we give, and the spirit with which we give it, enables this church
to make a difference in the lives of all whom we touch.*

Offertory

Come All Christians Be Committed

Tune: Beach Spring
Arr. By: Gilbert M. Martin

****Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Life of Our Church

Quilting on Wednesday at 12:00 pm.

**Faith Development on Wednesday
at 11:00 AM and 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary;
Thursday at 11:00 AM Online.**

We will be learning:

**“Living In and Beyond Suffering. Four Old Testament
Stories of Faith, Struggle, and Suffering and How
They Intersect with Our Stories Today.”
Hagar, Naomi, David, Job; plus, you and me.**

**Today’s flowers are gifted to the church by Tony and Phyllis
Contino. We would like to thank them for this beautiful gift.**

**Women’s Fellowship will be hosting a Jewelry Sale here at the
church on Saturday, January 28th from 9-2. Please come to
check it out and bring a friend or two with you.**

**Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to donate
flowers to enhance our Sunday Service.**

Looking for Volunteers for Cathy's Place and for Ushers. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board if interested.

Free: Magazines are available beside the library shelves

For next week's God's word, "A Beautiful Vision."
Read Matthew 5:1-12

**OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
IS PLANNED FOR
FEBRUARY 5TH AFTER WORSHIP.**

Benediction (responsively)

Our worship has ended, but now our life of service begins! Go from this space, for you and I are the body of Christ, and all of creation awaits us. So, live passionately, love faithfully, and celebrate every moment of your life from now until the finale. Our God of relentless, amazing, creative, and hopeful grace goes with us! Amen. **Amen.**

~ Adapted from The Rev. Michael S. Piazza

Postlude

Postlude on "Webb"

Arr. By: Jason D Payne

Time With Our Children

Going Fishing!

By [Dell Smith Klein](#)

Matthew 4:12-23

Have you ever gone fishing? (Allow children to respond.) What do you take with you when you go fishing? (Wait for children to respond.) You might take a fishing pole, worms or other bait. If you were going camping, too, you'd take a bedroll. Kelly and Kyle love fishing. When they go with their parents, they usually fish from the shore of the lake. Sometimes their grandfather takes them fishing in his boat.

One Saturday, while they were fishing on the lake, their grandfather told them that the people of Jesus' day sometimes used a spear or a rod with a hook on it to catch fish—and sometimes they used large nets. They could catch only one fish at a time with a spear or rod, but when they cast out their nets, they could bring in many fish.

But if their net was too full of fish, it might break. Then all the fish would escape, and the fishermen would have to mend the net before going fishing again. At the time of our story from the Holy Bible, Jesus lived in Capernaum, a town on the northwest corner of the Lake of Galilee. At that time Jesus preached about repentance. Repentance means to apologize for doing wrong things and to try to make them right.

One day Jesus saw two brothers, Simon Peter and Andrew. They were fishermen with big nets. They would go out on a boat, cast their net and after several hours they would haul their catch back to shore. Jesus said to Peter and Andrew, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers for men." (Matthew 4:18) He also called James and John, who were mending their nets beside the sea. All four men left fishing and began to follow Jesus. They wanted to hear more of Jesus teaching.

Their grandfather told Kelly and Kyle that Jesus is still calling people to follow him. The Holy Bible tells us that Jesus taught people to love God and to be kind to others. Jesus and his followers went to many places teaching, preaching and helping people. I want to follow him, don't you? (Allow children to answer before your prayer.)

PRAYER

Thank you, Jesus, for calling Peter, Andrew, James and John to follow you. Thank you for calling us to follow you, too. We want to learn more about how you

helped people, and about the things you taught your followers in the Holy Bible.
Amen.

Scripture quotations from the World English Bible
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Notes and Cards can be sent to the following:

Winkler Court
Attn: Kathy Baumann
3250 Winkler Ave
Fort Myers, Fl. 33913

Ian Laughlin
c/o Atrium at Liberty Park
1321 NE 24th Ave., Room 232
Cape Coral, Fl. 33909

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Kate Baumann; Roy Shipley; Malcolm Youngquist; Rod Schaffter;
Ian Laughlin; Liz Lloyd; Barry Pierce; Dan Van Riper; Sandy Cole and Family;
Pam Vallozzi; Margaret Allen's family after her passing.

Friends & Family:

Pat Tanguoso (Friend of the Church and Quilter);
KC (Friends of Lori Main); Larry Zeigler (Lana's Husband);
Bernice (Friend of Bill Persons); Duane (Friend of Tom & Sherrie McIntyre);
Shelly (friend of Pastor Anton); Max (friend of Pastor Anton); Lillian Helling
(Sister-in-law of Tom Johns & Joseph Helling); Betty Denson;
Will (Friend of Bill Persons); Jim Martin (Teri Martin's husband);
Dave Gaide (Kim Gaide's husband).

***No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here at Edison Congregational Church.
Welcome home!***

Website:	www.edisonchurch.com
Facebook:	Facebook.com/EdisonChurch
Email Pastor:	Pastorjim@taecc.com
Email Office:	Admin@taecc.com
Office Phone:	239-334-4978
Office Hours:	Monday-Thursday 9 AM – 12PM
Mailing:	1619 Llewellyn Dr., Ft. Myers 33901

Pastor Jim can be reached at the office or on his cell phone at 502-494-6649 (voice & text).

Our Church Staff

*Senior Minister – Rev. Jim Harper, III
Associate Minister – Rev. Anton Pierce
Administrative Assistant – Cindy Wilson
Organist – Dr. Tony Contino
Pianist - Barry Pierce*

Your gifts are deeply appreciated and enable this ministry to continue. Our church retains the right to redirect donations to the area of greatest need.

