



Thomas A. Edison  
**Congregational Church**

*July 7, 2024*



# Order of Worship

## *Sixth Sunday of the Growing Season*

\*\* 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

#### Aria

By: Noel Rawsthorne

### Call to Worship (responsively)

One: We will praise You, God, as we gather before You with varied thoughts and purposes.

**All: Some of us are impatient, and we seek immediate results to our prayers.**

One: Some of us are doubtful, and we seek further proof of Your spiritual power.

**All: Some of us are too busy, and we fail to take time to listen for You to speak to us.**

One: Some of us are stubborn, and we fail to follow in the way of discipleship.

**All: With all our varied backgrounds, we come into Your presence; unite us in our worship and in a common sense of devotion to You.**

One: People of faith, let us worship God, the God found as every morning breaks, like the first morning. Amen.

-adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online

## Hymn of Faith

### Morning Has Broken

Tune: Bunesan

**Morning has broken like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning  
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word**

**Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from Heaven  
Like the first dew fall on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass**

**Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning  
Born of the One Light Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise every morning  
God's recreation of the new day**

## Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you!  
**And, also with you!**

## Gift of Music

**Dan Davis, Baritone**

### The Lord Bless You and Keep You

By: John Ritter

*The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
To shine upon you and be gracious  
And be gracious, unto you*

*The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
To shine upon you and be gracious  
And be gracious, unto you*

*The Lord lift up the light  
Of his countenance upon you  
The Lord lift up the light  
Of his countenance upon you*

*And give you peace  
And give you peace  
And give you peace  
And give you peace*

*Amen  
Amen*

## **Prayer of Discipleship**

**One:** God of us all: We confess that our faith is too often childish rather than childlike. We resist experiences which would help us grow into mature disciples. We remain content with old ideas and do not let our minds expand to new visions. We close our minds to those who disagree with us and do not learn from conflict. We become angry when we should be patient and hurt others with our thoughtlessness.

**All:** **Sometimes we lord it over others and become over-impressed with our own importance. Sometimes we are too humble about our own value; other times we are not humble enough.**

**One:** Forgive us, Holy God, and renew us, Holy Spirit.

**All:** **We pray in the name of all that is good and holy, Amen.**

-adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online

## **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 Prayer Response**

### **Sweet Hour of Prayer**

Words: William Walford

Music: William Batchelder Bradbury

**Sweet Hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,  
that calls me from a world of care  
and bids me at my Father's throne  
make all my wants and wishes known!  
In seasons of distress and grief,  
my soul has often found relief,  
and oft escaped the tempter's snare by Thy return,  
sweet hour of prayer.**

## **Scripture**

### **2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10**

#### **David becomes king of Israel and Judah**

**5** All the Israelite tribes came to David at Hebron and said, "Listen: We are your very own flesh and bone. <sup>2</sup> In the past, when Saul ruled over us, you were the one who led Israel out to war and back. What's more, the LORD told you, you will shepherd My people Israel, and you will be Israel's leader. <sup>3</sup> So all the Israelite elders came to the king at Hebron. King David made a covenant with them at

Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. <sup>4</sup> David was 30 years old when he became king, and he ruled for forty years. <sup>5</sup> He ruled over Judah for seven and a half years in Hebron. He ruled thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah in Jerusalem.

<sup>9</sup> David occupied the fortress, so it was renamed David's City. David built a city around it from the earthen terraces inward. <sup>10</sup> David grew increasingly powerful, and the LORD of heavenly forces was with him.

-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**

### **Invitation to the Table / Blessing and Sharing of the Gifts**

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at this table.*

**Today's breads: Garlic Tuscan, Brioche bread, English Breakfast bread with fruit and nuts, Brown Wheat Dinner Rolls, and on clear Gluten Free bread.**

## **Gift of Music during Communion**

### **Castle On a Cloud from Les Misérables**

Arr. By: Lorie Line

## **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

Dan Davis, Saxophone

## Morning Has Broken

Arr. By: Brant Adams

### \*\* 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.

Tune: Thomas Ken, 1709

## Life of Our Church

Quilting at Noon

Faith Development

**JOIN US WEDNESDAY @ CHURCH @ 11 AM & 6:30 PM;  
AS WELL AS ONLINE THURSDAY @ 11 AM**

Fear is a liar. Faith is our truth. For the four Wednesdays we will hear four different stories of FAITH over fear and how these stories intersect with our lives, inspire our lives, interrupt our lives. Each week we will also explore some of the 365 times in the Bible it says, "Fear Not!"

Our schedule of discovery and dialogue will travel these stories and these triumphs.

**Finding FAITH after the Holocaust**

**Finding FAITH after 9/11**

**Finding FAITH after the FRIDGE**

**Finding FAITH after addiction**

## **Reading:**

[Philippians 4:6-7](#)

[1 John 4:18](#)

[Psalm 94:19](#)

[Isaiah 41:10](#)

[1 John 4:18](#)

**Today's flowers are gifted to the church by Jackie Sellers. We would like to thank her for this beautiful gift.**

**Celebration of Life for Barry Pierce  
on July 13, 2024, at 11:00 AM  
here at the Church. Reception to follow.**

**We are looking for Volunteers for Greeters and for Ushers. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board, or you can go to the website "Signup Genius" if interested.**

**For next week's God's  
word:  
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12-19**



## **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, and 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**

### **Fantasia**

By: Johann Pachelbel

## **Time with our Children**

### **2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10**

Bring to your conversation a hymnal and show the children one or two Affirmations of Faith in the content material at the end of the hymnal. Explain that an Affirmation of Faith is a statement or review of things we believe about God. Ask the kids if they believe anything. Do they believe in Santa Claus? Do they believe the moon is made of cream cheese? Do pigs fly? Do they believe that birds and airplanes can fly? (You might have magazine photos of some of these things.) Do they believe in friendship and love? Do they believe in mom and dad? What does it mean to believe in someone? Do we believe in God? Christians definitely believe in God and in Jesus. But what do we believe about God? Solicit answers and discuss. To close, ask the children to repeat after you this affirmation: "We believe in God who loves us and is always present to us. Amen."

~ found @ homiletics online

## **FROM FORT MYERS PUBLIC WORKS PRESS RELEASE ON JULY 3, 2024**

McGregor Boulevard Paving Project from Llewellyn Drive to Larchmont Avenue  
July 3, 2024

The City of Fort Myers is excited to bring the McGregor Bricking Project to construction. This project is set to install paver bricks on a section of McGregor Boulevard fronting the historic Edison Ford Winter Estates. Over 18 months in the process, the project is now moving to the construction phase starting Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Tobler/OAK JV LLC will begin work on Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> 2024 to close a section of McGregor Boulevard, from Llewellyn Drive to Larchmont Avenue. The project involves milling the existing asphalt roadway of McGregor Blvd and replacing it with brick pavers. Work is expected to occur Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., weather permitting. This project is expected to be completed within ten to twelve weeks, by Fall 2024.

Drivers and bicyclists will take detours around the construction area of McGregor Boulevard. The eastbound/northbound detour will redirect traffic off McGregor Boulevard at Linhart Avenue, continuing to Cortez Boulevard, Monte Vista Street, Marilyn Road/Euclid Avenue, Illinois Avenue and returning to McGregor Boulevard.

The westbound/southbound detour will redirect traffic from McGregor Boulevard at Virginia Avenue, continuing to Euclid Avenue/Marilyn Road, Monte Vista Street, Cortez Boulevard, Linhart Avenue and returning to McGregor Boulevard. Pedestrian sidewalks will not be affected by project construction activities.

This schedule may be subject to change due to inclement weather and unforeseen underground conditions.

For more project information, contact Nicole Setzer, City Engineer-Public Works at 239-321-7459 or via email at [nsetzer@cityftmyers.com](mailto:nsetzer@cityftmyers.com); [www.cityftmyers.com](http://www.cityftmyers.com).

Nicole Setzer, P.E., ENV SP, City Engineer Public Works - Engineering

## PRAYER LIST

### Our Church Members:

Kate Baumann; Liz Lloyd;  
Pastor Anton after the passing of Barry Pierce;  
Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch; Bill Persons; Joe Helling;  
Greg Haston; Ian Laughlin; Duane Gardner (Hospice Care).

### Friends & Family:

Pat Tanguoso (Friend of the Church and Quilter); Betty Denson;  
Jim Martin (Teri Martin's husband); Shannon Randall (daughter of co-worker of  
Pastor Anton); Jim Marc-Aurele (Lou & Carol's son); Darlene Gonzalez (Flo  
Newbrough's sister); Bob and Darlene Kulesza (Bob is Carol Marc-Aurele's  
brother); Rhonda and Hunter (friends of Martha Long); Howard Youngquist  
(brother of Malcolm Youngquist); Norma Stott (friend of Sandy Cole);  
Tom Jenkins (friend of Flo & Tee Newbrough); Michele Baron (friends of Rod  
Schaffter and Carol Skaza).

---

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

---

Website:	<a href="http://www.edisonchurch.com">www.edisonchurch.com</a>
Facebook:	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/EdisonChurch">Facebook.com/EdisonChurch</a>
Email Pastor:	<a href="mailto:Pastorjim@taecc.com">Pastorjim@taecc.com</a>
Email Office:	<a href="mailto:Admin@taecc.com">Admin@taecc.com</a>
Office Phone:	239-334-4978
Office Hours:	Monday-Friday 9 AM – 2 PM
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  
Director of Sacred Arts – Alena Michel  
Lori McMullen, RN, Faith Community Nurse*

*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.*

