

DENNIS UNION CHURCH

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 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

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Theodore Hoelty-Nickel

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Prayer and Silent Reflection

*Call to Worship

Today, may we give and receive love.

Today, may we work for justice.

Today, may we listen and pray.

Today, may we sing God's praises.

Today, may we delight in God's creation.

Today and every day.

*Hymn

"Joy of Our Mornings"

to the tune of Hymn #53 "Morning Has Broken"

*God of creation, Lord of all beauty,
all creatures join in singing your love;
holy compassion, joy of our mornings,
fill us with grace which comes from above.*

*Christ of the outcast, comfort of mourners,
neighbor to strangers, love without end;
bearers of burdens, grace ever with us,
blessing our loved ones, and all humankind.*

*Spirit of kindness, breath of forgiveness,
faithful companion, just as Christ said;
God's little children gathered together,
seeking your wisdom, renewing our lives.*

*Invocation

Holy God, we thank you that you receive us not according to our failing goodness, but according to your everlasting grace. You receive us as we are. You show us what we can be, through Jesus Christ, who came to share our common lot and reconcile us to yourself. Sweep over us with your Spirit, and change us by your love that we may sing with joy before you, and live to your glory in the world. Amen.

Anthem

“With a Voice of Singing”

Martin Shaw

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 51:1-6
Romans 12:1-8

Homily

“Operating Instructions”

*Hymn #558

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

***Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.***

***We are thine; do thou befriend us; be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock; from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear thy children when we pray;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear thy children when we pray.***

***Early let us seek thy favor; early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.***

Call for the Offering

Offertory

“Nun lasst uns Gott dem Herren”

Johann Pachelbel

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 #275

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

***Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion’s help forever, and our confidence alone.***

***To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with your faithful loving kindness hear your people as they pray,
and your fullest benediction shed within its walls alway.***

***Here bestow on all your servants what they ask of you to gain,
what they gain from you forever with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.***

***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

"Festive Trumpet Tune"

David German

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.

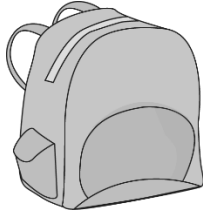
No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome at Dennis Union Church. Please feel free to contact the church
at 508-385-3543 if you have any concerns, prayer requests or desire a pastoral call.

Deacon of the Day: Gary Forrister
Ushers: Dennis & Patti Goyette, Lisa Sherman
Greeters: Annmarie Gavin, Jeff Gordon

Flowers today are given by Melanie & Neal Carlson
"In memory of our friend Ad Vos"

We welcome The Rev. Deirdre Greenwood White
as our covering pastor while Rev. McHugh is traveling in Scotland.
The Rev. Greenwood White is ordained in the PC(USA) and lives in Orleans.

Thank you to Leslie Roselli for providing our music today;
Leslie is a retired music educator and has her own studio in Yarmouth.
She sings and, when needed, plays for the Chatham Chorale.



**Thank you for your generous
donations for the Fill A Backpack
program -- helping students
get off to a good start!**

From the Social Concerns Committee

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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Dennis, Massachusetts 02638 508-385-3543 www.duchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Nancy S. McHugh

Director of Music: Margaret Bossi

Director of Faith Formation for Youth & Adults: Doreen Mayer

Children's Ministries Coordinator: Evy Nickerson

Finance Secretaries: Elise Gordon and Doreen Mayer

Office Administrator: Jane Wilson

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