

DENNIS UNION CHURCH, UCC

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

November 24, 2024

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

Bells Toll the Hour

Prelude

"Thank You, Lord"
Bette Anne Crowell, piano

D. Burgess, arr. Schrader

Welcome and Announcements

Silence

*Call to Worship

To the One whose goodness is without equal,
whose love is beyond comparison,
whose mercy is beyond understanding,
and whose power is beyond words,
be praise and glory,
worship and thanksgiving,
now and always.
Let us worship God!

*Hymn #276

"We Gather Together"

*We gather together to ask for God's blessing,
To turn to a wisdom surpassing our own;
the pow'rs that oppress us now cease to distress us.
O God, be present with us, and make your will known.*

*Beside us to guide us, O God, we perceive you
ordaining, maintaining the power of life.
Yes, yours be the glory; let all tell the story.
Our God, be ever with us, in gladness and strife.*

*May all sing your praises, Redeemer triumphant,
defend us, befriend us, whatever may be.
May your congregation escape tribulation.
Your name be praised forever, O God, make us free!*

*Invocation

Gracious God, Source of all blessings,
You have been extravagant in your generosity.
You have planted within us seeds of hope.

You have nurtured within us the saplings of faith.
You have harvested the fruits of your Creation
and spread before us the feast of possibility.
May we embody our thanks with extravagant generosity.
May we offer our lives to you in acts of compassion for one another.
**May we walk gently upon the earth, ever mindful of your gifts of breath,
of love, and life itself. Amen.**

Word for the Young

Anthem

“Many Colors Paint the Rainbow”

Roy Hopp

Stewardship Moment

Prayer of Commitment

The creator of all life and love has endowed our earth with bountiful blessings.
God has created humanity to share in the wonder and joy of these blessings.
All thanks be to God, giver and receiver of all that is good.
**With gratitude in our hearts for the blessings we have received,
we return to God portions of what God has given us.**
May the giving from the fullness of our lives be acceptable in God’s sight.
**May the gifts we bring remind us that God has blessed us
so that we might be a blessing to others in this world.**

God calls us to participate in the construction of a new reality, a world where love
and grace are abundant. We now dedicate these, our gifts, toward the enrichment
of our life as a covenant community and the ministry that God has given us here
in this time and place.

**We dedicate the gifts we give. We dedicate our time, and our commitment to God,
who calls us into discipleship and who surrounds us and sustains us with
everlasting love. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 118

Blue Hymnal #758

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices.

Refrain

O give thanks to the LORD, who is good, whose steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say,

“God’s steadfast love endures forever.”

Let the house of Aaron say,

“God’s steadfast love endures forever.”

Let those who fear the LORD say,

“God’s steadfast love endures forever.”

Refrain

The LORD is my strength and my might;

the LORD has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

“The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

the right hand of the LORD is exalted;

the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”

I shall not die, but I shall live,

and recount the deeds of the the LORD.

Refrain

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Scripture Reading Jeremiah 36: 1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34

Homily

*Hymn #460

“We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

Verses 1 & 3 - Red Hymnal

***We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered by God’s almighty hand.***

***He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft, refreshing rain.***

***All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.***

***We thank thee, then, O Father, for all things bright and good:
the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.***

***Accept the gifts we offer, for all thy love imparts,
and, what thou most desirest, our humble, thankful hearts.***

***All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.***

Offerings of the People

*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

+O Holy One, 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/Creator)

*Hymn #717

"Let All Things Now Living"

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished,
all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into Light.*

*By law God enforces. The stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing
with glad adoration, a song let us raise till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving, to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.*

*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

“St. George’s Windsor”

David Hegarty

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. Today’s liturgy is adapted from UCC Stewardship material written by Rev. Amber Neuroth.

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: Heidi Wright

Ushers & Greeters: Mary Czajkowski, Dottie Damon,
Elise & Jeff Gordon, Dennis & Patti Goyette

Flowers are given today by Paula & Simon Bookout
“In memory of our son Philip Andrew”

REMINDER - All decorated bags for the Dennis Senior Center gift program will be picked up on Tuesday. Please return them to the office by Monday – Thank you!

SALVATION ARMY GIFT PROGRAM

All gifts for the family sponsored by DUC through the Salvation Army Holiday program are due TODAY. If you have forgotten, please contact Glenna Cappola ASAP so that your gift can be delivered in time for the holiday party.

**2024 Advent devotionals are available today during Fellowship Hour.
A donation of \$5 is welcomed to cover costs.**

SALVATION ARMY GIFT PROGRAM

All gifts for the family DUC is sponsoring through the Salvation Army Holiday program are due TODAY. If you have forgotten, please contact Glenna Cappola as soon as possible so your gift can be delivered in time for the holiday party.

Children and Youth Ministry Update

Thank you to Dave & Tom for setting up all of the tables and chairs for our Church Family Game Night! It was a splendid evening!

Thank you to all who came, played and shared in scrumptious food!
Definitely a night to remember!

Sunday School Assistants

We need an assistant each Sunday in the classroom as extra eyes, ears and hands and would love to have you join in the fun!

The following are dates that need coverage:

| Date | Lesson | Assistant |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| November 24 | A New Covenant | Nancy Aceti |
| December 1 | Daniel in the Lion's Den | |
| December 8 | God's Promised Spirit | Sally Bullard |
| December 15 | Spirit of the Lord Upon Me | |
| December 22 | Jesus' Birth Announcement | Edie Graf |
| December 29 | Simeon and Anna | |

Save these dates!

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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Tuesday, December 10 – Service of Hope and Light at 7 pm

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

- - -

Sunday, December 15 – Christmas Music Sunday

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

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