

DENNIS UNION CHURCH

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025

We claim as our mission the promotion of justice, human dignity, and peace.

Thus we bind ourselves to follow where the Spirit of God shall lead, revealing God's will for our lives and the life of the Church.

Bells Toll the Hour

Prelude

“Pesante”

Andrew Fletcher

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Silence

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 67)

O God, show us kindness and bless us, and make your face smile on us!

**For then the earth will acknowledge your ways, and all the nations
will know of your power to save.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations shout and sing for joy, for you dispense true justice to the world.

You guide the nations of the earth.

Let the peoples shout and sing for joy; let all the peoples praise you.

The land has given its harvest: God, our God, has blessed us.

May God bless us, and may God be revered even to the ends of the earth.

*Hymn #16

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

***Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.***

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.

Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise to thee an altar; hither by thy help I'm come;

and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;

he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!

Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.

Prone to wander, how I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

*Invocation

**O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding.
Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else,
we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

Word for the Young

Anthem "All Things New" Elaine Hagenberg

Readings from Scripture John 20:19-31

Homily "Not Seeing Yet Believing" Rev. Dr. John A. Terry

*Hymn #534 "When Our Confidence Is Shaken" Verses 1 & 3

***When our confidence is shaken in beliefs we thought secure,
when the spirit in its sickness seeks but cannot find a cure,
God is active in the tensions of a faith not yet mature.***

***In the discipline of praying, when it's hardest to believe;
in the drudgery of caring, when it's not enough to grieve;
faith, maturing, learns acceptance of the insights we receive.***

Offerings of the People

Offertory "Wenn dich Unglück tut greifen an" J.S. Bach

*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.***

*Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

***Our Father, 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. (*Creator God/O Holy One)**

*Hymn #720

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed full grace on thee,
and crown thy good with servanthood from sea to shining sea.*

*O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
till all success be nobleness and every gain divine.*

*O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.*

*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

**May the Lord stir in our heart an Easter faith; may the Lord open our eyes to
Easter power; may the Lord inspire us to sing today with Easter joy; and may the
Lord bless us with Easter love. Amen.**

Recessional

“America”

arr. Robert Powell

The congregation may be seated for the music or depart.

*Please rise 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.

DUC welcomes Rev. Dr. John A. Terry as our guest preacher this week. We are honored to also celebrate the 55th Anniversary of his ordination as a United Church of Christ pastor, which occurred on May 24, 1970. After serving churches across the country and as the interim pastor at South Church in Centerville, he began work with the Housing Assistance Corporation to do homeless outreach and to connect with churches and synagogues across the Cape.

Deacon of the Day: Sue Martin

Ushers and Greeters: Mary Czajkowski, Jeff Gordon, Dennis & Patti Goyette,
Karen Mutti, Kim Seserman

Flowers are given today by Barbara Wingardner
"In memory of my parents Marion Grace Brown and Maurice Warren Starkey"

Peggy & Ken McAloon are continuing their recovery at home with family assisting, but it is anticipated that they will need more help with meals and transportation in the weeks ahead.

If you are interested in being part of a DUC group to help with these needs,
please sign up on the clipboard in the hallway with your name and email.
Bev Miller will be coordinating for DUC and will be the contact person for questions.

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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Pastor: Rev. Nancy S. McHugh
Director of Music: Margaret Bossi
Director of Faith Formation for Youth & Adults: Doreen Mayer
Children's Ministries Coordinator: Evy Sirignano
Finance Secretary: Elise Gordon
Office Administrator: Jane Wilson
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Crib Room Attendant: Laura Sears