

# DENNIS UNION CHURCH, UCC

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

**June 16, 2024**

*In essentials, unity. In nonessentials, liberty. In all things, charity. (Early disciples' motto, attributed to Rupertus Meldenus)*

Bells Toll the Hour

Prelude

“My Soul Cries Out”

Robert Powell

Welcome and Announcements

DUC Open and Affirming Covenant of Welcome

**Believing that everyone is a child of God, it is with joy, and in the love of Christ, that we welcome all persons into the full life, ministry and mission of Dennis Union Church. We choose not to turn away anyone whom Christ would welcome. We affirm the dignity and worth of every person including, but not limited to, people of every race, ethnicity, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, family structure or economic circumstance. We celebrate God’s creative love shown in the wide diversity of humanity and the unique gifts each of us brings to the world. It is our intention to love one another as Christ has loved us.**

Silence

\*Call to Worship

We come today, representing all the majesty of creation,  
**diverse and beautiful, blessed and beloved,  
all made in the image of the Creator of all things.**

We come today, called to this time and this place by an infinite God  
**who hears our cries and responds with love and mercy.**

We come today, Transgender, Nonbinary, Bisexual, Two-Spirit, Lesbian,  
Intersex, Gay, Queer, Ally, all beloved.

**We come today, knowing you will listen and answer our needs.**

We come today, to deliver our joined prayers of hope.

**We come today, a people mourning our losses due to separation, hatred,  
violence and rejection as well as that of institutionalized racism that has plagued  
our world for too many centuries.**

We come today, knowing you care for us.

**We come today, knowing that even when others turn away from us,  
your arms are open to offer comfort. We come.**

\*Hymn #14

“Womb of Life, and Source of Being”

Verses 1, 2 & 4

***Womb of life, and source of being, home of ev’ry restless heart,  
in your arms the worlds awakened; you have loved us from the start.  
We, your children, gather ‘round you, at the table you prepare.  
Sharing stories, tears, and laughter, we are nurtured by your care.***

***Word in flesh, our brother Jesus, born to bring us second birth,  
you have come to stand beside us, knowing weakness, knowing earth.  
Priest who shared our human struggles, Life of Life, and Death of Death,  
risen Christ, come stand among us, send the Spirit by your breath.***

***Mother, Brother, holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son:  
we would praise your name forever, one-in-three, and three-in-one.  
we would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new,  
ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.***

\*Invocation

Together we defy the darkness by being the Light.  
**We make violence tremble by being peacemakers.**  
When chaos and trauma cause distress,  
**we counter by reaching for love and remembering joy.**  
This day, when people are going hungry, give us bread to share.  
**This day, when people are angry and hurtful, give us forgiveness to offer.**  
When there is so much temptation to be selfish and careless,  
this day, give us the strength to be kind and intentional.  
**Remind us that we are all born holy and deserve love and tenderness.**  
In the many names of Love,  
**may it be so. Amen.**

Word for the Young

Anthem

“Now Is the Cool of the Day”

Jean Ritchie, arr. Kevin Siegfried

Scripture Reading

John 3: 1-17 and Galatians 3:23-29

Homily

“All Is All”

\*Hymn #485

“Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race”

***Diverse in culture, nation, race, we come together by your grace.  
God, let us be a meeting ground where hope and healing love are found.***

***God, let us be a bridge of care connecting people ev’rywhere.  
Help us confront all fear and hate and lust for pow’r that separate.***

*When chasms widen, storms arise, O Holy Spirit, make us wise.  
Let our resolve, like steel, be strong to stand with those who suffer wrong.*

*God, let us be a table spread with gifts of love and broken bread,  
where all find welcome, grace attends, and enemies arise as friends.*

Offerings of the People

Offertory

“Christ, the Comforter”

Marcel Dupré

\*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God for all that love has done!  
Creator, Christ and Spirit One. Amen.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

It is a gift to be able to give something away.

**We are called to be a part of something bigger than ourselves.**

Spirit of Love, look upon us now.

**Bless these gifts; those we can see and those we cannot.**

May our hopes come true for the better world we dream of  
**as we work together in love. Amen.**

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

**+Creator God, 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. Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
forever. Amen.**

(+Our Father/God/O Holy One)

\*Hymn #655

“Community of Christ”

Verses 1, 2 & 3

*Community of Christ who makes the cross your own,  
live out your creed and risk your life for God alone:  
the God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong,  
whose children are of every race and every song.*

*Community of Christ, look past the church's door  
and see the refugee, the hungry and the poor.  
Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street,  
take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.*

***Community of Christ, through whom the word must sound –  
cry out for justice and for peace the whole world round:  
disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy,  
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.***

\*Sending Forth

The Spirit of God is upon us.

**God has anointed us to bear good news to the afflicted  
and to bind up the broken hearted**

To proclaim freedom to the captives.

**To open the prisons of those who are bound.**

Before we leave this time of worship let us greet one another with the peace of Jesus the Christ, who seeks peace in broken relationships, who seeks healing in alienated persons, who seeks justice in oppressive structures.

**Let us share in this shalom with one another.**

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

\*Benediction

Recessional

“Auf meinen lieben Gott”

J.N. Hanff

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**\*Please stand in body or spirit.** Music for the service today reproduced with permission: One License #8-730116 Call to Worship adapted from Kimi Floyd Reisch, 2020; Invocation (adapted) and Prayer of Thanksgiving, Mak Kneebone, 2020 (both from openandaffirming.org resources)

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome at Dennis Union Church. Please feel free to contact the church at 508-385-3543 if you have any concerns, prayer requests, or desire a pastoral call.

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Deacon of the Day: Patti Goyette

Ushers: Peter Berrien, Carlene Brown, Judy November

Greeters: Judy Berrien, Betty Boothe, Jeff & Elise Gordon, Mary Ann & Pete Politi

Flowers are given today by Gail Stern “In memory of Mary and Hans Stern”

### **AUCTION NEWS**

**The 70th Annual Auction & Bazaar will be held Saturday, August 10  
from 9 am to 2 pm -- don't miss your chance to be part of a  
fun and important day for DUC.**

Sorting for this year’s Auction begins on Tuesday, June 25 at 9 am,  
This preparation helps the set-up for the Auction go smoothly and is a great way to preview the  
variety of items that will be sold.

## **Silent Auction Donations Needed**

In addition to items for sale inside and outside the church, the Silent Auction offers the opportunity to purchase all sorts of items -- sports tickets, cottage rentals, gift cards, boating trips. It has been very successful -- thanks to the variety of items that our members and friends make or acquire. A list of businesses that have previously donated to the Silent Auction is available in the hallway -- please check off if you can make a contact -- and don't hesitate to visit new businesses that may have opened. If you have questions, please contact Luke Furey or check with Jane in the office.

The Auction Committee is again asking that each church committee or board donate a gift card or small item that can be offered at the Silent Auction. Last year these committees did a wonderful job and the items were a big hit!

**The Silent Auction will "go live" for bidding online at noon on Friday, August 2 and end at 6 pm on Sunday, August 11.**



**Dennis Union Church  
713 Main Street (Route 6A at Old Bass River Rd.)  
Dennis, Massachusetts 02638  
508-385-3543 [www.duchurch.org](http://www.duchurch.org)**

**Ministers: All the people  
Pastor: Rev. Nancy S. McHugh  
Director of Music: Margaret Bossi  
Director of Children and Family Ministries: Cindy Fiscus  
Finance Secretaries: Elise Gordon and Steve Kuhrtz  
Office Administrator: Jane Wilson  
Sexton: Dave Crocker  
Crib Room Attendant: Victoria Krukowski**