



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

July 28, 2024



Order of Worship

Ninth Sunday of the Growing Season

** 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

Ave Maria

By: Franz Schubert

Call to Worship (responsively)

One: The foolish say, "There is no God! We are alone, on our own."

All: We gather to declare the glory of God in our lives.

One: The foolish say, "It is our life! We are accountable to no one."

**All: We gather, strengthened by the Spirit of the Living God,
trusting that the Holy One dwells in our hearts.**

One: The foolish say, "Everything we have is ours; we owe nothing to anyone."

**All: We gather to praise the One who calls us to serve others
in love.**

~adapt from a prayer written by Thom Shuman (2006).

Hymn #4

Come, Thou Almighty King

Verses 1,2 and 4

Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

And, also with you!

On Eagle's Wings

By: Michael Joncas

Arr. By: Mark Hayes

*You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: "My refuge, my Rock in whom I trust!"*

*And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.*

*The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield.*

*And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.*

*You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by, flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.*

*And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.*

*For to His angels He's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

*And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.
And hold you, and hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Prayer of Discipleship

One: O Lord, You have indeed carried us on Your wings. By Your mercy, You have delivered us from sorrow and loneliness. You have set us free from our dependence on ourselves.

All: Once we were suppressed, but now we are free to fly like eagles. Thank You, Lord.

One: Even as we seek to live faithfully as followers of the man from Galilee, help us to live each day by Your amazing grace.

All: May we continue to ride on Your wings as You guide and empower us to serve others and to live faithfully with You in every aspect of our lives.

One: All praise be to You, gracious God.

All: Because You carry us on Your wings. Alleluia! Amen.

~adapted from a prayer written by Mark D. Roberts, on The High Calling.

Prayers for 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

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Words: William Walford

Music: William Batchelder Bradbury

**Sweet Hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
that calls me from a world of care
and bids me at my Father's throne
make all my wants and wishes known!
In seasons of distress and grief,
my soul has often found relief,
and oft escaped the tempter's snare by Thy return,
sweet hour of prayer.**

Scripture

Psalm 14

For the music leader. Of David.

¹Fools say in their hearts, There is no God.
They are corrupt and do evil things;
not one of them does anything good.

²The Lord looks down from heaven on humans
to see if anyone is wise,
to see if anyone seeks God,
³but all of them have turned bad.
Everyone is corrupt.
No one does good-
not even one person!

⁴Are they dumb, all these evildoers,
devouring my people
like they are eating bread
but never calling on the Lord?

⁵Count on it:^z they will be in utter panic
because God is with the righteous generation.

⁶You evildoers may humiliate
the plans of those who suffer,
but the Lord is their refuge.

⁷Let Israel's salvation come out of Zion!
When the Lord changes
his people's circumstances for the better,
Jacob will rejoice;
Israel will celebrate!

-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 #293

Just As I Am
Verses 1, 2, 3, and 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

Ave Maria

By: Giulio Caccini
Arr. By: John Ross

Angela Blasi, Soprano

**** 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 at Noon

Faith Development

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

Fear is a liar. Faith is our truth. For the four Wednesdays we will hear four different stories of FAITH over fear and how these stories intersect with our lives, inspire our lives, interrupt our lives. Each week we will also explore some of the 365 times in the Bible it says, "Fear Not!" Our schedule of discovery and dialogue will travel these stories and these triumphs.

Finding FAITH after addiction

Reading:

1 Peter 5:6-7

Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God [set aside self-righteous pride], so that He may exalt you [to a place of honor in His service] at the appropriate time, casting all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection and watches over you very carefully].

Zephaniah 3:17

The Lord your God is in your midst, A Warrior who saves. He will rejoice

over you with joy; He will be quiet in His love [making no mention of your past sins], He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy.

Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced [and continue to be convinced—beyond any doubt] that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present *and* threatening, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the [unlimited] love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalm 34:4

I sought the Lord [on the authority of His word], and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and strength [mighty and impenetrable], A very present *and* well-proved help in trouble.

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.

School Supplies for Edison Park School

We would like to start collecting school supplies for Edison Park School. We will start now and finish on August 4, 2024, so we can get the items to the school before the school starts. The items that the school requested are:

Pre-sharpened Pencils -- Square Boxes of Tissues – Post-it Notes of any kind -- Spiral notebooks of any kind – Box of 24 Crayola Crayons, headphones, dry erase markers, backpacks, and colored pencils.

**For next week’s God’s word:
2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13**

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, and 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

Jubilate

By: Gordon Young

Time with our Children

Psalm 14

Put a globe in front of the children and ask them to tell you what they see when they look at the globe. Remind them that this is what the Earth looks like from space. They will point out oceans and continents, rivers and mountains. Then ask them what God sees when He looks at the Earth. Read them a verse from Psalm 14, "The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God" (v. 2). Ask them to name some of the people they know who are wise and ask them to explain how they use their wisdom. Then find out what it means to "seek after God," and have them name some of the ways we can do this -- coming to worship, reading the Bible, talking in small groups, praying. Spin the globe and tell the children that God has made a beautiful world for us, with many wonderful resources. Stress that we are to be wise in the ways we act toward the world and each other, and we are supposed to seek after God continually, instead of behaving in ways that are foolish and selfish (vv. 1, 4). Say that when God looks down at us, He should find us looking right back at Him.

~Adapted from homiletics online



WE ARE IN NEED OF EGG CARTONS!

We receive a wonderful donation of eggs every week, and we need lots of 1/2 or 1 dozen cartons in order to distribute them. Thanks!



PLEASE COLLECT AND SAVE YOUR CARTONS!

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Kate Baumann; Liz Lloyd;
Pastor Anton after the passing of Barry Pierce;
Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch; Bill Persons; Joe Helling;
Greg Haston; Ian Laughlin; Duane Gardner (Hospice Care).

Friends & Family:

Pat Tanguzzo (Friend of the Church and Quilter); Betty Denson;
Jim Martin (Teri Martin's husband); Shannon Randall (daughter of co-worker of
Pastor Anton); Jim Marc-Aurele (Lou & Carol's son); Darlene Gonzalez (Flo
Newbrough's sister); Bob and Darlene Kulesza (Bob is Carol Marc-Aurele's
brother); Rhonda and Hunter (friends of Martha Long); Howard Youngquist
(brother of Malcolm Youngquist); Norma Stott (friend of Sandy Cole);
Tom Jenkins (friend of Flo & Tee Newbrough); Michele Baron (friends of Rod
Schaffter and Carol Skaza); Carol Theiss (friend of Jackie Sellers).

***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
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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
Director of Sacred Arts – Alena Michel
Lori McMullen, RN-Faith Community Nurse*

*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.*

