

DENNIS UNION CHURCH

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 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

"O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"

G. Martin

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Silent Reflection

*Call to Worship¹

At the beginning of the day
we seek your countenance among us, O God,
in the countless forms of creation all around us
in the sun's rising glory
in the face of friend and stranger.
Your Presence within every presence
your Light within all light
your Heart at the heart of this moment.
May the fresh light of morning wash our sight
that we may see your Life
in every life this day.

*Hymn #61

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Refrain:

***All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, in love God made them all.***

***Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.***

(Refrain)

***The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.***

(Refrain)

***The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one.***

(Refrain)

*Invocation

Awe-inspiring God, we come together this day because we need to be reminded to see through the lens of beauty. Too often, we admire a standard of beauty that leaves too much out of its definition, forgetting that life and its imperfections are inherently beautiful simply because it exists.

Open us to perceive anew. Inspire us to receive our surroundings with awe. Forgive us when we move through our lives and do not notice your handiwork in all things, all people. Be with us on this journey as we seek again to marvel at your works. Amen.

Anthem

"I Will Give Thanks"

Joseph Martin

Contemporary Reading

Scripture Reading

Psalm 8:3 – 9:2

Homily

*Hymn #55

"O God of Every Shining Constellation"

***O God of eve'ry shining constellation
that wheels in splendor through the midnight sky,
grant us your Spirit's true illumination to read the secrets of your work on high.***

***You have designed the atom's hidden forces,
your laws its mighty energies fulfill;
teach us, to whom you give such rich resources, in all we use, to serve your holy will.***

***You have impressed your image on your creatures,
and though they mar that image, love them still;
open our eyes to Christ, whose gracious features help us discern the beauty of your will.***

Offerings of the People

Choral Thanksgiving #528

"Give Thanks"

***Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. (repeat)
And now let the weak say "I am strong"; let the poor say "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us. (repeat)***

***Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.
And now let the weak say "I am strong"; let the poor say "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks!***

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/Creator)

*Hymn #514 "God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty"

***God, who touches earth with beauty, make my heart anew.
With your Spirit recreate me pure and strong and true.***

***Like your springs and running waters, make me crystal pure.
Like your rocks of towering grandeur, make me strong and sure.***

***Like your dancing waves in sunlight, make me glad and free.
Like the straightness of the pine trees let me upright be.***

***Like the arching of the heavens, lift my thoughts above.
Turn my dreams to noble action, ministries of love.***

***God, who touches earth with beauty, make my heart anew.
Keep me ever, by your Spirit, pure and strong and true.***

*Passing of the Peace

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you. (Please turn and acknowledge those around you).

*Benediction

Recessional

"Praise to the Lord"

Gustav Merkel

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.

¹*Praying with the Earth* by John Philip Newell; available at www.eerdmans.com.

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: Heath Burney

Ushers: Judy Black, Dennis & Patti Goyette

Greeters: Alyssa Davis, Jeff Gordon, Ann & Lloyd Swaim

Flowers are provided today by Skip and Nancy Walsh "In honor of our parents"

Sorting for the Auction continues Tuesdays at 9 am

All are invited to be a part of this important step in Auction prep which will continue each Tuesday July 22 and 29. There will be an extra day of sorting on Thursday, July 24.
Training for new folks gladly provided!

Silent Auction

**The Silent Auction will “go live” for bidding online on Friday, August 1
and end at 6 pm on Sunday, August 10.**

The “Silent Auction” is a very successful part of DUC’s annual Auction & Bazaar. Donations of sports tickets, cottage rentals, gift cards, boating trips and any type of service would be helpful. The Auction team is preparing the online bidding site now, so please bring in your items soon!

We are grateful to have our “Pick-Up” Choir at worship during the summer.
Everyone who enjoys singing is invited to join in - visitor or member.
The choir meets at 9 am on Sundays to rehearse an anthem that is
well-known to the choir, so you’ll be able to lean on other voices.
Casual dress – no robes.
Take a chance!

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 Secretaries: Elise Gordon and Doreen Mayer
Office Administrator: Jane Wilson
Sexton: Dave Crocker
Crib Room Attendant: Laura Sears