

Dennis Union Church

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ



First Sunday After Christmas

December 28, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome

*Call to Worship

God of love, Christ is born, and we give you praise!

Your love is embodied among us, and we give you thanks.

You are not abstract, but real.

You are not far, but near.

We search for you, and we find you.

Jesus, lead us to the place of God.

We worship in awe, with gratitude, with love.

*Carol

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Hymn #155

***Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.***

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

***Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav’nly song?***

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ, who comes in lowly birth.

Come adore on bended knee Jesus, joy of heav’n and earth.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

See within a manger laid, Christ, whom choirs of angels praise;

Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

*Invocation

God of love, you have come among us in Jesus.
Open our eyes to see you. Open our ears to listen for you.
Open our hearts, and come to us.
By your birth in us, give us new birth.
May your Word be made flesh. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Psalm 148

Carol

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

Hymn #153 Verses 1 & 4

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven’s all gracious King.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold;
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.*

New Testament Reading Luke 2:8-20

Carol

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

Hymn #150 Verses 1 & 3

*Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinner reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”*

*Hail the heavenborn Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all her birngs, risen with healing in his wings,
mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”*

Contemporary Reading and Reflections

“Amahl and the Night Visitors”

Offerings of the People

*Carol

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

Hymn # 134 - sing through twice

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.*

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/God/Creator)

*Carol

"Joy to the World"

Hymn #143

***Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.***

***Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.***

***He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.***

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand in body or spirit. Music 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 concerns,
prayer requests, or desire a pastoral call.

Deacon of the Day: Joe Hesse

Ushers & Greeters: Darlene Fisk, Brian & Cathy McGuinness, Judy November

New Member Inquiry Sessions Starting Soon

If you are interested in learning more about membership at Dennis Union Church,
information sessions are planned after worship on January 11 and 18
to explore what it means to be a member at DUC as well as the United Church of Christ.

Everyone interested is welcome to ask questions and find out more about faith and fellowship in our
church community before making a decision to continue to membership.

New members will be received into the congregation on Sunday, January 25.

CALL TO COMMUNION

Next Sunday, January 4, we will celebrate Epiphany and the Lord's Supper during our 10 am worship service.
All are welcome at the table.

The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others,
To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman

Dennis Union Church
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Dennis, Massachusetts 02638
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Ministers: All the people
Pastor: Rev. Nancy S. McHugh
Director of Music: Margaret Bossi
Director of Faith Formation for Youth & Adults: Doreen Mayer
Children's Ministry Coordinator: Evy Nickerson
Finance Secretaries: Elise Gordon and Doreen Mayer
Office Administrator: Jane Wilson
Sexton: Dave Crocker
Crib Room Attendant: Open