

DENNIS UNION CHURCH, UCC

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ



Growing in Faith Together

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 20, 2022

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

Bells Toll the Hour

Prelude

“The Ash Grove”

arr. Wilbur Held

Welcome and Announcements

Stewardship Moment

Stewardship Committee

Moment of Silence

Call to Worship

Every good and perfect gift comes to us from God.

Thanks be to God for the beauty and diversity of creation.

Thanks be to God for our ancestors who cherished the earth, sky and sea.

Thanks be to God for loving families and encouraging friends.

Thanks be to God for meaningful work.

Thanks be to God for the variety of talents within the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God for freedom of conscience, speech and worship.

Thanks be to God for calling us into covenant relationships.

With thankful hearts-

Let us worship and praise the Lord, our 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

***God of Grace, from you abundance springs and righteousness blossoms.
You breathed life into the dust, bringing us forth from the earth with your spirit.
We continue to find life in you, through the love of Christ. Breathe again your grace
into us. Cultivate in us hearts of gratitude, of generosity, and of increasing joy.
Make us mindful of your holy presence, as we join together to worship and pray.
Amen.***

Word for the Young

Anthem "I Will Give Thanks" Joseph Martin

Scripture Lesson Luke 17: 11-19

Homily "What Do You See?"

Homily

*Hymn #600 "Jesu, Jesu" Verses 1, 2 and 3

***Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.***

***Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.***

***Neighbors are rich and poor, varied in color and race,
neighbors are near and far away. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.***

***These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.***

Offerings of the People

Offertory

“Praise the Lord”

G.F. Handel

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Prayers of the People

“A Thanksgiving”

Blue Hymnal #716

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.**
(***O Holy One/Our Father**)

*Hymn #460

“We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

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

*He only is the maker of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star.
The winds and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed;
much more, to us his children, he gives our daily bread.
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, O Father, for all things bright and good:
the seed-time 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 thnk the Lord for all his love.*

*Sending Forth and Passing the Peace

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

Postlude

“God of Grace and Glory”

Paul Manz

***Those who can easily do so may stand.**

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We are glad you have joined us today for worship, for we are the church whether we are gathered or scattered. Please feel free to contact the church at 508-385-3543 if you have any concerns, prayer requests, or desire a pastoral call.

**Hearing Assistive devices are available for use.
Please see one of the deacons if you would like to use one.**

Deacon of the Day: Patti Goyette

Ushers: Lois André & Earl Springer, Ann Prall

Greeters: Dottie & Renny Damon, Maryann & Pete Politi

**Flowers are given today by Sarah Kruger
“In loving memory of Anne, Arthur, Jeff and Bob Stout”**

We Are the Men Concert today at 4 pm

We Are the Men, a male voice choir (including some of the DUC Chancel Choir members) is holding a concert today to benefit Dennis Union Church. This is a concert that will delight you and uplift your spirits. You won't want to miss it! Suggested donation is \$20.

Advent Book Study

Join Rev. McHugh and Connie Bickford on Zoom Wednesdays mornings to discuss *Names of the Messiah* by Walter Brueggemann.

The book ponders four royal titles from Isaiah 9:6: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace – how the people of that time understood them, how Jesus did or did not fulfill the titles, and how Christians interpret Jesus as representative of that title. The office has a few copies of the book for sale; it can also be ordered online.

A Prayer for Thanksgiving Day

On this day, O God, we give thanks
in all kinds of communities, or even in solitude.
Our desire in this moment is to come before you
with our prayers of thanksgiving.

For some of us the words we offer
will flow easily from our lips.
For others trying to name our blessing may prove difficult.

Thanksgiving this year may be very different from previous years:
a new table at which to sit,
new persons sitting with us,
or a dear one absent,
worries crowding out our sense of blessing.

These realities may reshape our prayers from years past.
To seek joy may lead through heartbreak.

Whatever our reality, O God,
we ask that you help us focus
not so much on material things
(whether their abundance or scarcity),
but rather on how we are living our lives.

Help us recognize
all the ways you are present in our lives this year.

Help us gather the strength we need for today
and for all our tomorrows.

Grant us the satisfactions of intimacy with Jesus,
your great gift to us, through whom you offer
Living Water, Bread of Life,
more than we can ask or imagine.

Help us to extend our prayers of thanksgiving to you
into tomorrow with joyful spirits.

We are loved and blessed and thankful. Amen.

DY-ECH CARDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

If you would like to purchase gift cards for your holiday list, consider purchasing cards from DY-ECH. A list of available cards is on the hallway bulletin board – some are readily available during Fellowship Hour; some will need to be ordered.

A percentage of the value of each card is donated to the HAC's program to prevent homelessness on the Cape – making your gift \$\$ an additional benefit to the community.

CHRISTMAS GIFT COLLECTION UPDATE

Every gift for the children Dennis Union Church was assigned for the Salvation Army Christmas Program has been sponsored. **Thank you so much for your quick and generous response.**

All gifts should be returned today if possible – no later than next Sunday, November 27 – so they can be delivered to the Salvation Army in Hyannis in time for their party.

The item should be returned wrapped with the ornament tag attached.

If you need to have your gifts picked up, please call Glenna Cappola at 508-362-8497.

We are extending our gift collection to include gift cards for teenagers through the Hands of Hope holiday program. Ornaments have been added to the hallway tree to take – gift cards should be for \$25 or less (store ideas: Old Navy, Marshall's, Dick's Sporting Goods and Target).

These should also be returned by November 27 (no gift wrap needed!) so they can be delivered before December 1.

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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Ministers: All the people
Pastor: Rev. Nancy S. McHugh
Director of Music: Margaret Bossi
Church School Facilitator & Youth Fellowship Coordinator: Cindy Fiscus
Office Administrator: Jane B. Wilson
Finance Secretaries: Peter Berrien and Elise Gordon
Sexton: David Crocker