



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

APRIL 19, 2026



Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Easter

** 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

Adagio

by Cesar Franck

Call to Worship (responsively)

One: Holy God, we are Easter people, people of hope and resurrection, but a lot of days still seem like Good Friday.

All: We feel stuck in pain and loss, fear and anxiety, worry and doubt.

One: Resurrection power seems to be in short supply, and we are not sure how Your power impacts the difficulties and suffering we face.

All: Renew us again, dear Friend.

One: Come alongside us today in our time of worship and speak words of grace and truth to us.

All: Open our eyes to Your constant presence and remind us that You are always working out Your redemptive purposes in our lives and in our world. Amen.

~Slightly adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online

Hymn #10

O Worship the King
Verses 1, 2, & 4

Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

And, also with you!

Song of Prayer

Music: Leonard Cohen

Songwriters: One Voice Children's Choir

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Prayer of Discipleship (responsively)

One: Good morning again God, although blind, we think we see: We are blind to Your presence among us in those who are poor or lonely.

All: We have made invisible those who are mentally or emotionally ill.

One: We ignore the refugee, the hungry or homeless -- what, after all, can we do to make a difference in the midst of such overwhelming need?

All: We convince ourselves that You came to save people just like us, and, therefore, what concerns us must concern You.

One: For our pride and self-centeredness, Lord, we ask Your forgiveness.

All: For our lack of compassion and our complicity in the inequities between peoples, we confess our sin.

One: Open our eyes and our hearts to see the truth, and turn us away from ourselves that we might desire and pursue Your way of righteousness, justice and peace.

All: We thank You for Your mercy which is greater than all our sin. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.

~Slightly adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online

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

Music: Leonard Cohen
Songwriters: One Voice Children's Choir

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

Today's Scripture

Luke 24:13-35

Encounter on the Emmaus Road

¹³ On that same day, two disciples were traveling to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking to each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were discussing these things, Jesus, Himself arrived and joined them on their journey. ¹⁶ They were prevented from recognizing Him.

¹⁷ He said to them, "What are you talking about as you walk along?" They stopped, their faces downcast.

¹⁸ The one named Cleopas replied, "Are You the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place there over the last few days?" ¹⁹ He said to them, "What things?"

They said to Him, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth. Because of His powerful deeds and words, He was recognized by God and all the people as a prophet. ²⁰ But our chief priests and our leaders handed Him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified Him. ²¹ We had hoped He was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. ²² But there's more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to

the tomb early this morning ²³ and didn't find His body. They came to us saying that they had even seen a vision of angels who told them He is alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women said. They didn't see Him."

²⁵ Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing all that the prophets talked about. ²⁶ Wasn't it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and then enter into His glory?" ²⁷ Then He interpreted for them the things written about Himself in all the scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets.

²⁸ When they came to Emmaus, He acted as if He was going on ahead. ²⁹ But they urged Him, saying, "Stay with us. It's nearly evening, and the day is almost over." So, He went in to stay with them. ³⁰ After He took His seat at the table with them, He took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him, but He disappeared from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Weren't our hearts on fire when He spoke to us along the road and when He explained the scriptures for us?"

³³ They got up right then and returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying to each other, "The Lord really has risen! He appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then the two disciples described what had happened along the road and how Jesus was made known to them as He broke the bread.

~Common English Bible

Response to the Sharing of God's Story

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

Gift of Music

Angela Blasi, Soprano

In Remembrance

by Buryl Red

Pastoral Words

Hymn of Praise #229

Open My Eyes, That I May See

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

Angela Blasi, Soprano

Ave Maria

by Cesar Franck

**** 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 Book of James

**Learn the Bible, Grow Closer to God,
And Grow as a Person.**

**A Bible study from the book written
by: Mark David Albertson**

Readings:

James 1:1-18

**Today's flowers are dedicated to Lana Zieger.
Best Wishes from your friends at Edison
Congregational Church for good news from
your visit this week to Minnesota.**

**CINEMA FOR CHANGE PRESENTS ENTENCED
(FREE SCREENING)**

Date: April 19, 2026

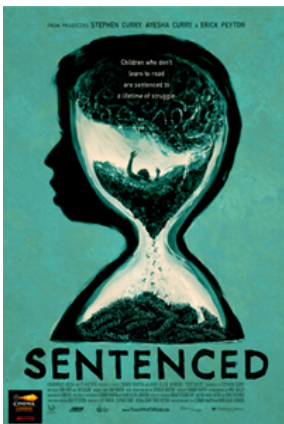
Time: 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm



Location:

**10091 McGregor Blvd
FORT MYERS, FL 33919**

**a 2024 documentary executive produced and narrated by NBA
star Stephen Curry. It explores the American childhood illiteracy
crisis through personal stories of adults and children facing
generational poverty. The film aims to drive change and inspire
literacy volunteers.**



**One of our church families is responsible for
this beautiful gift in our community. Thank
you to Kyle & Mary Beth Jackson**

**For next week's God's
word:
Luke 24:13-35**

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

**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.**

Benediction (responsively)

“The world now is too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone. Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor. May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love. May your feet be so blessed you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, your love, changes everything”. **AMEN**

— Black Rock Prayer Book, often attributed to Episcopal priest Brian Baker; Used at Burning Man Festival as a blessing.

Postlude

All Glory Be to God on High

by Nikolaus Decius
arr. Michael Burkhardt

Time with our Children

Luke 24:13-35

Have the children look around and tell you what they can see from where they are sitting. Then invite them to go on a walk with you around the worship space, looking behind the pulpit and communion table and other places that are usually

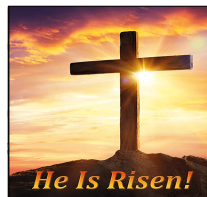
out of sight. Return to where you started and ask them if they saw more while they were sitting or walking around. Explain that two disciples of Jesus also saw a lot more when they were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus. A man came up to them and had a conversation with them about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Then tell them these disciples got a surprise at the end of the trip, when they were eating with the man, and “their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him.” It was Jesus, raised from the dead! (v. 31). Encourage the children to take walks with their parents and friends and talk about things that are important. We often get distracted when we’re just sitting at home in front of televisions, computers, phones and toys. Ask the children to name some things they like to talk about on walks and encourage them to keep talking and walking. Let them know they may even discover that Jesus is right beside them!

~Homiletics online

Wellness Newsletter

**April Faith and Wellness
Newsletter**

April 2026



“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit”

Romans 15:13

April is Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Month. Routine cancer screenings can mean better outcomes for your health, more treatment options, and more time with the people you love.

Talk with your health care provider about any personal or family history of cancer or other risk factors to determine if you should begin cancer screenings at an earlier age or be tested more frequently. Having one or more family members with a history of certain cancers, including breast, colorectal and prostate cancers, may place you at higher risk for the development of cancer.

Suggested screenings include:

- **Breast and Cervix**
- **Colorectal**
- **Lung**
- **Prostate and Testicle**
- **Oral**
- **Skin**



Blood Pressure Clinic on April 19th

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.

Cards can be sent to the following:

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

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Jean Lindenlaub; Liz Lloyd; General Dozier; Jean Long;
Phyllis Contino; Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch.
Jack Walmsley's family in the passing of Jack on Sunday, April 12, 2026.

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 Qatar (friend of Martha Jean Long).

**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

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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