

DENNIS UNION CHURCH, UCC

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 2024

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

Bells Toll the Hour

Prelude

“Pavane”

Fauré

Welcome and Announcements

Moment of Silence

*Call to Worship

Come to Christ, the living bread,
who satisfies those who hunger and thirst for justice.

**Come to Christ, who gives living water,
that you may never thirst again.**

Come to Christ, that being filled ourselves,
we may minister to the hunger and thirst of others.

**Come to God in worship and praise
through Jesus Christ, who gives us life.**

*Hymn #280

“God is Here”

*God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.*

*Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, fount, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.*

*Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the spirit comes to each.*

*Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd’s flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us, as of old.*

*Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.*

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.*

*Here, in this day’s dedication, all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!*

Call to Confession

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, whose care never ceases, we come to you as we are. We are tired from trying to do more than we can manage. We are anxious about problems that go unresolved. We are worried about events beyond our control. We do not easily let go. For mistakes we cannot redeem, for tasks left undone, for uncertain goals, we need your forgiveness and ask for your understanding. For recovery of strength and passion, we pray for your Spirit. For fullness of life, intelligent hearts and compassionate minds, we pray to more closely follow Jesus the Christ. In your mercy, restore us and lead us. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace

There is no greater joy in the heart of God than the moment when we open ourselves to the gift of forgiveness. God's Spirit reaches out to assure us of welcome in Christ.
**In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven through God's grace.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Scripture Lesson from 1 Kings 18

Homily "The Vocation of Truth Telling" Rev. Greenwood White

*Hymn #392 "Draw us in the Spirit's Tether"

***Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name,
two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them;
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now your garment's hem.***

***As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluya, Alleluya, so now bind our friendship up.***

***All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.
Alleluya, Alleluya, we will serve with faith anew.***

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to The Lord's Table

And the table will be wide. And the welcome will be wide.
And the arms will open wide to gather us in.
And our hearts will open wide to receive.

**And we will come as children who trust there is enough.
And we will come unhindered and free.
And our aching will be met with bread.
And our sorrow will be met with the vine.**

And we will open our hands to the feast without shame.
And we will turn to each other without fear.
And we will give up our appetite for despair.

And we will taste and know of delight.
**And we will come as children who trust there is enough.
And we will come unhindered and free.
And our aching will be met with bread. And our sorrow will be met with the vine.**

Great Thanksgiving

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and good to give God thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!

My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you, Lord.

Words of Institution and Blessing of Elements

Choral Response

The gifts of God for the people of God! Come now for all is prepared!

The gifts of God for the people of God! The Gospel is among us.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Please hold each element so we can partake together as a congregation.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal and these people,
we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as a changed people,
because we have shared in the living bread and cannot remain the same.
Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, and encourage
many through us. It is through your grace that we have been created for this.
Amen.**

Offerings of the People

Offertory

“Summertime”
Susan Barrett and Claudia Landall

Gershwin

*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.***

*Hymn #614

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

Verses 1, 3 and 4

I’m gonna live so God can use me any time and anywhere
I’m gonna live so God can use me anytime and any where.

I’m gonna pray so God can use me any time and anywhere
I’m gonna pray so God can use me anytime and any where.

I’m gonna sing so God can use me any time and anywhere
I’m gonna sing so God can use me anytime and any where.

*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. (Please turn and acknowledge those around you).

*Benediction

Recessional

“Dialogue”

Clérambault

The congregation is welcome to leave quietly, or stay seated and listen.

***Please rise in body or spirit.**

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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.

We welcome The Rev. Deirdre Greenwood White as our covering pastor through July 21.

The Rev. Greenwood White is ordained in the PC(USA)
and lives in Orleans, where she is Pastoral Associate
at the Federated Church of Orleans, UCC.

Deacon of the Day: Heath Burney

Ushers: Dennis Goyette, Jeff & Judy Mereschuk

Greeters: Judy Berrien, Elise & Jeff Gordon, Sue Schofield, Joan Stout

Flowers are given today by Katie Clancy

"In honor of my mother and in memory of my father"

Thank you to Claudia Landall and Susan Barrett for providing music for our service while Maggie is away enjoying vacation time.

**The 70th Annual Auction & Bazaar will be held Saturday, August 10 from 9 am to 2 pm.
Don't miss out on being a part of the fun! How can you help?**

Sorting for the Auction continues on Tuesday mornings beginning at 9 am. Join in fun and fellowship as donated items are priced and prepared for sale.

Postcard-sized info cards about the Auction are available on the hallway table – please take several Auction info cards to share with neighbors and friends.

The Silent Auction team is looking for donations of sporting tickets, cottage rentals, gift cards, boating trips and other services. Any donation that you can make or acquire would be appreciated!

Auction Day is a highlight of the summer for our congregation and the wider community – thanks to everyone's hard work to make it happen!



Dennis Union Church

P.O. Box 2020

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Church Office 508-385-3543

www.duchurch.org

Ministers: All the people

Pastor: Rev. Nancy S. McHugh

Director of Music: Margaret Bossi

Director of Children and Family Ministries: Open

Finance Secretaries: Elise Gordon and Steve Kuhrtz

Office Administrator: Jane Wilson

Sexton: Dave Crocker

Crib Room Attendant: Victoria Krukowski