



Thomas A. Edison
Congregational Church

APRIL 26, 2026



Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter

** 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

Aria

by Paul Manz

Call to Worship (responsively)

One: God is watching for us.

All: Like a shepherd watching over their sheep.

One: God is ready for us.

All: With truth and wisdom from a deep well.

One: God is blessing us.

All: With springs of living water.

One: God is sending us.

All: To sing, pray and speak up and out for the marginalized every day.

One: God is here.

All: Let the conversation begin. Amen.

~Adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online

Hymn #11

Praise to the Lord, The Almighty

Verses 1, 2, & 4

Passing of the Peace

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

Song of Prayer

Music: Leonard Cohen
Songwriters: One Voice Children's Choir

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Gift of Music

Dr. Dan Davis, Saxophone

Morning Has Broken

Arr. by: Brant Adams

Prayer of Discipleship (responsively)

One: Holy God, weave praise into the fabric of our days.

All: So, our lives become a blessing to others.

One: Weave peace into our words and deeds.

All: So, hatred and anger are disarmed.

One: Weave love into our work.

All: So, accomplishments are imbued with humility.

One: Weave kindness into our actions.

All: So, the world becomes a joyous place to live.

One: Weave hope into every encounter.

All: So, we may testify to God's continuing resurrection.

One: Weave songs into our worship.

All: So, might our lives echo in praise to God. Amen.

~Adapted from a prayer found @ homiletics online

Prayers of 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

Music: Leonard Cohen
Songwriters: One Voice Children's Choir

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

Today's Scripture

Psalms 23

A psalm of David

The LORD is my shepherd.

I lack nothing.

² He lets me rest in grassy meadows;

He leads me to restful waters;

³ He keeps me alive.

He guides me in proper paths

for the sake of His good name.

⁴ Even when I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no danger because You are with me.

Your rod and Your staff—

they protect me.

⁵ You set a table for me

right in front of my enemies.

You bathe my head in oil;

my cup is so full it spills over!

⁶ Yes, goodness and faithful love

will pursue me all the days of my life,

and I will live in the LORD's house
as long as I live.

~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 #374

He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought

Verses 1, 2, & 4

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

Dr. Dan Davis, Saxophone

Sunshine in My Soul / Sunlight

by John R. Sweeney and Winfield S. Weeden
arr . by Brant Adams

**** 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

The Book of James
Learn the Bible, Grow Closer to God,
And Grow as a Person.
A Bible study from the book written
by: Mark David Albertson

Readings:
James 1:19-27

This Sunday, April 26, right after the
service, we will be celebrating April's
birthdays. Please join us to celebrate:

John Wilson
General Jim Dozier
Valerie Black

Bill Persons
Roger Yergeau
Red Hansen

Annie Mertz
Annette Brown

Friday May 8th
Alena Michel presents
Spring Piano Recital
starting at 6:00 PM here at the church.

For next week's God's
word:
John 14:1-14

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)

“The world now is too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone. Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor. May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love. May your feet be so blessed you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, your love, changes everything”. **AMEN**

— Black Rock Prayer Book, often attributed to Episcopal priest Brian Baker; Used at Burning Man Festival as a blessing.

Postlude

Voluntary on “Kremser”

by Gordon Young

Time with our Children

The Lord is My Shepherd

By Lois Parker Edstrom

Psalm 23

Most of us know about shepherds from seeing Christmas pictures and hearing about how shepherds in the fields learned of Jesus’ birth. These men, who care for flocks of sheep, still work in many parts of the world. (Show pictures.)

One of the most well-known parts of the Bible is Psalms 23. This is David’s song to God. David was a shepherd when he was young and he starts his song by saying, the Lord “is my shepherd...” (23:1).

Let’s talk about how a shepherd cares for his sheep. He leads them to a place where they will find grass to eat and clean water to drink.

A shepherd uses a staff to guide the sheep. If one of the sheep gets caught in the brambles or falls into a place where it can’t get out, the shepherd uses the curved part of his staff to lift and rescue the sheep.

Sometimes sheep are bothered by flies and other insects that gather around their faces and make them uncomfortable. The shepherd rubs oil over their heads. That causes the insects to go away. Then the sheep feel peaceful so they can lie down and rest.

David compares how a shepherd cares for his sheep to the love that God has for each one of us. Listen to parts of this song that David sings to God and see if you can imagine how much God cares for us and loves us.

“The Lord is my shepherd: I shall lack nothing” (23:1). “He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters” (23:2). The Lord’s “rod and... staff, they comfort me” (23:4). The Lord “anoints my head with oil” (23:5).

When we think about how a shepherd cares for his sheep, we may have a better understanding of how much God cares for us. God provides what we need to feel peaceful and loved.

David finishes his song to God by saying, “Surely goodness and loving kindness shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in Yahweh’s (God’s) house forever” (23:6).

Scripture quotations from the World English Bible
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Wellness Newsletter

April Faith and Wellness Newsletter

April 2026



“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit”

Romans 15:13

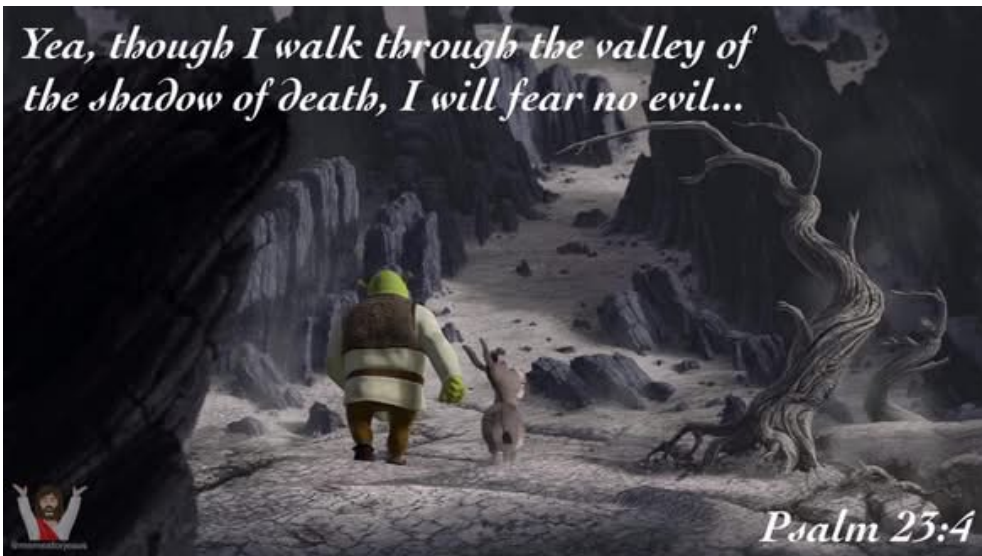
April is Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Month. Routine cancer screenings can mean better outcomes for your health, more treatment options, and more time with the people you love.

Talk with your health care provider about any personal or family history of cancer or other risk factors to determine if you should begin cancer screenings at an earlier age or be tested more frequently. Having one or more family members with a history of certain cancers, including breast, colorectal and prostate cancers, may place you at higher risk for the development of cancer.

Suggested screenings include:

- **Breast and Cervix**
- **Colorectal**
- **Lung**
- **Prostate and Testicle**
- **Oral**
- **Skin**

Lori McMullen RN-FCN



Cards can be sent to the following:

**General Dozier
Barrington Terrace, of Ft. Myers
9731 Commerce Center Ct., Room #326
Fort Myers, Fl. 33908**

PRAYER LIST

Our Church Members:

Jean Lindenlaub; Liz Lloyd; General Dozier; Jean Long;
Phyllis Contino; Sharlene Dozier; Barbara Buch;
Kathy Bolen; Carol Krohse; Jack Walmsley's family in the
passing of Jack on Sunday, April 12, 2026.

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); Dwight Brzinski (friend of Pat Jessie); Christopher Smith and Darwin Solorzono – missing at sea (friends of Mark Rosandich); Edward Yergeau (brother of Roger Yergeau); Ben Collens - stationed in Quatar (friend of Martha Jean Long).

**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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