

DENNIS UNION CHURCH

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 15, 2026

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

“Give Me a Clean Heart”

Margaret Douroux

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Prayer and Silent Reflection

A Prayer from Iona by Peter Millar

*Call to Worship

God of light, we come to you in need of healing,

for the eyes of our hearts are clouded.

Embrace us in your love, touch us with your Word,

and transform us by your Spirit.

Make us whole, so that we might live new lives.

Bless us in our worship, that we may become children of light. Amen.

*Hymn #86

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,

there is no shadow of turning with thee;

thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;

as thou hast been thou forever wilt be. Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;

all I have needed thy hand hath provided – Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,

sun, moon and stars in their courses above,

join with all nature in manifold witness

to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;

all I have needed thy hand hath provided – Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;

all I have needed thy hand hath provided – Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

*Invocation

God of truth, as Jesus healed the blind man, we ask you to heal us.
Open our eyes to see ourselves honestly, to see you clearly,
to see your world as you would have us see it.

**Open our hearts, so that as the scriptures
are read and your good news proclaimed, we may hear with joy
what you are saying to us today. Amen.**

Word for the Young

Anthem

“Grant Me a Blessing”

Joseph Heard

Call to Confession

Trusting in God’s tender mercy, let us confess our sin to God with one another.
Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Prayer of Confession

God of love, create in me a clean heart, and put within me a new and holy spirit.
Where there is falseness, give me your truth.
Where there is denial, give me vision.
Where there is fear, kindle your love.
Where there is guilt or shame, let me see myself with your eyes of love.
I release all the ill I have suffered, and repent of the harm I have done.
Forgive me, and create me anew.

Silence

Assurance of Grace

By the grace you show us in Christ,
forgive us, heal us, and perfect your love in us. Amen.

Scripture Reading

John 9: 1-34

Homily

*Hymn #506

“Healer of Our Ev’ry Ill”

Verses 1 & 2

***Healer of our ev’ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.***

***You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness,
Spirit of all comfort: fill our hearts.***

***Healer of our ev’ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.***

*In the pain and joy beholding, how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision: God of love.
Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.*

Offerings of the People

Offertory

“Yes, God Is Real”

Kenneth Morris

*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.*

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Prayers of the People and Sung Lord's Prayer

Hymn #307

*Our Father, which 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. And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.*

*Hymn¹

“This Little Light of Mine”

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Ev'ry where I go, I'm gonna let it shine, ev'ry where I go,
I'm gonna let it shine; ev'ry where I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine, Jesus gave it to me,
I'm gonna let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*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

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

Doris Akers

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.
¹Traditional Spiritual, arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, from *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*, © 1993 by The Church Pension Fund. Portions of the liturgy are from unfoldinglight.net by Steve Garnaas-Holmes.

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
Greeters: Dottie Damon, Lynn Wiegel, Emily Woudenberg

Flowers today are given by Alex Scopeletis
“In loving memory of my parents Carla & Jim Scopeletis”

Following worship today, the Open and Affirming Committee is hosting a panel from PFLAG (an LGBTQ advocacy organization founded and led by friends and family of LGBTQ people) in the Multi-Purpose Room. The panel of parents and transgender individuals will provide a window into their lives, each sharing their story. Following that there will be an open question and answer time.

Dennis Union Church Open and Affirming Covenant of Welcome (accepted at the 2017 Annual Meeting)

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.

The Season of Lent at DUC

Lent begins very soon – Ash Wednesday is February 18, 2026, and all are invited to join for worship and communion by intinction at 7 pm that evening.

“Praying from the Heart” Lenten Study

Study materials provided as needed - Tuesdays at 11 am Feb 24 - March 24

Lenten Simple Suppers

Soup, Salad and Bread Provided - Thursdays at 5:30 pm Feb 26, March 12 and 26

Contact the church office to sign up or for more information.

“The Work of Imagination” Lenten devotionals are available in the Church Office for \$5.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Annual Meeting on Saturday; conducting the business of the church is an important part of carrying out the mission and ministries of Dennis Union Church. Copies of the 2025 Annual Report and a budget summary will be available on the church website soon; the Leadership Roster of Boards and Committees will be published as soon as all committee chairs are in place.

Outgoing chairs and other members who hold church keys are reminded to turn them in promptly so the office can continue to keep a reserve supply of keys.

Support for Rose Conservatory

Each week in February, our worship music includes spirituals and songs from the African-American community. DUC has a commitment to honor the people who created this music without recognition or payment, and supports the Rose Conservatory in Brockton in their mission to provide access to exceptional arts, education and musical performance for the Brockton community.

Donations in support of the Rose Conservatory will be collected today and next Sunday, February 22 (please use the envelopes in the pews or note “Rose Conservatory” on the memo line of checks). We look forward to hosting Greg Fernandes, Executive Director from the Rose Conservatory, next Sunday during worship.

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
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Finance Secretaries: Elise Gordon and Doreen Mayer
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