



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

FEBRUARY 1, 2026



Order of Worship

Fourth 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

Return to the Heart

By David Lanz

Call to Worship (responsively)

One: Perfect Light of revelation, as you shone in the life of Jesus, whose epiphany we celebrate,

All: So, shine in us and through us today,

One: That we may become beacons of truth and compassion,

All: Enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy.

One: Speak to us, speak through us,

All: Speak in spite of us this day. Amen.

— adapted from a prayer found @ <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/prayer/?y=17134&season=epiphany&d=epiphany4>

Hymn of Faith #348

Shine Jesus, Shine

Passing of the Peace

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

Gift of Music

Rachel Cox, Violin

Cetan Lutah

By Ariel Bird

Prayer of Discipleship (responsively)

One: Give us, O God, this day:

All: Humility, so we can see you in the most vulnerable. A cup to catch the tears of all who weep! An arm for the long-suffering to cling to as they walk through life.

One: Give us, O God, this day:

All: A broken heart which can heal those who have harmed me. A truthful innocence which looks at the other and sees Your beloved. A friendly faith which embraces those we are taught to fear.

One: Give us, O God, this day:

All: A hospitality which welcomes those who are ridiculed. Words of hope, of comfort, of grace whispered in the ears of all who are slandered for your name.

One: Give us, O God, this day:

All: Peace, hope, love and joy so we become a blessing to others we meet along and on our spiritual journeys. Amen.

~ adapted from a prayer first written by Thom M. Shuman, copyright © 2014 Thom M. Shuman.
Posted on Prayers 4 Today. <http://prayersfortoday.blogspot.ca/>

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.

Prayer of Response

Spirit of the Living God

Words/Music by: Daniel Iverson

**Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.**

Today's First Scripture

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up the mountain, and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. **2** And He began to speak and taught them, saying:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

~New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Response to the Sharing of God’s Story

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

Pastoral Words

Hymn of Praise #386

Be Thou My Vision

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 the clear plates is Gluten Free bread.

Communion

Beautiful Savior

Arr. by Robert A. Hobby

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

Rachel Cox, Violin

Beautiful Asia

By Mayumi Kato

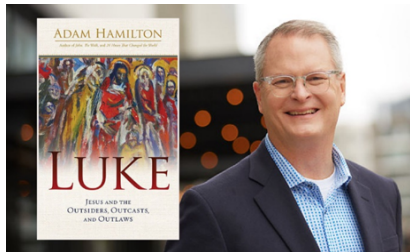
****Doxology**

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



Luke — Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws written by Adam Hamilton.

From Birth to Resurrection in the Gospel of Luke Jesus came to lift up the lowly. Throughout his ministry to his final days on the road to the cross, we find stories of his relationships with ordinary, flawed, and unexpected people. He met, dined, and traveled with people who were not perfect. Many of them were struggling, some were outsiders or even outlaws. Whoever they were, from those he healed to the outlaws with him at his crucifixion, Jesus brought the good news of God's kingdom to those who most needed to hear it. In Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws, pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton explores the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke's

stories we find Jesus' care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts. As we study Luke and see Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today.

**Session Five: Luke 18:35-43; Luke 19:1-10;
Luke 22:14-20; Luke 22: 24-27**

**Today's flowers are gifted to the church
by the Vining Family in memory of Cliff Vining.
We would like to thank them
for this beautiful gift.**

**Edison Church Luncheon for 8 will meet on
February 15th at Pinchers Restaurant, on the
first floor near the elevators right after church
service. If you have any questions, please see
Jack Walmsley or call him at 720-292-7043.**

**The new quilt displayed in the Fellowship
Hall is by Carol Krohse and it won first place in the
local quilt guild show. Please take a moment to
thank Carol.**

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

**Looking for Volunteers for Greeters and for Ushers. Sign-
up sheets are on the bulletin board if interested.**

**For next week's God's word:
Matthew 5:13-20**

OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IS PLANNED FOR FEBRUARY 1st 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

Rigaudon

By Andre Campra
Arr. by Diane Bish

Time With Our Children

Looking Upside Down

By: Lois Parker Edstrom

Matthew 5:1-12

A nuthatch is a small bird that is about as long as the spoon you use to eat your cereal (5 to 6 inches long). There are different types of nuthatch, but they all have one interesting thing in common. Instead of climbing up the trunk of a tree, like other birds, a nuthatch can climb up and also down. When it climbs down a tree it goes headfirst. The nuthatch can also move about on the underside of a branch rather than walk on the top of the branch like other birds do. Doesn't the nuthatch seem like an upside-down bird?

The nuthatch moves around on a tree in this unusual manner looking for insects, nuts, and seeds to eat. Because they move in an upside-down way, they find food that other birds miss.

There is a lesson to be learned from the nuthatch. Sometimes certain things in our world seem upside down. We see people who are sad, people who are hurt, people who are weak, people who are hungry, people who have such difficult lives. We want everyone to be happy and well and we may question the fairness of it all. But sometimes the difficulties people experience allow them to see blessings that more fortunate people miss.

In the Bible Jesus teaches that there is hope for these people who seem to have upside down lives. He blesses them and says, "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven...". We aren't able to see all that God can see. But God promises that in the kingdom of heaven, all will be made right.





Celtic Blessing

May you have warm
words on a cold
evening, a full moon
on a dark night, and a
smooth road all the
way to your door.

WWW.JULIEKRUPP.COM

Cards can be sent to the following:

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

**Ms. Marth Jean Long
7133 Almendro Terr #2
Fort Myers, Fl. 33907**

**Mr. Bill Person
Calusa Harbour Assisted Living
2525 First St, Room 233
Fort Myers, FL 33901**

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Jean Lindenlaub; Liz Lloyd; General Dozier;
Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch; Bill Persons;
Sharon Nelson; Martha Jean Long.
Whitney Blair Roth (the passing of her husband Rob Roth).

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).

***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

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.

