



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

May 28, 2023



Order of Worship

Pentecost 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

Molly Phillips, Trumpet
Tony, Organist

Festival Prelude on Homeland, The Country that I Love

Tune: Thaxted
Arr. By: David Howard Pettit

Call to Worship (Responsively)

One: When the world divides us

All: Come, Holy Spirit, make us one.

One: When the world makes us feel all alone

All: Come, Holy Spirit, make us family.

One: When the world leads us astray

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, call us home. Come, Holy Spirit, come!
Come and fill this place! Amen**

— slightly adapted from a prayer written by Ciona D. Rouse, **The Africana Worship Book**, Year C, edited by Valerie Bridgeman Davis and Safiyah Fosua, Discipleship Resources, 2008, 94.

Hymn # 337

God of Grace and God of Glory

Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with You.

And, also with you!

Prayer of Discipleship

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Author: James K. Manley, 1975

Tune Name: SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.**

One: God of such gentle power, whose mighty wind stirred hesitant disciples to become preachers and teachers; whose mighty wind didn't knock people down, but lifted them higher to visions of profound community, where men and women, young and old, share in partnership; whose mighty wind released such joy as to cause a scene, bless us with that wind of inspiration today.

**You moved on the waters,
you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
"Awake from your slumbers
and rise on your wings."**

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.**

One: God, Your, gentle power of Pentecost built the church. God, Your, rebuilding power created a movement that weaves its way to us today. We give You thanks for the fresh winds of the Spirit, the loving and empowering Spirit that abides in hearts, giving insight to see beauty in the midst of routine and moving us to help in the presence of need. Come again and a new, Great Spirit, come to us now. In the name of the Holy One. **Amen.**

**You swept through the desert,
you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
When they were confounded by their idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets
to open their eyes.**

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.**

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

Debbie Marino, Vocalist

O Breathe on Me, Thou Breath of God

Today's Scripture

Acts 2:1-8

Pentecost

¹When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

⁵ There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.

⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. ⁷ They were surprised and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them?" ⁸ How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language?

Acts 2:12-21

¹² They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, "What does this mean?" ¹³ Others jeered at them, saying, "They're full of new wine!" ¹⁴ Peter

stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! ¹⁵ These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning! ¹⁶ Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ *In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams.* ¹⁸ *Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.* ¹⁹ *I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.* ²⁰ *The sun will be changed into darkness; And the moon will be changed into blood, before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.* ²¹ *And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

— Common English Bible

Pastoral Words

Has The Fire Gone Out?

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.

Hymn of Faith

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Author: James K. Manley, 1975

Tune Name: SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS

**You sang in a stable,
you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when
the whole world was still;
And down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind.**

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.**

**You call from tomorrow,
you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow
all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions,
our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions
your people arise.**

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.**

Response to the Sharing of God's Story

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

Offertory

Debbie Marino, Vocalist

Be

By: Al Denson

****Doxology**

**Praise God whose breath fills all the earth
Whose love reveals our sacred worth
Whose Spirit forms one family
Whose grace brings peace and harmony. Amen.**

Sung to the traditional tune
by Roger Lynn

Life of Our Church

Quilting on Wednesday at 12:00 pm.

**Faith Development
May 31/June 1 there will be no
Faith Development Classes.
Pastor Jim will be traveling to
Indianapolis for Boundary
Training and Annual Meeting.**

**Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to donate
flowers to enhance our Sunday Service.**

**Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board
for Ushers and Volunteers for Cathy's Place.**

**For next week's God's word:
This is My Father's World
Psalm 8**

**May 31, (Wednesday) at 10:00 AM
St. Hilary's Episcopal Church**

Caregivers Workshop

The Fort Myers Mastersingers and the Intermezzo Choir would like to invite anyone caring for a loved one diagnosed with a neurological challenge such as Alzheimer's or Dementia to a Caregivers Workshop. This FREE training is provided by The Dubin Center and will focus on interventions, language, resources, and community supports for those living with this diagnosis. This is for anyone, friends or family, eager to become an informed caregiver. To RSVP - Email Tony Contino at acontino58@gmail.com

**June 4, right after Sunday's Service,
Beth Moss will be offering Blood Pressure checks.
Blood Pressure Screening is an important part of health
maintenance. All are encouraged to do this.**

Blessing Words for Pentecost (Responsively)

May God's breath stream within you.
May God's breath renew you.
May God's breath invigorate you.
Walk with confidence into this day.
Amen. **Amen.**

—traditional Jewish blessing, posted on Rev. A.E. Hunt's blog.

**Grand Overture No. 1
For Organ and Trumpet**

By: James Michael Stevens

Time with our Children

The Language of Love By: Lois Parker Edstrom

Do you know anyone who speaks a language different than your own? What happens when you try to talk with a person who does not speak your language? Yes, you have trouble understanding each other.

Learning a foreign language is difficult. You must listen carefully to what is being said and trust, at some point, you will understand.

When God sent His Spirit to be with the people of this world the Bible tells us that those people ***“were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other languages, as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak”***.

This happened in Jerusalem and the people there were amazed because persons from other lands spoke to them in their own language. Can you imagine how surprising this would be? They understood each other because God’s Spirit had given them the ability to do so.

We may not be able to speak other languages, but we can learn how to understand each other. God’s Spirit teaches us to learn to listen, trust God and feel His love. When this happens, we are able to reach out to others, as God gives us the ability. Listen and trust! God’s Spirit gives us the language of love.

Scripture quotations from the World English Bible — adapted from Copyright 2009, Richard Niell Donovan

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Kate Baumann; Roy Shipley; Malcolm Youngquist;
Barry Pierce; Dan Van Riper; Pam Vallozzi; Sharlene Dozier; Annette Brown;
Susan McElligott .

Friends & Family:

Pat Tanguoso (Friend of the Church and Quilter);
Larry Zeigler (Lana's Husband); Duane (Friend of Tom & Sherrie McIntyre);
Shelly (friend of Pastor Anton); Lillian Helling (Sister-in-law of Tom Johns &
Joseph Helling); Betty Denson; Jim Martin (Teri Martin's husband); Dave Gaide
(Kim Gaide's husband); Martha Calvert, (Friend of Ian Laughlin).
Jeffrey Lloyd (Son of Liz Lloyd); John Schmidt (Gail Courtwright's brother)

***No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here at Edison Congregational Church.
Welcome home!***

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Facebook:	Facebook.com/EdisonChurch
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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 – Dr. Tony Contino

Pianist - Barry Pierce

*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.*

