



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

April 13, 2025



Order of Worship

Palm Sunday

** 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

Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless

By: Nikolaus Decius
Arr. By: David Cherwien

**Opening of Worship (responsively)

One: O Holy One, we come prepared to cheer on our holy leader and hallowed child of Wisdom,

All: **Jesus, the anointed one.**

One: Our need is as great today as it was for those ancient pilgrims

All: **to honor and salute the presence of truth and beauty and goodness.**

One: For we have wandered far from Wisdom,

All: **and we find ourselves cheering for all the wrong things and all the wrong people.**

One: Now we join in with this holy procession of hope, that we might look into the heart of Christ and see our own sacred heart reflected back,

All: **empowering us to stay with Him, and stay with our own deep integrity, when the forces of chaos conspire to shake our conviction and make peace with an unholy convention. Amen.**

~Slightly adapted from a prayer found @ **If Darwin Prayed** by: Bruce Sanguin

****Opening Hymn: #154**

All Glory, Laud and Honor

****Blessing of the Palms(Responsively)**

One: Bless these parade palms, O God of Celebration. May they remind us of the simple joys of living.

All: May we remember the excitement that comes with following Christ.

One: Bless these protest palms, O God of Justice. May they remind us that Empire is not a thing of the past.

All: May they make us bold and brave to stand up against injustice.

One: Bless these funeral palms, O God of Comfort. May they remind us of the road that lies ahead.

All: May they encourage us in times of grief and pain.

One: We give You thanks for the parade, the protest, the processional.

All: Guide our steps through this holiest of weeks as we cry out together "Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna!" Amen.

~ Slightly adapted from a prayer written by Rev. Caela Simmons Wood, Pastor, First Congregational United Church of Christ in Manhattan, Kansas.

****Palm Sunday Doxology**

**With palms we come to praise our King,
"Hosanna" is the song we sing,
All praise the One who rides this day,
And brings us hope in ev'ry way.**

Tune: Old Hundredth, Text by: Rev. John Danner

****Passing of the Peace**

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

Prayers of the People and Concerns of the Heart

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.

Today's Scripture

Luke 19:29-38

Procession into Jerusalem

²⁹ As Jesus came to Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives, He gave two disciples a task. ³⁰ He said, "Go into the village over there. When you enter it, you will find tied up there a colt that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying it?' just say, 'Its master needs it.'" ³² Those who had been sent found it exactly as He had said.

³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They replied, "Its master needs it." ³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their clothes on the colt, and lifted Jesus onto it. ³⁶ As Jesus rode along, they spread their clothes on the road. ³⁷ As Jesus approached the road leading down from the Mount of Olives, the whole throng of His disciples began rejoicing. They praised God with a loud voice because of all the mighty things they had seen. ³⁸ They said, "Blessings on the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens."

~ 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

Gift of Music

Dan Davis, Saxophone

Were You There? /There Is a Balm in Gilead,

African American Spiritual
Arr. By: Brant Adams

Call to Give

One: Sorrow and joy mingle in our offering, O God.

All: As we rejoice in the triumphant entry of Jesus, we celebrate the effectiveness of our gifts, which are the means of healing, the symbols of compassion, the way of the gospel, the sign of hope.

One: As we share the gifts, we sorrow in the needs of our world:

All: the plight of the poor, the despair of the depressed, the self-serving power of money, the power of the evil ones.

One: Bless our gifts, O God, that palm and cross may renew us in the service of Jesus Christ. Amen.

~Slightly adapted from Prayers to Share by David Sparks

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

Jesus Paid It All / O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

By: John T. Grape and Nans Leo Hassler
Arr. By: Brant Adams

**Doxology

Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love
in Christ into our hearts. Amen.

Life of Our Church

Quilting on Wednesday at noon

Faith Development

JOIN US WEDNESDAY @ CHURCH @ 11 AM.

****There will be NO Faith Development on
Wednesday night or Thursday online this
week.****

PARABLES -- Putting Jesus's Stories in Their
Place – Josh Scott

Read the stories of Jesus in a new light. When Jesus taught
in parables, he was doing more than telling simple morality
tales. His stories were grounded in the world in which he
lived and his vision of the Kingdom of God.

The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

Reading:

Matthew 20:1-16

EASTER LILY or HYACINTH
ORDER FORM

Each year our worship spaces are adorned with beautiful
Lilies and Hyacinth for Easter Sunday. If you would

like to order one of these flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please fill out an order form online or pick up a paper from the Fellowship Hall and return it to Cindy in the church office.

Lilies are \$12.00 each and Hyacinth's are \$9.00 each. We encourage you to take your flower home after services on Easter Sunday. You can make your check out to: TAECC. You can mail to church or drop off at the office after Sunday services. If you want to drop off the check during the week, the office is open Monday – Friday 9AM – 1PM.

Name and phone number:

Email:

Which flower would you like to order

In memory of:

In honor of:

Given by:

**Sunday, April 20th Easter Luncheon
Right after Sunday's Service.**

**Signup sheet is on the bulletin board in
The Fellowship Hall.**

**\$5.00 per person. Please see either
Patti Seebock, John Seebock or Sandy Cole.
Menu: Ham, Cheesy Potatoes, Baked Beans,
Salad, Rolls & Butter.
Iced Tea and Lemonade.**

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

**For next week's God's word:
Easter Sunday
John 20:1-18**



Benediction/Blessing for Our Journey of Faith (Responsively)

One: Hold your palm branch. Wave it for your own pleasure. Wave it far and wide so others can see your hopes. Start a parade; gather folk who are also up for an adventure of faith and faithfulness. Talk this week about the ways God has provided; ways God is present; and ways God is coming to us in the future. Ask questions of faith and faithfulness about how we all can participate during this holy of weeks and during the resurrection of our faith and faithfulness. Amen.

~Adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in A Minor, BWV 559

By: J. S. Bach

Time with our Children

Praising God

By Lois Parker Edstrom

Luke 19:28-40

Have there been times when you feel so happy and grateful you just have to sing or whistle or shout? What are some of the things that make you feel that way?

I'll list some of my favorite things and perhaps you will share some of yours.

It makes me happy to hear children laugh. I can't help but laugh too and it makes me want to sing with the joy of it.

Some types of beautiful music cause me to sing or hum along, and sometimes loudly!

Certain foods are delicious. I love many fruits and vegetables, but the experience of eating dark chocolate makes me want to shout out loud.

What are some of your favorite things; the things that make you so happy and grateful you want to sing or whistle or shout?

A story in the Bible teaches us that the disciples of Jesus felt this way too. As Jesus was coming down from the Mount of Olives, about to enter a village, the whole crowd of disciples "began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works which they had seen" (19:37).

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" (19:39). The crowd wanted Jesus to order His disciples to stop praising God.

He answered, "I tell you that if these were silent, the stones would cry out" (19:40).

By saying this Jesus meant that the power and love of God is so great that if His disciples were asked to stop praising God, the silent stones would.

Look for those things that make you happy. Be grateful and thank God for them every day.

Scripture quotations from the World English Bible, Copyright 2011, Richard Niell Donovan

Journey with us through Lent

April 13th – Palm Sunday (10:00 AM)

April 17th – Maundy Thursday (6:30 PM)

April 18th – Good Friday (6:30 PM)

April 20th – Easter (10:00 AM)

HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE 6:30 PM

Communion

Anton Pierce, Tenor

Mark Lamontagne, Baritone

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 6:30 PM

Anton Pierce, Tenor

Emi Shannon, Soprano

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 AM

Emi Shannon, Soprano

Rebecca Bahr, Soprano & Flute

Jason Bahr, Baritone

Cards can be sent to the following:

**General Dozier
Barrington Terrace, of Ft. Myers
9731 Commerce Center Ct.
Fort Myers, Fl. 33908
Room #408**

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Jean Lindenlaub; Liz Lloyd; General Dozier; Sharlene Dozier;
Barbara Buch; Bill Persons; Ian Laughlin; Jack Walmsley;
Erleene Sanders; Jeannie Gardner after the passing of her husband.

Friends & Family:

Betty Denson; Jim Martin (Teri Martin's husband); Michele Baron (friends of Rod Schaffter and Carol Skaza); Jim and Mary Pat Willis (friends of Carol & Ned Downing and Malcolm Youngquist); Linda Pekkarinen (Friend of Tee & Flo Newbrough); Hunter and Family (Friend of Jean Long); Andrew (age 11) Grandson of dear friends of (Tee & Flo Newbrough); Paula Brown (Sister of Roger Yergeau); Fred & Natalie Johnson (friend of Rod Schaffter & Carol Skaza).
Diane Shinkle & Family (loss of Grandson) (cousin of Tom Johns);
Bob Mesce (brother of Patti Seebock); Ann Whealton (sister of Wayne Daltry & sister-in-law of Marti Daltry) .

***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](https://www.facebook.com/EdisonChurch)
Email Pastor: Pastorjim@taecc.com
Email Office: Admin@taecc.com
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
Distinguished Director of Sacred Arts – Alena Michel
Faith Community Nurse – Lori McMullen
Pianist - Stephen Brittain

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.



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