

# DENNIS UNION CHURCH, UCC

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ



**Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 27, 2024**

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

Bells Toll the Hour

Introit

“The Souls of the Righteous”

S. Marchant

Welcome and Announcements

Silence

\*Call to Worship

from Psalm 51

Come now, to the house of the Lord.

**We rejoice in the presence of our God!**

Surely the breath of your Spirit fills this place,

**and the air is thick with the clouds of all your holy witnesses.**

Come now, let us worship God.

\*Hymn #618

“How Firm a Foundation”

Verses 1, 4 & 5

***How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!***

***What more can be said than to you God has said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?***

***“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply.***

***The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.***

***The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!”***

\*Invocation

**Gracious God, Solomon's Temple was a magnificent place where the people gathered to hear your word, offer prayers and Psalms of thanksgiving. We gather as our ancestors once did, in the Temple or in great cathedrals and we, too, call upon your holy name. Help us remember that grandeur and stature speak loudly to our hearts' desire to honor you, but the state of our hearts is what speaks to you. Be with us in our beautiful and yet humble place of worship and open us to your steadfast presence and love. Amen.**

Word for the Young

**Celebration of the Saints**

All Saints' Recognition

\*Family and friends of our congregation

Dennis Marchant\*  
Nancy J. Beimler  
M. Eleanor "Podgie" Weissant\*  
Norma Metcalf\*  
Edward Fiddler\*  
Carlton R. Copp  
Peter L. McDowell  
Michael J. Berglund\*

All Saints' Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Hymn #649

"Give Thanks for Life"

***Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,  
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,  
yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise, Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Give thanks for those who made their life a light  
caught from the Christ-flame bursting through the night,  
who touched the truth, who burned for what is right, Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***And for our own, our living and our dead,  
thanks for the love by which our life is fed,  
a love not changed by time or death or dread, Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain  
lying in darkness, does its life retain  
in resurrection to grow green again. Alleluia! Alleluia!***

Scripture Reading      1 Kings 5:1-5, 8:27-30, 41-43

Homily

Litany for Today

Solomon the king

**Solomon the wise.**

Solomon, David's son.

**Solomon set out to build a temple.**

A fitting place for the Ark of the Covenant.

**A fitting place to worship the Lord.**

And Scripture goes on and on.

**All the details of construction.**

Every cubit is described.

**To give a sense of the massiveness of the temple.**

To symbolize the massiveness of the God who inspired it.

**The people worshiped there, and sacrificed there.**

They praised the Lord in Solomon's magnificent temple.

**Until one day, the temple was destroyed.**

And rebuilt.

**And destroyed again.**

And now the temple, the towering edifice.

**The beautiful tribute to the Lord.**

Lives on in our hearts.

**We are the temple of the Lord.**

We are the endless rooms of beauty and majesty.

**We are the place where God's praises are sung.**

The question is...

**What kind of temple are we?**

Are we indeed a fitting place for God to dwell?

**Create in us, O God, a clean heart.**

Renew a right Spirit within us.

**So that your word might be revealed through us.**

Call for the Offering

Offertory

"Headin' for the Promised Land"

N. Sleeth, arr. Larson

\*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

***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***

Special Recognition

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

**+Our Creator, 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 #709 "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" Verses 1 & 2

*Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou mayest smile at all thy foes.*

*See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?  
Grace, which like our God, the Giver, never fails from age to age.*

\*Passing the Peace and Benediction

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).

Postlude

"Nimrod"

G. Holst

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\*Please stand in body or spirit. Music for the service today reproduced with permission: One License #8-730116. Portions of our liturgy this morning are

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.

Please note: Daylight Saving Time ends next Sunday.  
Be sure to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night!

Deacon of the Day: Kim Crowell  
Ushers & Greeters: Nancy Aceti, Mary Czajkowski,  
Dennis & Patti Goyette, Barbara & Paul Gray

Flowers are given today by Barbara & Paul Gray  
"In loving memory of our grandson Michael Grimm"

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**CALL TO COMMUNION**

Next Sunday, November 3, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper, the common meal of bread and wine that our Lord shared with disciples on the night he was betrayed. **All are welcome at the table.**

*Youth Fellowship Halloween Party - TODAY AT 4 PM*



**Save these dates!**

Eventide Theatre Company's production of "The World Goes Round" starts Saturday, November 9 and continues through Sunday, November 17.

Visit [eventidearts.org](http://eventidearts.org) for more information and to purchase tickets.

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By popular demand, the Fall "Dine-In" gathering returns for Friday evening, November 15. Come and enjoy an evening of wonderful food, fun and fellowship. More info to follow!

**Sign-ups begin TODAY during Fellowship Hour.**

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Saturday, November 23 from 5 to 7 pm

**FAMILY GAME & PIZZA NIGHT!**

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Sunday, December 8 - Dennis Village Stroll - Noon to 3 pm

DUC will host a tent with Christmas cookies and materials for making Christmas Swags

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Saturday, December 14 - Cookie Sale to benefit the Colombia Project

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Sunday, December 15 - Christmas Music Sunday

## **Prayers for the Season**

The DUC Prayer Group invites you to join them in prayer twice each day at 8 am and 5 pm until November 5. A booklet with daily prayers is available in the hallway.

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An evening prayer service will be held in the DUC sanctuary on Tuesday, November 5 at 7 pm.

## **Dennis Union Church 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.*



**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: Open**  
**Interim Sunday School Leader: Evy Sirignano**  
**Finance Secretaries: Elise Gordon and Steve Kuhrtz**  
**Office Administrator: Jane Wilson**  
**Sexton: Dave Crocker**