

# DENNIS UNION CHURCH

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 17, 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

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Silent Reflection

\*Call to Worship

**We gather this morning to celebrate who we are as God's people  
in the United Church of Christ. We are claimed and called by God to...**

**Be the Church**

God delights when we...

**Enjoy this Life**

Scripture tells us...

**To love God**

God smiles when we ...

**Embrace Diversity**

Jesus tells parables that remind us to...

**Share our earthly and spiritual resources.**

Jesus showed us how to...

**Fight for the Powerless.**

God cheers when we

**Reject Racism.**

Jesus taught us to...

**Forgive Often.**

Jesus speaks to the importance of

**Caring for the Poor.**

God celebrates when we ...

**Protect the environment.**

All of this means the spirit of God is leading us to...

**Be the Church!**

\*Hymn# 463

"Renew Your Church"

***Renew your church, our ministries restore: both to serve and adore.***

***Make us again as salt throughout the land, and as light from a stand.***

***'Mid somber shadows of the night, where greed and hatred spread their blight,***

***O send us forth with power endued. Help us, God, be renewed.***

*Teach us your word, reveal its truth divine, on our path let it shine.  
Tell of your works, your mighty acts of grace, from each page show your face.  
As you have sent your Christ to save, in love to triumph o'er the grave,  
O let our hearts with love be stirred, help us, God, know your word.*

*Teach us to pray, for you are ever near, your still voice let us hear.  
Our souls are restless 'til they rest in you: Love's design, ever new.  
Before your presence keep us still that we may find for us your will  
and seek your guidance every day. Teach us, God, how to pray.*

*Teach us to love, with strength of heart and mind, each and all – humankind!  
Break down old walls of prejudice and hate, leave us not to our fate.  
As you have loved and giv'n your life to end hostility and strife,  
O share your grace from heav'n above, teach us, God, how to love.*

**\*Invocation**

God of grace, you call us to be the church,  
to build up the body of Christ in all we say and do.  
**You call us to live boldly by faith, not to deny our fragility  
and brokenness, but to live into the fullness of you we are as your people.**  
Help us to heed the call, to trust in your steadfast love and guiding presence.  
**Shed light upon the path before us and instill within us courage for the journey.  
Amen.**

**Anthem**

Scripture Reading            Luke 5: 1-11

Reflections on General Synod 2025    “Into the Deep” -Being the Church  
Joe Hesse, Barnstable Association Delegate  
Rev. John Gregory Davis

**\*Hymn #475**

**“The Church of Christ in Every Age”**

Verses 1, 3 & 5

***The church of Christ in every age, beset by change but Spirit led,  
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.***

***Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be  
a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.***

***We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord:  
to care for all, without reserve, and spread Christ's liberating world.***

Offerings of the People

*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

**+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

"We Love Your Realm, O God"

Verses 1, 2, 3 & 6

*We love your realm, O God, all places where you reign.  
We recognize, with hope and joy, the world as your domain.*

*We love your church, O God, for Christ has given life  
to form communities of love that seek to heal our strife.*

*We recognize, with pain, that we have not achieved  
the faithfulness of our resolve when we at first believed.*

*Yet Christ, our friend and guide, continues to forgive,  
delivering us from our mistakes, inviting us to live.*

*We know your truth will last. We trust your reign is sure.  
Equip us for those daily tasks that help your world endure.*

\*Sending Forth / Passing of 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.

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.** (Please turn and acknowledge those around you).

\*Benediction

Recessional

*The congregation may be seated for the music or depart.*

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**\*Please rise in body or spirit.** Music for the service today reproduced with permission: One License #8-730116. "We Love Your Realm, O God" is from the *New Century Hymnal*; words adapted by Lavon Bayler, 1992.

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.

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Deacon of the Day: Sue Martin  
Ushers: Ann & Lloyd Swaim  
Greeters: Dottie Damon, Jeff Gordon, Karen Mutti

Flowers are provided today by Peggy McAloon  
"In honor of my late mother Margaret Gallagher Toomey"

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We are grateful to have our "Pick-Up" Choir at worship through September 7. 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!

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### **CAPE COD CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL REHEARSAL AT DUC**

The Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival is holding a free open rehearsal in the DUC sanctuary on Wednesday, August 20 from 10:00 to 11:30 am. Musicians at the rehearsal will include Orli Shaham, piano; Kobi Malkin, violin; Phillip Ying, viola; Brook Speltz, cello; and Pawel Knapik, bass.

They will rehearse Franz Schubert's popular "Quintet in A Major" (known as the "Trout") which they will perform later in the week at the Festival's final 2025 concerts in Falmouth and Wellfleet.

**These musicians are all extraordinarily talented and this should be a real treat  
- all are welcome to attend!**

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Rev. McHugh has been invited to be the guest preacher at St. Andrew's-By-the-Sea in Hyannisport next Sunday, August 24.

Doreen Mayer will be preaching here at DUC and will share some of the adventures from the recent Mission Trip with DUC youth.



Save the Date!  
DUC Homecoming September 14  
BBQ and Potluck Luncheon

### **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.

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**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**