



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

JULY 20, 2025



Order of Worship

Sixth 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

Layla Morell, Organ

Invention 1 in C major , BWV 772

By: J. S. Bach

***Call to Worship (responsively)**

One: We believe in You, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to Your deeds we testify.

All: You call the worlds into being, create persons in Your own image and set before each one the ways of life and death.

One: You seek in, holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by Your righteous will, declared through prophets and apostles.

All: In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, You, have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to Yourself.

One: You bestow upon us Your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

All: In You we believe. In Your presence we gather for worship today.

***Hymn #10**

O Worship the King

***Invocation (responsively)**

One: Thank You God for calling us into Your church: To accept the cost and joy of discipleship; to be Your servants in the service of others. Remind each of us God that You call us: To proclaim the Gospel to all the world, and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism, Eat at His Table; And to join Christ in His passion and victory.

All: God, remind us during this time of worship together that You promise to all who trust You: Forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace; courage in the struggle for justice and peace; Your presence in trial and rejoicing; and eternal life in Your realm which has no end.

One: And, so God, as we gather today in worship and as we seek Your presence in the daily minutes of real life: Bless our time together.

**All: May we bring honor to Your Kingdom. May we understand where the origin and destination of glory resides. And may Your unexplainable resurrection-al power be with us all.
Amen.**

Call to Worship and Invocation

~ Prayer slightly adapted from United Church of Christ Statement of Faith in the form of a doxology-http://www.ucc.org/beliefs_statement-of-faith#DOX ~Prayer adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online.

***Gloria Patri** (unison) Henry W. Greatorex (from red hymnal #623)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen, Amen.**

***Passing of the Peace**

May the Peace of Christ be with you!
And, also with you!

Gift of Music

Hannah Cho Dougherty, Violin

Blessed Assurance

By: Duane Funderburk

Prayer of Discipleship (responsively)

One: Eternal Spirit,
Source of all that is and ever shall be,

**All: Loving Parent in whom we discern heaven,
May knowledge of Your holiness inspire all peoples,**

One: And may Your commonwealth of peace and freedom flourish on earth
Until all of humankind heed Your call to justice and compassion.

**All: May we find the bread that we need for today,
And for the hurts we cause one another
May we be forgiven in the same measure that we forgive.**

One: In times of trial and temptation, help us to be strong;
When life seems overwhelming, help us to endure;
And thus from the yoke of sin deliver us.

**All: May You reign in the power of human love,
Now and forever.
Amen.**

~Adapted from the prayer book of the Anglican Church of New Zealand

Prayer of Response

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Words and Music: Ken Medema

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your
Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children
praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

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.

Gift of Music

Layla Morell, Piano

The Storm op.109 #13

By: Friedrich Burgmuller

Today's Scripture

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp before my feet
and a light for my journey.

~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

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

Hannah Cho Dougherty, Violin

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

By: J. S. Bach

Arr. by: Patrick M. Liebergen

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**

Facing Our Fears

Readings

Acts 28:16–31

Philippians 4:6

**Today's flowers are gifted to the church by
Holly Snyder in memory of her mother, Judi Kennefic
for her birthday. We would like to thank her for this beautiful gift**

School Supplies for Edison Park School

**We would like to collect school supplies for Edison Park
School. If you wish to help, we will be collecting the items here
at the church until August 3, 2025, so we can get the
supplies over the teachers before the fall session starts. The
supplies that the school has requested are:**

Pre-sharpened Pencils -- Square Boxes of Tissues – Post-it Notes of any kind – Glue Sticks – Box of 24 Crayola Crayons, headphones, dry erase markers, backpacks, colored pencils, folders with prongs and 1” White Binder.

Sunday July 20th Lunch and Learn
Immediately following the service,
Nikki Sheaks from Wink News will be here
to provide information on preparing for hurricanes.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board
or you can RSVP to the office by July 17th so we
will know how many boxed lunches to order.

Next Sunday, July 27th , right after the
service, we will be celebrating July’s
birthdays. Please join us to celebrate:

Pastor Jim
Ted Bluey

Lynden Palmer
Mary Jane Vergin
Alena Michel

Deborah Rees
River Delaney

For next week’s God’s
word:
Luke 11:1-13

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)

**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

Layla Morell, Organ

Invention 8 in F Major, BWV 779

By: J. S. Bach

Time with our Children

How to Walk in the Dark

“Raise your hand if you have ever been in a rainstorm with thunder and lightning. Keep your hand up if all of the power went out in your house during the storm.” Ask the children how they felt when this happened. Agree that they might have been afraid or perhaps looked upon the incident as an adventure. Ask them, “What did your family do when the power went out?” Possible answers here might be that their parents lit candles or turned on flashlights. (If you live in an area where power outages are common occurrences, you could allude to the importance of having a special place in the home for an emergency supply of flashlights, batteries, matches and candles.) Were they surprised at how much light just one candle gave them? Tell the children that there are other ways to get light into our lives besides the actual light of a candle or flashlight. Where do we find the word of God that lights our way? Agree that we find God’s word in the bible. In the psalm for today, we are told that the word of God is like a lamp at our feet (v. 105): God’s word directs our way just like a lamp does when the way ahead is dark. But we have to turn on the lamp to receive light and read the bible to receive God’s light. Dismiss the children by giving each one a tea light candle

to put on their dining room table at home for their parents to light next time they all have a meal together as a reminder of the light of God in their lives.

Council Corner

- 1) In the next few weeks, a new piano (new to us) will be in Cathy's Place to enhance our music ministry and the life of the church. Thankful to Stephen Brittain and Alena Michel for working on this.
- 2) In early spring, we had to replace the air conditioner in Cathy's Place in the cost of \$7,437.00. Anyone that would like to make a special gift towards this, is welcomed and can put it in the church envelope. Please write on the line that says OTHER saying to put towards air conditioner. (Thank you, so far, we have been gifted \$2,840.00 towards the A/C in Cathy's Place)
Also, we have been gifted \$500.00 to put towards the new window project for Cathy's Place.
- 3) The Council along with the church office is updating our digital church directory. Thank you to those who have submitted their new photos and information. If you don't have the church directory, please let us know so we can help you with getting the directory.
- 4) Reminder – name tags are available at the office for \$8.00. If you would like one, please let the office know.

Interesting Facts about the Bible

by Jeffrey Kranz | Oct 23, 2022 | Bible facts

There's a lot of really interesting stuff to learn about the Bible beyond its core message. I'm keeping a running list of really interesting facts that I've learned about the Bible—feel free to comment with some that you think should make the list

1. The Bible's content was written over the course of at least 500 years
2. The Bible was written in three languages
3. The Bible was written on three continents
4. The Bible was written by more than 40 traditional contributors (in reality, there were many more)
5. Most of the people who wrote the Bible were of Hebrew ethnicity
6. All Christian Bible canons contain the same 66 "core" books
7. Chapters and verses were added in the 1200s CE
8. The Bible is a mix of proactive and reactive texts
9. We don't have the original documents!
10. The Bible is about 611,000 words long (in its original languages)
11. The Bible is non-linear, and the books aren't in chronological order
12. Each* book of the Bible is a standalone work

More facts for Bible trivia night

1. The longest book of the Bible is Jeremiah
2. The shortest book of the Bible is 3 John
3. The books of the Old Testament are arranged differently in Judaism
4. There are at least 185 songs in the Bible
5. The authorship of Hebrews has remained anonymous for centuries
6. The word "Trinity" is never mentioned in the Bible.
7. There are 21 dreams recorded in the Bible

And most of them are had by two different men named Joseph!

8. The book of James is the bossiest book of the Bible

<https://overviewbible.com/bible-facts/>

Cards can be sent to the following:

**General Dozier
Barrington Terrace, of Ft. Myers
9731 Commerce Center Ct., Room #408
Fort Myers, Fl. 33908**

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Jean Lindenlaub; Liz Lloyd; General Dozier;
Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch; Bill Persons;
the passing of Erleene Sanders; Jeannie Gardner after
the passing of her grandson.

Friends & Family:

Betty Denson; Jim Martin (Teri Martin's husband); Michele Baron (friends of Rod Schaffter and Carol Skaza); Linda Pekkarinen (Friend of Tee & Flo Newbrough); Andrew (age 11) Grandson of dear friends of (Tee & Flo Newbrough); Paula Brown (Sister of Roger Yergeau); Fred & Natalie Johnson (friend of Rod Schaffter & Carol Skaza); Bob Mesce (brother of Patti Seebock).

***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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