DENNIS UNION CHURCH, UCC

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ



Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost November 1, 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 "Andante in E" Murschhauser

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Prayer and Silent Reflection

*Call to Worship

God, you have sent us saints who have guided and inspired us.
We thank you.
You have given us saints who have loved us and transformed us.
We praise you.
May we be your saints, shining with your light, radiant with your love.
Come, Holy Spirit and transform us by your grace. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Hymn #611 "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

Rise up, O saints of God! Have done with lesser things;
give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings.

Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom tarries long.
Bring in the day of righteousness, and end the night of wrong.

Rise up, O saints of God! The church for you doth wait,
with strength unequal to the task; rise up and make it great.

Lift high the cross of Christ; tread where Christ's feet have trod;
come sisters, brothers in the faith, rise up, O saints of God.

*Invocation

God of love, in the company of your saints, we are lifted by their faith.
With them we are warmed by your grace and led by your Spirit.
Sanctify us with them; restore in us our true, holy calling as your beloved people.
May love be our worship; love be our lives. Amen.

Celebration of the Saints

All Saints' Recognition

Kenneth W. McAloon
Mary Morrison
William "Bill" Beimler
*George Bartlett
*Eleanor "Schatze" Thorp
Frank H. Larson
*Charles Murray
Lin Mary Qin Clancy
*Rudy Schwenk
*James Hollister
*Kay Smith
*Marita Ann Smaltz
Joan Van Baalen
Ruth Lund
*Antoinette Duguay
*Joseph Charlies Demty
*Tiffany Peterson
*Judie Peterson
David Corbett
*Julie Greenspon
*Gary Anderson
Gail Jamison
Janice Dorcas Conrad

*Family and friends of our congregation

*Prayer of Gratitude

Gracious God, we thank you for the saints who have gone before us,
who have shown us the way of love.
May we learn from them, and by your grace in us
shine with the light of your glory.
Speak to us, so that we might hear your voice saying;
"See, I am making all things new."
Renew us O God.
And remind us that your word is trustworthy and true.
This we pray in the powerful and hopeful name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

*Hymn #637 "For All the Saints" Verses 1, 3 & 4

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia, alleluia!

O blest communion, company divine!
We live and struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia, alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the conflict long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia, alleluia!

Scripture Reading Luke 10:25-37

Homily "Ordinary Saints"

Anthem "Hark I Hear Those Harps Eternal" arr. Shaw

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

God is with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your heart.
We lift them up to God.
Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.
It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: holy are you, Lord.

Blessed are all who come in your name,
and blessed is Jesus, your Christ,
who brought good news to the poor,
who lifted up the downtrodden and gathered the outcast, and who called disciples to follow in the holy way of compassion and joy.
Even in death his gift was love and light.
Amen.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Choral Response

The gifts of God for the people of God! Come now, for all is prepared!
The gifts of God for the people of God! The Gospel is among us.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Please hold each element so we can partake together as a congregation.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, we thank you for this mystery in which you have given yourself to us. In the mystery of this meal, by your presence within and among us, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we are made holy, one Body, with all the communion of saints. May this gift work within us, that by your grace we may be perfected in love and live as your saints, for the sake of the world, in the name of Christ. Amen.

Offerings of the People

Offertory "Beecher" C. Callahan

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 #280 "God Is Here!" Verses 1 & 3

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us, as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

*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 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.
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 "Maestoso" John Marsh

The congregation may be seated for the music or depart.

***Please stand in body or spirit.** Music for the service today reproduced with permission: One License #8-730116. Communion invitation from *Do This* by Mary Luti; other litury from unfoldinglight.net, 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: Kim Crowell
Ushers: Earl Springer, Jeff & Judy Mereschuk
Greeters: Bob Bullard, Jeff Gordon

Flowers are given today by Mary Ann Eldred
"Happy Birthday to my college roommate Karleen"

The 2027 Stewardship program has begun! Thanks to everyone who has responded promptly with your pledge to support and sustain the mission and ministries of Dennis Union Church in the future.

The Social Concerns Committee will once again be supporting the Salvation Army's **Dress a Child** Christmas program. We will be providing clothing and a couple of toys for six children from two families. The committee has set up a table outside of the office today with tags so that you can choose items that you would like to purchase.
Items are due back to DUC by Sunday, November 22.

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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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 Vicki Marchant
Office Administrator: Jane Wilson
Sexton: Thom HIggins