



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

JANUARY 25, 2026



Order of Worship

Third 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

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

Arranged S. Brittain

Call to Worship (responsively)

One: Are you hungry? Come and worship. Are you thirsty? Come and worship.
All: Are you weary, worn out and tired? Come and worship. Are you joyous? Come and worship.
One: Are you grateful? Come and worship. Are you full, expectant and hopeful?
Come and worship.
All: Let us come just as we are to worship. Today, God is softly and tenderly calling us all. Amen.

~Slightly adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online

Hymn of Faith #303

"Softly and Tenderly"

Passing of the Peace

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

"It is No Secret"

By Stuart Hamblen

Prayer of Discipleship (responsively)

One: Good morning God, it's likely that sometime today someone will push our buttons, challenge our good will, misread our intentions, tick us off, try our patience.

All: God it is very likely that someone will rattle our cage, judge us in haste, test our kindness or do all of the above.

One: God, give us the grace we will need at such times to respond with patience, to trust and accept, to listen carefully, to reach out in peace,

All: To be fair and just to anticipate goodness in all our words and deeds.

One: We know this is a lot to ask, God,

All: But we need Your help to do for others as we would have them do for us.

One: Hear our prayer God

All: And give us peace in all situations of life. Amen.

- adapted from a prayer written by Rev. Austin Fleming

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.

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 4:12-23

Move to Galilee

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John was arrested, he went to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum, which lies alongside the sea in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ This fulfilled what Isaiah the prophet said:

¹⁵ Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, alongside the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, ¹⁶ the people who lived in the dark have seen a great light, and a light has come upon those who lived in the region and in shadow of death. ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to announce, “Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!”

Calling of the first disciples

¹⁸ As Jesus walked alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, because they were fishermen. ¹⁹ “Come, follow me,” he said, “and I’ll show you how to fish for people.” ²⁰ Right away, they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ Continuing on, he saw another set of brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father repairing their nets. Jesus called them and ²² immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Ministry to the crowds

²³ Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues. He announced the good news of the kingdom and healed every disease and sickness among the people.

~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

Hymn of Praise #57

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Verses 1, 2, & 6

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

Anton Pierce, Tenor

He Touched Me

By William Gaither

****Doxology**

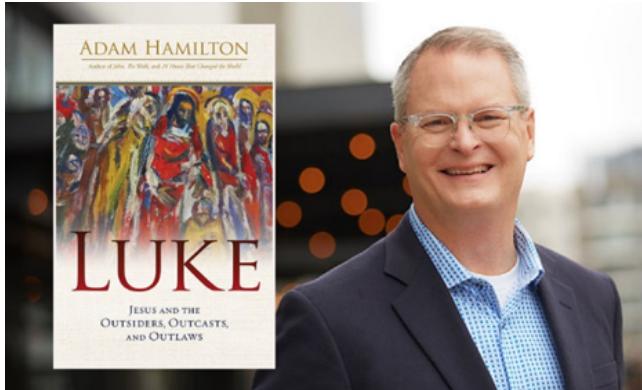
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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 Four: Luke 5:12-16; Luke 17:11-19

Today's flowers are gifted to the church by Rick Hawk. We would like to thank him for this beautiful gift.

Women's Fellowship will be hosting a Jewelry Sale here at the church on Friday & Saturday, January 30th & 31st from 9-2. Please come to check it out and bring a friend or two with you.

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.

This Sunday, January 25th, right after the service, we will be celebrating January's birthdays. Please join us to celebrate:

**Pat Jessie
John Noland
Jan Cornell**

**Holly Snyder
Glen Brown
Bonnie Tate
Rick Hawk**

**Sherri McIntyre
Pamela Vallozzi
Thomas Tate**

**For next week's God's word,
"A Beautiful Vision." Read
Matthew 5:1-12**

**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

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Arranged S. Brittain

Time With Our Children

Show the children a fishing net and explain how it is used to catch fish. Spread it out and have all the children stand around the edge and hold a part of it. Tell the story of Jesus calling the first disciples, and stress that He started by inviting four fishermen to follow Him. He said, “Follow Me, and I will make you fish for people” (Matthew 4:19). Ask the children why they think He chose four fishermen, and not four carpenters or farmers or shepherds. Suggest that fishermen make good disciples because they are not afraid of taking risks on the water, and you must be brave to be a disciple. Point out that fishermen make good disciples because they work together handling the nets, and you must cooperate with others to be a disciple. Stress that fishermen make good disciples because they are patient as they wait for fish, and you cannot be too anxious as a disciple. Let the children know that Jesus is calling them to follow Him and fish for people as well, and it is important for them to be brave and cooperative and patient if they want to be disciples of Jesus.

~Found @ homiletics online

JANUARY FAITH AND WELLNESS NEWSLETTER

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”
2 Corinthians 5:17

January is Cervical Cancer awareness month

The National Cancer Institute projected that approximately 13,360 individuals were diagnosed with cervical cancer in 2025, of those, 4,320 died of the disease.

Cervical Cancer is preventable. Nearly all cases are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV). Males and females ages 9 to 45 should get vaccinated for HPV.

Early detection is key for more effective treatment. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends that women should start getting Pap tests every three years, beginning at age 21. From 30 to 65 years of age, they recommend either the Pap test alone every three years and a high-risk HPV test alone every five years. Women can also opt for “contesting”: both tests every five years. In the past it was not recommended for most women over 65, new studies show that cervical cancer in women older than 65 is unfortunately in a later stage of the disease.

The good news is the FDA has approved the first at-home device for Pap smears! These tests are scheduled to be available nationwide through Teal Health by early 2026.

January Upcoming Events:

January 25th Faith Formation for Kids at Cathy’s Place from 10:00 – 11:00
January 25th Blood Pressure Clinic





Faith Formation

Dear Worshipers,

We invite your child to join us for Faith Formation learning in Cathy's Place at Thomas Edison Congregational Church. Our classes will be held every other Sunday from 10:00 – 11:00, starting November 2nd, 2025. Your children will learn about Jesus through age-appropriate faith activities, songs, prayers, Bible stories, games and arts and crafts.

January Class Curriculum:

January 25th Isaiah 9:1-4

Wishing everyone a happy and safe New Year.

Lori McMullen RN-FCN

**INASMUCH DAY – March 7, 2026, – 6 more Saturdays.
JOIN US! SUPPORT US! DONATE!**

Activity 1-3 Prior to Event, 4-9 Day of Event

Donation Opportunities - more details will be forthcoming

- New children's clothing, diapers & pull-ups
- Adult socks & underwear
- Quarters for laundromat (in Fellowship Hall)
- Home repair & landscape supplies

- Toiletries
- Backpacks & duffel bags
- Flannel fabric
- Greeting card materials, Crayons, stickers

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. Martha 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.

