

DENNIS UNION CHURCH

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2023

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

Bells Toll the Hour

Prelude

“Trio”

J. Reubke

Introit #286

“This Is the Day”

***This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.***

Welcome and Announcements

Moment of Silence

*Call To Worship

Peoples from every corner of creation,
celebrate with all creatures on Earth!
Young and old across the planet,
rejoice in the day that God has made!
Indigenous peoples of every land,
help us sense the spirit deep in each land!
All humanity on Planet Earth,
praise God for our planet home.
Sing, peoples, sing!
Sing, creation, sing!

*Hymn

“Let Us Build a House”

Verses 1, 3 & 5

***Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions: all are welcome; all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.***

***Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are welcome; all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.***

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: all are welcome; all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.**

Invocation

**With a word you created all that is. From deep, life-giving soil, you have molded
and shaped all living things. You have set us in the middle of it all to tend and
to care for what you have made. Remind us that you do indeed care for the earth,
that we too might share in that caring. Amen.**

Scripture

Genesis 2

*Hymn

“Down From Heaven Came”

J.L Salter

Down from heav - en came the voice of God,
Help us be your peo - ple filled with joy.

"Let there be a world of peo - ple who
Hear our prayers, O Lord, and make us new.

know that they're my child - ren: ev - 'ry - one!" Lord,
Thank you for the bless - ings and the love that

please know that we love you, too!
came down from the moun - tain top.

Conversation for All Ages

“Creation and Community”

Blessing of the Backpacks

Offerings of the People

Offertory

“Jesus Loves Me”

arr. Joel Raney

*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.**

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Prayers of the People and 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. (+Our Father /O Holy One)

*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.*

Benediction

Postlude

"Venite"

N. Warren

The congregation may remain seated during the postlude or depart.

***Please stand in body or spirit.** Our liturgy today is taken from Spirit & Truth Publishing.
Music for the service today reproduced with permission: One License #8-730116.

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.

Deacon of the Day: Sue Martin

Ushers: Simon Bookout, Allan Fisk, Craig Valenti

Greeters: Judy Berrien, Linda Hildebrant, Karen Mutti, Ann & Lloyd Swaim

Flowers are given today by Al & Darlene Fisk
"In loving memory of our parents George & Mary Frances Fisk
and Donald & Dora Hammond."

Interested in becoming a member of DUC?

Anyone interested in exploring membership in DUC is welcome to attend our new member information sessions – one will be held next Sunday, September 17 after the 10 am worship service service.

New members will be received at worship on **October 8**.

Please speak with Rev. McHugh or contact the office if you are interested in participating.

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

P.O. Box 2020

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: Cindy Fiscus

Office Administrator: Jane B. Wilson

Finance Secretaries: Peter Berrien and Elise Gordon

Sexton: Dave Crocker

Crib Room Attendant: Victoria Krukowski