



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

December 8, 2024



Order of Worship

Second Sunday of Advent - Peace

** 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

Hayden Gallo, Piano

Mary, Did You Know?

By: Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene
Arr. By: Dennis Alexander

Call to Worship (Responsively)

One: God in this season suspended between hope and fulfillment,

All: Let us never forget what You have done.

One: May we be overwhelmed by Your mercy, which flows in wave after wave.

**All: May we be honest about the darkness within us, and
perceptive of the light around us.**

One: May we make straight the path for the Lord,

**All: That together we may see God's glory revealed and work
diligently for peace on this earth and in our homes. Amen.**

~ slightly adapted from weekly Advent reflections by Mark Pierson. <http://adventinart.org/>)

Opening Hymn #77 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!
Anton sings verse 4, Congregation sings Verses 1, 2, & 3

Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with You. **And also with you!**

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy 2023

BY LISA HANCOCK

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – PEACE - Remembering through the Prophets

Last week we acknowledged the first candle to remember Abraham & Sarah, Isaiah & Jacob, Joseph & Ruth and all the patriarchs of long ago. These people listened to God and trusted God. Today we lit the second candle to remember Isaiah & Jeremiah, Amos & Micah and all the prophets of long ago. These people listened to God and shared God's message of peace on earth to their neighbors and friends. They helped people understand what God is like, and they shared God's promises of peace of the future. Today we also watch and listen for God's voice, of peace on earth and good will toward humanity.

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the world, be with us on our journey through Advent, that we may know You better. Amen.

~slightly adapted from spiritualchild.co.uk/adventprayers.html



Advent Carol

Peace, Peace, Peace

Tune: Still, Still, Still

Words By: Ken Bible

Music: Traditional Austrian Melody

Arr. By: Ken Bible

Still, Still, Still - Advent Version



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.**

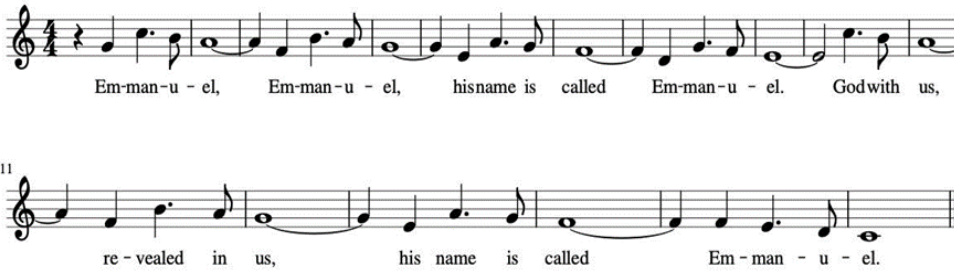
Amen.

Song of Prayer Response

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Bob McGee

Bob McGee



Today's Scripture

Luke 1:68-79

- ⁶⁸“Bless the Lord God of Israel
because He has come to help and has delivered His people.
⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty savior for us in His servant David’s house,
⁷⁰ just as He said through the mouths of His holy prophets long ago.
⁷¹ He has brought salvation from our enemies
and from the power of all those who hate us.
⁷² He has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and remembered His holy covenant,
⁷³ the solemn pledge He made to our ancestor Abraham.
He has granted
⁷⁴ that we would be rescued
from the power of our enemies
so that we could serve Him without fear,
⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness in God’s eyes,
for as long as we live.
⁷⁶ You, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare His way.

⁷⁷ You will tell His people how to be saved
through the forgiveness of their sins.
⁷⁸ Because of our God's deep compassion,
the dawn from heaven will break upon us,
⁷⁹ to give light to those who are sitting in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide us on the path of peace."

~ 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

Rebecca Buhr, Flute

Ding Don Merrily on High Traditional Carol

Arr. By: Anna Laura Page

Pastoral Words

Second Hymn

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Sly Miller and Bill Jackson

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:**

to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

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

Rebecca Buhr, Flute

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring from Cantata #147

By: J. S. Bach

Arr. By: Patrick M. Liebergen

** Doxology

Doxology

For Advent

Em G C D⁷ G D G C G
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

5 Am Bm⁷ Em Am Em B⁷ Em A⁷ D Em
here - be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

10 D Bm G C Am D⁷ G D Em Bm G
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

15 C D⁷ Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em
man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674

Music: 15th Century French

VENI EMMANUEL

LM with Refrain

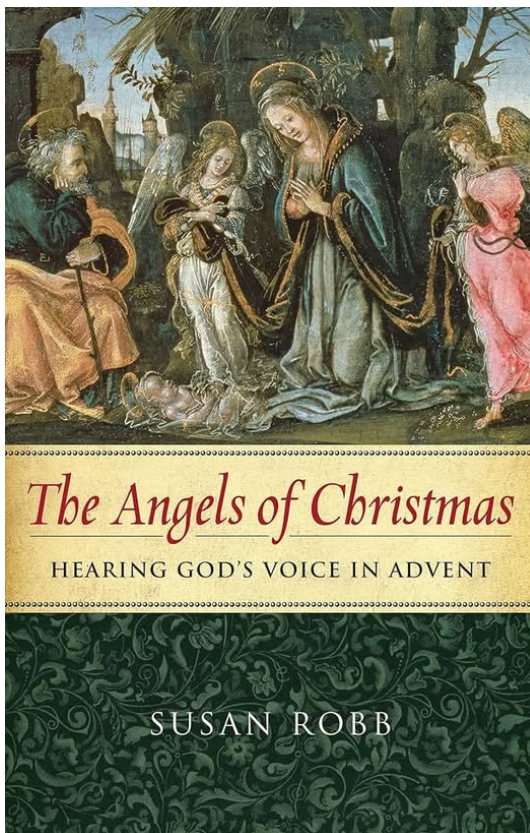
Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: music@gbod.org. Text and tune are public domain.

Life of Our Church

No Quilting
this Wednesday

Faith Development

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



Reading:
Luke 1:26-80

For next week's God's word:
Look Forward
Philippians 4:4-7

Women's Fellowship – Events

The Women's Fellowship is collecting gently used jewelry and accessories (loose or broken pieces are okay).

****New:** Join us for game day in Cathy's Place the first Tuesday of every month at 12:30 PM.
If interested, contact Gail Courtwright at:
gailcourtwright26@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CHURCH

Quilting Ministry

Help the Quilting Ministry earn money for materials to make Quilts for In As Much.

There will be 2 options:

6 Holiday Placements or A Small Wall Hanging/Quilt.

Both will be on display in the Fellowship Hall as of November 3rd.

Raffle ticket Sale: 6 for \$5.00 begins Sunday November 3rd thru December 8th. Drawing will take place following the service on December 8th.

December 11th – Women's Fellowship Christmas Party.

All are welcome. The gathering will be at the church at noon and there will be a fun gift exchange. It will be a pot-luck luncheon. Please RSVP to Gail Courtwright – gailcourtwright26@gmail.com for more details.

Sunday December 8th
Second Sunday of Advent



Sunday December 15th
Third Sunday of Advent



Sunday December 22nd
Fourth Sunday of Advent



Children's Christmas Celebration at Cathy's Place

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to Thomas Edison Congregational Church (TAECC) and Cathy's Place. We are excited to have your children join in on all the fun activities we have planned for this Christmas Season.

While you worship with Pastor Harper and Pastor Anton, your child/ children will be enjoying activities, including arts and crafts, storytelling, games, outdoor play, and much more. Activities will be held on Dec. 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 9:30-11:15

Here at Cathy's Place, we follow a well-rounded curriculum designed to promote cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development.

Cathy's Place is child-proofed, and hygiene practices are diligently followed to ensure a safe environment.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or need assistance.
Please contact Lori McMullen FCN at: LoriFCN@taecc.com

We look forward to creating beautiful memories with your children during this Christmas Season

Blessings,

Lori McMullen RN, FCN. Faith Community Nurse (Parish Nurse)

Certified in:

Basic Life Support

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support

Pediatric Advanced Life Support

Trauma Nurse Certified

Cell number: 239-810-2662

Email: LoriFCN@TAECC.com

RSVP to Lorifcn@taecc.com with Child's name, age, and what dates they will attend, or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board.

Activities will be held on Dec. 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 9:30-11:15

Tuesday, December 24th
Christmas Eve – Music starts at 4:30 PM



Benediction (responsively)

A Peaceful Benediction

Be people of peace.

Let peace live in your heart and share the peace of Christ with all you meet.

Share peace by acting out of compassion and not fear.

Share peace by listening to all sides of the story.

Share peace by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share peace.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share peace and hope with those you meet. Amen.

~ adapted from : <https://www.liturgylink.net/2015/11/23/benedictions-for-advent/>

Postlude

Stephen Brittain, Piano

I've Got Peace Like a River

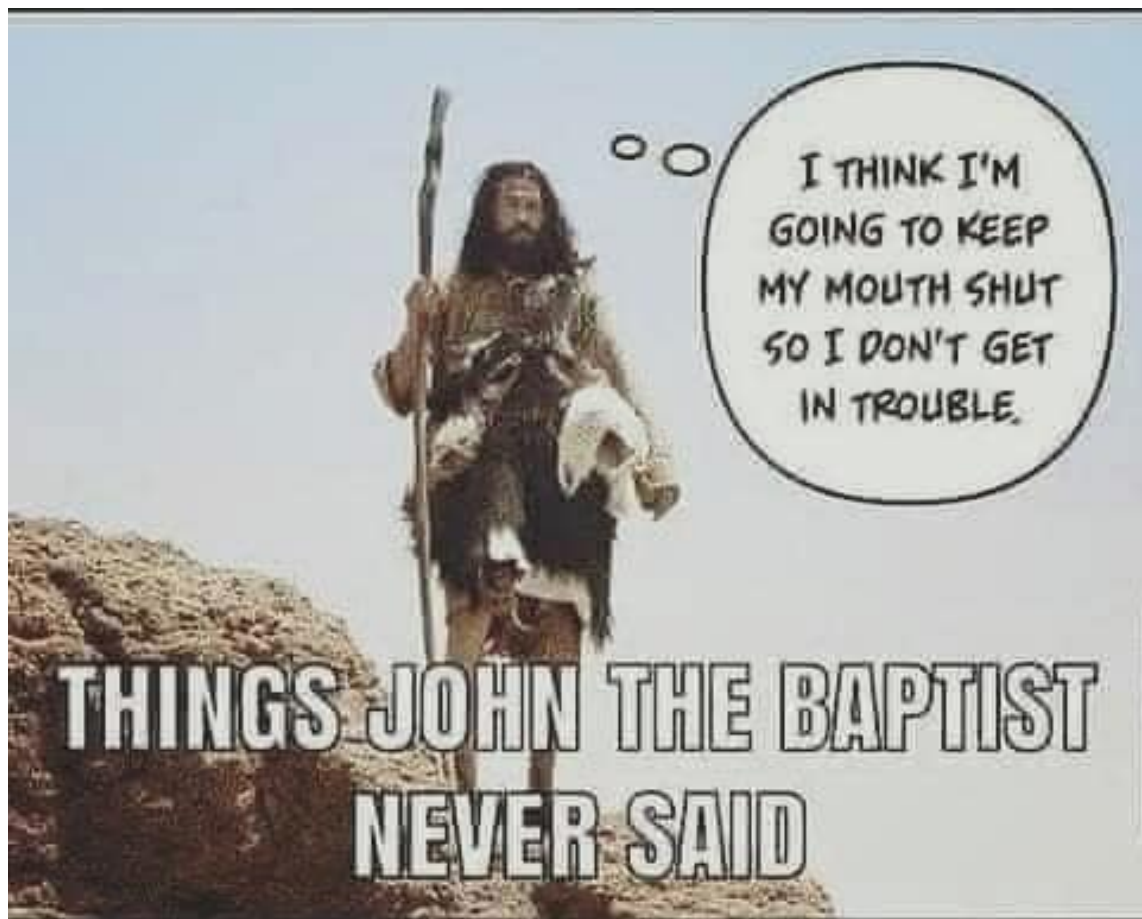
Arr. By: Stephen Brittain

Time with our Children

Luke 1:68-79

Teach the children a simple dance step, such as the box step — so named because the steps rest in the four corners of a square. The leader begins with the left foot and then dances in the following way: first half-box — forward-side-together; second half-box — backward-side-together. Let the children know that this is the basic step for the waltz and the rumba, so once they learn it, they can start to do some real dances. But warn them that dances must be learned over time, and they take practice. You cannot become a good dancer simply by reading instructions. Then sit and point out that a man named Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, predicted that God would “guide our feet into the way of peace” (v. 79). Emphasize that we have to learn to move in the way of peace, and it takes practice. So, what could it mean to do the peace dance? Suggest that our feet move in the way of peace when we back away from conflict, when we step toward justice and fairness, and when we take the hands of others and work together. Ask the children to name some ways they do the peace dance in their homes, schools and neighborhoods. Encourage them to keep moving in this way because this is a dance that God wants us all to be doing.

~ Communications Resources



Cards can be sent to the following:

**Duane Gardner
50 La Fonda Lane
North Fort Myers, Fl. 33903**

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Jean Lindenlaub; Liz Lloyd;
Pastor Anton after the passing of Barry Pierce;
Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch; Bill Persons;
Tom Johns; Ian Laughlin; Duane Gardner (Hospice Care).

Friends & Family:

Betty Denson; Jim Martin (Teri Martin's husband); Jim Marc-Aurele (Lou & Carol's son); Darlene Gonzalez (Flo Newbrough's sister); Bob and Darlene Kulesza (Bob is Carol Marc-Aurele's brother); Tom Jenkins (friend of Flo & Tee Newbrough); Michele Baron (friends of Rod Schaffter and Carol Skaza); Jim and Mary Pat Willis (friends of Carol & Ned Downing and Malcolm Youngquist);
Linda Pekkari (Friend of Tee & Flo Newbrough).

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

