

DENNIS UNION CHURCH

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 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

"O For the Wings of a Dove"

F. Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Prayer and Silent Reflection

*Call to Worship

God holds out to us the promise of new life.

Life as unpredictable, as unrehearsed, as explosive as life at the very beginning.

God calls us to respond to this gift with creativity, with joy, and with courage.

In worship we can begin to accept this gift of new life.

Let us worship God.

*Hymn #66

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praises we render: O help us to see
that only the splendor of light hideth thee.*

*Invocation

O Holy One, we await the touch of your Spirit with eagerness. We ask that you enter the lives of each one of us today, refreshing, renewing and healing us with the power of your loving Spirit, that we may live with purpose, enthusiasm and courage after the manner of Jesus, our redeemer and our companion on the way. Amen.

Word for the Young

Call to Confession

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer:

Prayer of Confession

Revolutionary God, in raising Jesus Christ you loosened great energy, creating a new people who shared common life, witness, prayer, and belongings. Yet we confess that we are afraid to risk ourselves and goods in creating your new world. We are even afraid to pray honestly with one another. God, forgive us, Blow through us with your most holy spirit. Give us new energy to build community and work for peace and justice on earth.

Assurance of Grace

God's grace is sufficient for all. That which we regret is redeemed and we are given the courage to live new lives.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem/ Music

"The Gift of Love"

Hal Hopson

New Testament Lesson

Acts 1: 1-14

Homily

"The Space In-Between"

*Hymn #245

"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight, like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might: come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the Vine, to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign: come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer, with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare: come, Holy Spirit, come.

Call for the Offering

Offertory Hymn

“Give Thanks”

Hymn #528

***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. Give thanks!***

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.***

*Hymn

“Come, Holy Spirit, Fill This Place”

Hymn #269 | Tune: Tallis’ Canon

***Come, Holy Spirit, fill this place, anoint these servants with your grace,
Inspire and guard them with your might and be, Creator, their delight.***

***Come, Holy Spirit, Comforter, the Gift of God, Enlightener;
a living well from which to draw the treasures of God’s love and 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 in the way 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

Recessional

‘Gavotte’ from “Suite #5”

J.S. Bach

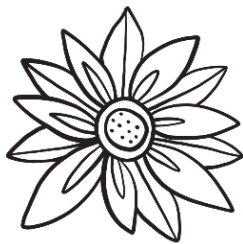
Please remain seated for the recessional today.

*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.

Deacon of the Day: Lisa Sherman
Ushers: Priscilla Hutchinson, Ann & Lloyd Swaim
Greeters: Bob Bullard, Barbara & Paul Gray

Flowers today are given by Elise and Jeff Gordon in honor of their mothers June Larson and Barbara Gordon. Happy Mother's Day, Moms!



*"And don't forget to do good
and share with those in need."*

— HEBREWS 13:16

Today is Mother's Day and **Blanket Sunday** at Dennis Union Church.

This event is sponsored by Church World Service and is so easy to participate in. Just \$10 buys a blanket that may be given to a resident of a homeless shelter, to a traveling migrant or to the victims of a house fire.

To purchase a blanket(s), please make checks out to DUC with "blankets" in the memo line. There are envelopes in the pews today as well as opportunities to give during Fellowship Hour today.

Check out the hallway table for more info as well as "In Honor of" cards that can be used to thank that special "mother" in your life.

Welcome Rev. Dr. Mary Luti to DUC

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Mary Luti to DUC for a presentation on St. Francis of Assisi Saturday, May 16 at 4:30 pm.

The presentation will be followed by a spring potluck supper in the Lower Hall.

On Sunday, May 17 our 10 am worship will be a special celebration of Creation, including musical and art elements of "Missa Gaia/Earth Mass" (performed previously in 2023 at DUC).

Dr. Luti will be the guest preacher for the service.

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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