

DENNIS UNION CHURCH, UCC

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 10, 2024

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

Bells Toll the Hour

Prelude

“The Gift to be Simple”

arr. Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

Silence

*Call to Worship

adapted from Psalm 62

For God alone our souls wait in silence.

Our hope is from God, our fortress.

God is our rock and our salvation. We shall not be shaken.

Let us trust in God and be at peace in God's presence.

Let us remember that all people are valuable in God's sight.

No one is more important than another.

Listen, for God is still speaking to all creation.

God offers us her steadfast love.

All power in the universe belongs to God.

Yet God depends on our faithful service.

Let us worship God!

*Hymn # 464

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Verses 1, 3 & 5

*God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.*

*Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy righteous goal,
lest we miss thy righteous goal.*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.*

*Invocation

God of Grace, you call us to be about the work of your Kin-dom. To sow seeds of love, to bear witness to your grace, to work for justice and bring comfort and show mercy to those who are hurting, alienated or in distress. Sometimes we want to be like Jonah, to run the other way, to board the ship that will take us to a different harbor. What you are asking us to do and be feels too hard, too demanding, even scary. Soften our hearts. Help us to trust that are never in this work alone. Help us to remember to walk by faith and trust you are always with us at home or in our Nineveh.

Word for the Young

Evy Sirignano

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 23

Hymnal #734 (Response 1)

My Shep-herd, you sup - ply my need and ho-ly is your name.

Response

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his names' sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.

Response

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall swell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Response

Anthem

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

arr. Sondra Tucker

Scripture Reading

Jonah 1: 1-17, 3: 1-10, 4: 1-11

Homily

“Absolutely Not!”

*Hymn #575

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

*Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.*

*Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.*

*In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!*

Offerings of the People

Offertory

*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.*

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Prayers of the People 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 #

“The LORD, the Stronghold of Our Life” (Psalm 27 paraphrase)

Tune: Ellacombe “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

*The Lord, the stronghold of our life, removes our cause for fear.
God shelters us in troubled times and saves us when strife is near.
When light is dim and hope is thin we listen for God's word.
Our trust is found, God's grace is sound, we sing and praise the Lord!*

***Be strong, take heart, for God is good and goodness shall prevail.
Our hope is in the Lord, our Light, and God will never fail.
God's love is pure, our faith is sure, with courage we live on,
for we will stand on living land with God, our hopeful song.***

***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

“God of Grace”

Paul Manz

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

***Please stand in body or spirit.** Music for the service today reproduced with permission: One License #8-730116.

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.

Deacon of the Day: Alex Scopeletis

Ushers & Greeters: Dottie Damon, Annmarie Gavin, Linda Gillespie,
Jeff Gordon, Steve Higgins, Ted & Margaret Housman

Flowers are given today by Judy Black “Remembering with love, Tammy Thetonia Neter”

Can you help greet and welcome our members and visitors each week?

Sign up now to usher and greet our congregation on Sunday morning – or to host Fellowship Hour after worship. If you are new, the tasks are pretty easy, but there are experienced members who will help you learn the details.

Sign up now for the weeks leading to Christmas – check the clipboards next to the office window.

November dates to remember

November 11 -- Office Closed for Veterans Day Observation

November 15 -- "Let's Do Dinner" Event

November 23 – Game & Pizza Night – everyone is invited – bring a friend!

November 24 -- Stewardship Sunday

November 28/29 – Happy Thanksgiving!
Church Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays

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
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Dennis, Massachusetts 02638
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
Interim Sunday School Leader: Evy Sirignano
Finance Secretaries: Elise Gordon and Steve Kuhrtz
Office Administrator: Jane Wilson
Sexton: Dave Crocker