



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

NOVEMBER 1, 2026



Order of Worship
Twenty-Third Sunday of the Growing Season
10:00 AM

ALL-SAINTS DAY

** 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

The Light of the World is Acknowledged in our Worship

"Jesus said: "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). The presence of the light reminds us of Jesus' coming into our world and into our lives. The light is carried into the worship service as a symbol of Jesus' coming into the presence of the worshiping community.

During most of the time of our church year our congregation uses two candles on the altar to point out that Jesus was both a human being and God. The light of the world is among us today.

— adapted from <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-why-do-we-light-and-extinguish-candles-during-worship>

Prelude

Return to the heart

by David Lanz

Call to Worship (responsively)

One: We gather today on this All-Saints Sunday to remember.

All: We remember the ancestors, the prophets, and the ordinary saints of our lives.

One: Like Moses on Mount Nebo, they looked ahead to a future they could not fully enter.

All: They carried the torch of justice, love, and welcome as far as they could.

One: Here in Southwest Florida, amidst the shifting tides and the warmth of this land, we inherit their vision.

All: We honor their legacy by stepping forward into the waters of our own time.

One: The mantle now passes to us, just as it passed from Moses to Joshua.

All: God calls us to be strong and courageous in the work of love.

One: We do not walk alone; we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.

All: Let us worship the God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Amen.

~Adapted from a prayer found in conjunction with Working Preacher, Luther Seminary

Opening Hymn #547

For All the Saints

Verses 1, 3, & 7

Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

And, also with you!

Gift of Music

Tim Torres, Cello

**The Swan (Le Cygne)
from Carnival of the Animals
by Camille Saint-Saëns**

Prayer of Discipleship (responsively)

One: This space is prepared for you: the light of a candle, enough to chase away the darkness and light your way; the vibrant colors of the stained-glass window, sufficient to brighten your duldest thoughts; the gentle music that lingers in the heart, floats in the mind, and soothes our worried brow; the words and images that tease and probe, ease and encourage our journey in faith.

All: This moment and this place are touched with the wonder of God. May we feel, taste, hear and see the blessings of God

in each other and in the sacredness of our worship together. Amen.

Prayers 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 Prayer Response

Rain Down

By: Jaime Cortez
Arr by: John Carter

Rain down, rain down,
rain down your love on your peo-ple,
Rain down, rain down
rain down your love, God of life.

Today's Scripture

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Moses's death

³⁴Then Moses hiked up from the Moabite plains to Mount Nebo, the peak of the Pisgah slope, which faces Jericho. The LORD showed him the whole land: the Gilead region as far as Dan's territory; ²all the parts belonging to Naphtali along with the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, as well as the entirety of Judah as far as the Mediterranean Sea; ³also the arid southern plain, and the plain-including the Jericho Valley, Palm City-as far as Zoar. ⁴The the LORD said to Moses: "This is the land that I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob when I promised: 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have shown it to you with your own eyes; however, you

will not cross over into it.” ⁵Then Moses, the LORD’s servant, died—right there in the land of Moab, according to the LORD’s command. ⁶The Lord buried him in a valley in Moabite country across from Beth-peor. Even now, no one knows where Moses’ grave is. ⁷Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eyesight wasn’t impaired, and his vigor hadn’t diminished a bit. ⁸Back down in the Moabite plains, the Israelites mourned Moses’ death for thirty days. At that point, the time for weeping and for mourning Moses was over. ⁹Joshua, Nun’s son, was filled with wisdom because Moses had placed his hands on him. So, the Israelites listened to Joshua, and they did exactly what the LORD commanded Moses. ¹⁰No prophet like Moses has yet emerged in Israel; Moses knew the LORD face-to-face! ¹¹That’s not even to mention all those signs and wonders that the LORD sent Moses to do in Egypt—to Pharaoh, to all his servants, and to his entire land—¹²as well as all the extraordinary power that Moses displayed before Israel’s own eyes!

~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

Remembering Those Who Have Passed

Candle Lighting

One: As we light these candles, we praise You for all those departed saints who are dear to us, our family members...

a daughter or son, a sister or brother,
a spouse, a mother or father,
a grandfather or grandmother,
a grandson or granddaughter,
other family members.

All: We remember and give You thanks, O God.

One: As we light these candles, we praise You for close friend, and those lost in the line of duty.

All: We remember and give You thanks, O God and grant that the changes of life may leave us stronger as we journey through all our days. Amen.

Remembering Those Who Have Passed This Past Year

Our Church Family

Friends & Family of Our Congregation

Remembering Those Who Have Gone Before

(Please move within the Sanctuary and within the Fellowship Hall to light one or several candles at this time)

Hymn of Praise

Verse 1 soloists Red Hansen, Baritone,

Verses 2 & 3 Congregation

“ I Sing a Song”

Words by: Lesbia Scott

Music by: John Henry Hopkins

*I sing a song of the saints of God,
pa-tient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died
for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doc-tor, and one was a queen,
and one was a shep-herd-ess on the green:
they were all of them saints of God and I mean,
God help-ing, to be one too.*

**They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,
and his love made them strong;
and they fol-lowed the right, for Je-sus' sake,
the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a sold-ier, and one was a priest,
and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:**

**and there's not an-y rea-son no, not the least,
why I should-n't be one too.**

**They lived not on-ly in a-ges past,
there are hund-reds of thou-sands still,
the world is bright with the joy-ous saints who
love to do Je-sus' will.**

**You can meet them in school, or in lanes,
or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in shops,
or at tea, for the saints of God are just folk like me,
and I mean to be one too.**

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

Tim Torres, Cello

Prelude from Cello Suite 3

by J. S. Bach

**** 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 on Wednesday at noon

**Faith Development
JOIN US WEDNESDAY @ CHURCH @ 11 AM & 6:30 PM;**

AS WELL AS ONLINE THURSDAY 11 AM

The journey of the Hebrew people after receiving the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai is a foundational period in biblical history, marked by trials, transitions, and the eventual entry into the Promised Land.

Here are seven significant events that shaped their journey:

**Moses Striking the Rock at Meribah: Exodus 17;
Numbers 20 – Week 5**

The Appointment of Joshua: Exodus 17:8–16; Exodus 24:12–14; Exodus 33:11; Numbers 27:12–23; Deuteronomy 31:1–8; Deuteronomy 34:9; Joshua 1:1–9 – Week 6

**Crossing the Jordan and Entering Canaan:
Joshua 1 through 5 – Week 7**

**For next week's God's
word: Matthew 25:1-13**

Late notice Edison Church has been invited to work out at Mision Peniel this Friday, November 6th. We will be leaving the church Parking lot around 12:30 PM and return around 7:30 PM. We will be preassembling perishable commodities and then distribute non-perishable and perishable commodities to migrate worker community Please let Jeff Gallo know if you can go at: 239-823-2257.

Parking for Sunday Service or Faith Development

Please Park on church side on Llewellyn Dr. and Menlo Rd. If able we are allowed to park in the back of Covenant Presbyterian Church parking lot.

Enter Off of Marlyn. This is to make room for emergency vehicles if needed to come into the neighborhood.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CHURCH

Communion will be on next Sunday, November 8th.

Guardian ad Litem works with ANA's Friends and will be coordinating the Wishing Tree Project at Christmas again this year. TAECC will be collecting children's Christmas books, New Cozy Blankets, Holiday Mugs, Tumblers and Kid-friendly Cups, Hot Chocolate (prepackaged) and New Cozy Socks for the 4th year for this project. The Wishing Tree Project will serve 765 children who are under court supervision appointed to the Guardian ad Litem office here in Lee County. The collected children's books will be distributed at Christmas to the foster parents and relatives to give to the children. If you would like to participate in the book drive this year, books can be brought to the church anytime and the drive will end on November 23.

Also looking for volunteers for cleaning windows in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for one of the following mornings: Monday 11/16, Tuesday 11/17, Thursday 11/19 and Friday 11/20. We will not be cleaning the stained-glass windows in the Sanctuary.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

November 15th

Blood Pressure Clinic right after Sunday service.

Monday, November 16th – Edison Park Expressive Arts School – Presentation of: *Sights and sounds of the season*, on the Church lawn between 10:00 and noon. Bring a Chair, and your Neighbors.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP – November 18th

Women's Fellowship will meet Wednesday, at 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Amy McGlynn from Exceptional Entrepreneurs. Please bring your own lunch. All women are welcome.

Monday November 23rd

Decorate church for Advent – starting at 10:00 AM
– lunch provided – sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. We need to know by November 18th who is planning to help.

Thanksgiving – November 26th

Don't Be Alone.

Anton will be hosting a Thanksgiving luncheon
On Thanksgiving Day here at the church at 1:00 PM.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board
In the Fellowship Hall.

The Turkey will be provided by the Church. When you sign up, please also write down how many and what side dish you would like to bring so we don't end up with a lot of the same thing. Let's make it an assortment of different side dishes to make it festive. There will be a limit of 50 people this year.

Sunday November 29th

First Sunday of Advent - Hope



Friday December 4th
Alena Michel presents
“Keys to Christmas Magic”
Student’s Piano Recital starting
at 6:00 PM here at the church.

Sunday, December 6th
Second Sunday of Advent - Peace



Women’s Fellowship
The Women's Fellowship is collecting gently used jewelry and accessories (loose or broken pieces are okay) for their Jewelry Sale in January.

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.

Free magazines are available behind the kitchen door next to the library shelves. Donations are welcome.

Benediction (responsively)

One: Go forth into the world with courage.

The saints who walked before us have climbed their mountains.

They have seen the promised land of justice and peace from afar.

Now, their staff is passed into your hands.

Do not fear the wilderness or the changing tides of this coastal land.

The same Spirit that sustained Moses now breathes inside of you.

Be strong and deeply courageous.
Choose love, pursue justice, and build the future together.
May the blessing of God—our Beginning, our Companion, and our Future
—rest upon you now and always.
Amen.

All: Amen.

~Adapted from a prayer found in conjunction with Working Preacher, Luther Seminary

The Light of the World is Shared with the World at the end of our Worship

At the end of the service, the light is carried out into the world to show that Jesus Christ is for all people everywhere; This symbolizes the light of Jesus Christ going out into the world where believers are to serve.”

— adapted from <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-why-do-we-light-and-extinguish-candles-during-worship>

Postlude

Time To Say Goodbye

by Francesco Sartori, Lucio Quarantotto and Frank Peterson

Time with our Children

Mentors

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

By Lois Parker Edstrom

This is the story of two great men. Moses was the man who led his people out of Egypt where they had been held as slaves. The Bible teaches us that Moses was a strong, powerful man.

Joshua was a younger man, and the Bible tells us he was “full of the spirit of wisdom” (34:9). I like to think that Joshua may have become wise by watching Moses’ work and listening to his advice.

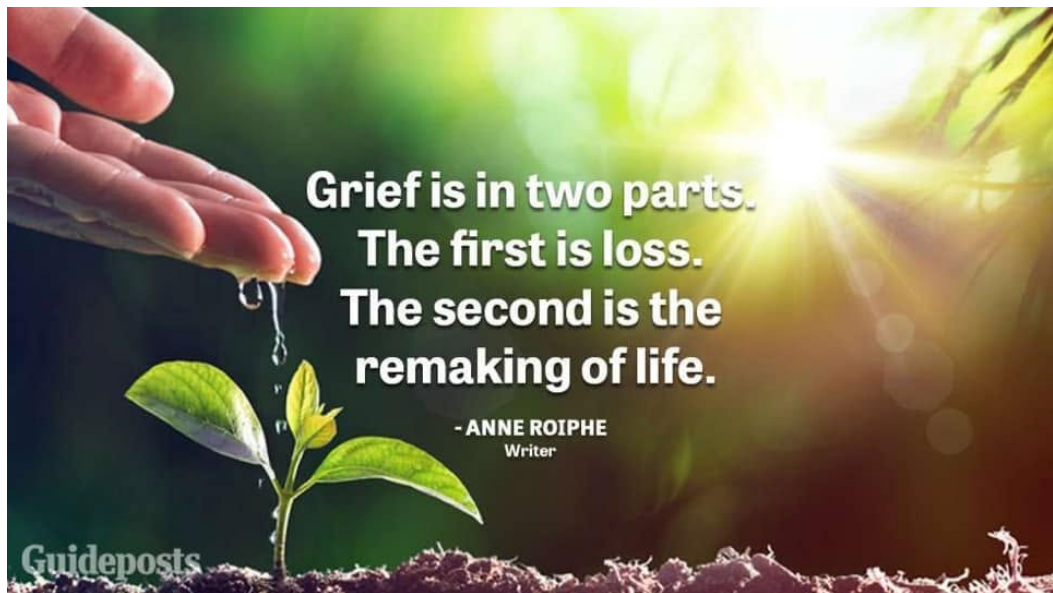
After Moses brought the people out of Egypt, they came to a beautiful land where the people could work and find a better life. Moses had completed his work. Now he turned over the job of leading them into the new land, to Joshua.

Think of people you admire who can help you “gain wisdom” as Moses did with Joshua. I like to write poetry, and I especially admire the poetry of one woman whose poems are lovely and wise. I have a book of her poetry on my table and read her poems often. I study the words she uses and how she puts certain words together. I want to learn all I can from her. (Personalize this part of the lesson by relating a story about a mentor who has been helpful to you.)

What is it you want to do? What is it you like to do? There are wonderful men and women all around you who can teach you many things. It may be your mother, father, an older brother or sister, a friend or teacher...

Look at someone you admire and learn all you can from that person. Try to become “filled with the spirit of wisdom” just as Joshua did.

Scripture quotations from the World English Bible
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November Newsletter

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.”

3 John 1:2

November is American Diabetes Month

American Diabetes Month is a time to care for our bodies, encourage one another, and replace fear with faithful action. The CDC’s 2026 National Diabetes Statistics Report estimates that in 2023 about **40.1 million Americans had diabetes** — and more than 1 in 4 of them (11 million) did not know it. Another **115.2 million adults have prediabetes**, and 8 in 10 of them do not know it either. In Florida, about **2.3 million adults** have diagnosed diabetes. Yet there is real hope: type 2 diabetes, which accounts for 90–95% of cases, can often be delayed or prevented — and prediabetes is a warning, not a verdict. Awareness is more than wearing blue on World Diabetes Day (Saturday, Nov. 14). It means knowing your number, keeping recommended appointments, and helping every person in our community receive timely, high-quality care.

5 ways to turn awareness into action

- 1. Know your number.** A simple A1C blood test tells the story. The American Diabetes Association says everyone ages 35 and older should be screened — earlier if you carry extra weight or have a family history, high blood pressure, or other risk factors.
- 2. Prediabetes can be turned around.** Losing just 5–7% of body weight through healthy eating and 150 minutes of activity a week can cut the risk of type 2 diabetes by more than half. If your results are normal, retest at least every 3 years; if you have prediabetes, test yearly.
- 3. Learn the warning signs.** Extreme thirst, urinating often, unusual tiredness, blurry vision, weight loss without trying, or sores that heal slowly — see a doctor and ask for a blood sugar test. A change does not always mean diabetes, but it deserves a prompt conversation with a health care professional.
- 4. Protect the whole body.** Uncontrolled blood sugar raises the risk of heart disease, stroke, kidney failure, blindness, and amputation. Managing blood sugar protects your heart, kidneys, and eyes alike — and regular checkups catch problems early, when they are most treatable.

5. Do not let cost stop the first step. Lee Health offers ADA-recognized diabetes education and a free year-long prevention program, and the Florida Department of Health in Lee County helps income-eligible residents with insulin prescription costs (see resources below).

To every person facing testing, diagnosis, treatment, or recovery — and to every caregiver walking beside them — you are not alone. May our church be a place of prayer, practical help, patient listening, and steady hope. God’s healing presence can meet us in the exam room, the waiting room, and every day in between.

Lee County diabetes resources: Lee Health Diabetes Education & Support (239) 424-3127 · Lee Health Diabetes Prevention Program (239) 468-0051 · Free chronic-disease self-management workshops 239-424-3121 · Florida DOH-Lee insulin prescription assistance 239-332-9565 · American Diabetes Association 1-800-342-2383

See the checklist posted on the bulletin board for diabetes reminders and screening resources.

Health information is general; speak with your healthcare professional about your individual risk. Sources: CDC · ADA · FL DOH-Lee · Lee Health

Dear Worshipers,

We invite your child to join us for Faith Formation learning in Cathy’s Place at Thomas Edison Congregational Church. Your children will learn about Jesus through age-appropriate faith activities, songs, prayers, Bible stories, games, and arts & crafts.

November class curriculum Faith Formation

November 1st 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19
November 15th Matthew 25:1-13
November 29th Genesis 18

Blood Pressure Clinic November 15th

Lori

The gospel is not only
hope for life after death.

It is an invitation
to practice the way of heaven—
love, mercy, and justice—
right here and now.



MINDFULCHRISTIANITY



A Prayer for the 2026 Midterm Elections

O God, Creator of all people and source of all wisdom,

We come before You as the 2026 midterm elections approach, seeking Your guidance and Your peace. In a time when our nation feels deeply divided, we pray for the courage to stand in the middle—not out of indifference, but out of a deep desire to listen, to understand, and to build bridges.

We ask that You calm the noise of political hostility. Guard our hearts against bitterness, contempt, and the temptation to see our neighbors as enemies. Help us to remember that Your love extends to every person, regardless of party or political platform.

Grant wisdom to all voters. May we cast our ballots not out of fear or anger, but with a commitment to Biblical justice, mercy, and the common good. We pray for leaders who will seek unity over division, humility over pride, and service over power. Give them the strength to work across differences for the well-being of all people.

Keep our communities strong and peaceful during this election season. Reassure us that our ultimate hope rests in Your grace, which transcends any government or political outcome.

Praying in the name of all that is good and holy; Amen.



Thank you for visiting Thomas A. Edison Congregational Church

To learn more about our church and to make a donation, please scan the QR code below.



Scan me!

Place your phone camera over the QR code to scan. Then scroll down to where it says donate and follow the instructions. You can use either your credit/debit card or your bank account.

There is a way to communicate with the staff through the website. Send us a message.

Thank you.

Cards can be sent to the following:

**General Dozier
Barrington Terrace, of Ft. Myers
9731 Commerce Center Ct., Room #326
Fort Myers, Fl. 33908**

**Mr. Bill Persons
Calusa Harbour Assisted
Living – 2525 First St
Ft Myers, Fl. 33901
Room 233**

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Jean Lindenlaub; Liz Lloyd; General Dozier;
Phyllis Contino; Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch;
Patti Seebock; Lana Zeigler.

Friends & Family:

Betty Denson; Jim Martin (Teri Martin's husband); Michele Baron (friends of Rod Schaffter and Carol Skaza); Fred & Natalie Johnson (friend of Rod Schaffter & Carol Skaza); Bob Mesce (brother of Patti Seebock); Tom Simpson (brother of Kathy Bolen); Dwight Brzinski (friend of Pat Jessie); Christopher Smith and Darwin Solorzono – missing at sea (friends of Mark Rosandich); Edward Yergeau (brother of Roger Yergeau); Ben Collens - stationed in Quatar (friend of Martha Jean Long); Jennifer McMullen & family (Lori McMullen extended family); Renee Imm (friend of Sandy Cole); Cara (Jean Long's daughter); Tasha (friend of Jackie Sellers); Andrea (friend of Pat Jessie); Larry (friend of Pat Jessie); Patty & family (Jean Long's friends); Phil Denmark (friend of Tom & Jan Sherman).

***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-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

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right to redirect donations to the area of greatest need.*



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