



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

NOVEMBER 23, 2025



Order of Worship

Thanksgiving Sunday

** 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

Andante From Symphony #6

By William Boyce

***Call to Worship (responsively)**

One: Show us the promise of Your presence in each sunrise, in the warmth of the noontime sun, in the glowing of each sunset,

All: and our thanksgiving will be lasting, O God.

One: Show us the smile on a baby's face, the fun of two children playing, an old person cracking a joke,

All: and our thanksgiving will be joyful, O God.

One: Show us one neighbor helping another, one family member sacrificing for another, a grateful nation going to work,

All: and our thanksgiving will be thoughtful, O God.

One: Show us the church caring for the vulnerable, worshipping wholeheartedly, learning enthusiastically,

All: and our thanksgiving will be faithful, O God.

~Adapted from a prayer found in Prayers to Share, edited by David Sparks

***Hymn #591**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Verses 1, 2, & 4

***Passing of the Peace**

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

Gift of Music

Rebecca Bahr, Flute

Simple Gifts , traditional folk song

Arr. by Anna Laura Page

Prayer of Discipleship (responsively)

One: For a good meal after a long day, a star-filled sky, a hug from a loved one,
an unexpected smile,

All: Thanksgiving flows naturally to You, O God.

One: Thanks for the things we need: food, clothes, warmth, and shelter.

**All: Thanks for the people we love: parents and grandparents,
friends near and far.**

One: Thanks for a time to play: football and tennis, pickleball, golf, cards,
fishing and board games.

**All: Thanks for a time to dream: of faraway places, of luscious
desserts, of family reunited, of freedom from worry.**

One: Thanks for the harvest gathered in and for useful work at the office,
factory, and at home.

**All: Thanks for our faith: for prayers offered and answered, and
for the Good News Jesus brings.**

One: May we offer thanksgiving in all things:

**All: When life is testing, in times of celebration, in times of
sorrow, in the middle of a pandemic and when normality
returns.**

One: We offer thanksgiving to You, gracious God:

**All: You were faithful yesterday, You are faithful today, You are
faithful all the days of our lives. Amen.**

~Adapted from a prayer found in Prayers to Share, edited by David Sparks

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

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Words and Music By: Henry Smith

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks
because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

**And now let the weak say "I am strong",
let the poor say "I am rich" because of what
the Lord has done for us.**

Today's Scripture

Psalms 100

- 1-2 On your feet now—applaud God!
Bring a gift of laughter,
sing yourselves into his presence.
- 3 Know this: God is God, and God, God.
He made us; we didn't make him.
We're his people, his well-tended sheep.
- 4 Enter with the password: "Thank you!"
Make yourselves at home, talking praise.
Thank him. Worship him.
- 5 For God is sheer beauty,
all-generous in love,
loyal always and ever.

~The Message

Response to the Sharing of God's Story

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

Hymn of Praise #590

We Gather Together

Pastoral Words

Hymn of Praise

Red Hanson, Baritone

Canticle of the Turning

Tune: Star of the County Down, Irish Traditional,
Arr. By: Rory Cooney

*My soul cries out with a joy-ful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
And my spir-it sings of the won-drous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your ser-vant's plight,
and my weak-ness you did not spurn,
So, from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be a-bout to turn?*

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.
Wipe a-way all tears,
for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn!*

*Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
And your mer-cy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your ver-y name puts the proud to shame,*

*and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is a-bout to turn.*

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.
Wipe a-way all tears,
for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn!*

*From the halls of power to the for-tress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.*

*Let the king be-ware for your jus-tice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.*

*The hun-gry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can nev-er earn;
There are ta-bles spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is a-bout to turn.*

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.
Wipe a-way all tears,
for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn!**

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.
Wipe a-way all tears,
for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn!**

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 Bahr, Flute

Bright and Beautiful

Arr. by Mark Hayes

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 the Church

No Quilting on Wednesday.

**NO Faith Development
on Wednesday or Thursday this Week.**

**We have several people that would like to come
to church but will need a ride. Please contact
the office for information.**

**Today's flowers are gifted to the church by
Cheryl Ellis. We would like to thank her
for this beautiful gift.**

**For next week's reading:
Isaiah 2:1-5
Lectionary readings:
Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalms 122,
Romans 13:11-14 & Matthew 24:36-44**

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CHURCH

Book drive ends this Sunday, November 23.

Monday November 24th

**Decorate church for Advent – starting at 10:00 AM
– lunch provided – sign-up sheet is on the bulletin
board. We need to know by November 20th
who is planning to help.**



Women's Fellowship

Are collecting toys for the farmworker's kids in Immokalee.

The last day of collecting will be December 10th.

Please leave them in the office.

**Donate new, unwrapped toys for children
Ages 0-12 years old.**

Gift ideas:

0-3 years – Fisher price, Leapfrog & V-teach.

4-7 years – Cars, Dolls & Doll Sets
8-12 years – Collectible Surprise Toys, Stem Toys
Or Legos & Science Projects

Thanksgiving – November 27th

Don't Be Alone.

**Anton will be hosting a Thanksgiving luncheon
On Thanksgiving Day here at the church at 1:00 PM.**

**There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board
In the Fellowship Hall.**

**Anton will be providing the meat. When you sign up,
Please also write down what side dish you would
like to bring so we don't end up with a lot of
the same thing. Let's make it an assortment of
different side dishes to make it festive. There will be
a limit of 50 people this year.**

Sunday November 30th
First Sunday of Advent



Next Sunday, November 30th, right after the
service, we will be celebrating November's
birthdays. Please join us to celebrate:

Preston Perry
Beverly Becton
James Vergin

Andrea Perisho
Tom Smoot III
Karen Doyle

Tommy McIntyre
Fred Kizer
John Seebock

Rowen Delaney
Carol Marc-Aurele

Carol Krohse
Buddy Conyers

Shirley Keller
New Downing

Friday December 5th

Alena Michel presents

“Keys to Christmas Magic”

**Student’s Piano Recital starting
at 6:00 PM here at the church.**

Sunday, December 7th

Second Sunday of Advent



Sunday, December 14th

Third Sunday of Advent



Sunday, December 21st

Fourth Sunday of Advent



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



Women's Fellowship

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

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

from Thanksgiving Suite op. 52

Time with our Children

Finding Joy

By Lois Parker Edstrom

Psalm 100

I can't tell you how important it is for you to find something you love to do. As you are growing up take advantage of opportunities to find out more about the world and about yourself. Whenever you have a chance, go to a concert or a play, take a summer pottery class just for fun, travel with your parents and notice how buildings are built, find out about the food and customs of others. Make things at home. Bake, do crafts, build things, find interesting projects. Try needlework, collect rocks, hike, study the clouds and stars and the animals and fish of the sea. Some of you may have already found activities that excite and delight you. Some children find their special interests very early. I know a little girl who loves to study bugs and a little boy who loved music from the time he was a toddler. Now he is a successful and happy musician who performs, composes music, teaches, and writes books about it. Grab on to your exciting life and figure out what inspires you. In the Psalms we find this verse: "Serve Yahweh (God) with gladness" (100:2). When you find what you love to do, use that something to serve God. It will make you happy! "God is good" and "his loving kindness endures (lasts) forever" (100:5).

Scripture quotations from the World English Bible
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November Faith and Wellness Newsletter

"Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well."

-3 John 2-

November is Diabetes Awareness Month Diabetes is a chronic condition that affects how the body regulates blood sugar levels.

Common symptoms of diabetes include:

High blood sugar levels, Increased thirst, Frequent urination, Extreme hunger, Weight loss, Fatigue, and Blurred vision.

Complications:

If not properly managed, diabetes can lead to serious complications, such as: Heart disease, Stroke, Kidney damage, Nerve damage, Eye problems, and Foot ulcers.

Treatment: Treatment for diabetes typically involves lifestyle changes (diet, exercise), medication (to improve insulin production or sensitivity), and monitoring blood sugar levels. In some cases, insulin injections may be necessary.

Prevention:

While there is no cure for diabetes, lifestyle changes can help prevent or delay its onset:

Maintain a healthy weight

Engage in regular physical activity

Eat a balanced diet low in processed foods and sugary drinks

Manage stress effectively

Quit smoking

Consult a healthcare professional for regular checkups and screenings

If you experience any symptoms of diabetes, seek medical advice promptly

Novembers Upcoming events:

- **November 30th – Blood Drive from 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon**

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 & crafts.

November class curriculum:

November 30th: Matthew 24:36-44



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

Bill Persons
Calusa Harbour Assisted Living
2525 First St, Room 233
Fort Myers, FL 33901

Ms. Sharon Nelson
258 Caravan Circle
N. Ft. Myers, FL 33903

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Jean Lindenlaub; Liz Lloyd; General Dozier;
Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch; Bill Persons;
Sharon Nelson; Martha Jean Long;
Kay Van Riper and family with the passing of Dan Van Riper.

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).

***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
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