DENNIS UNION CHURCH

an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 8, 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 "Bind Us Together, Lord" arr. Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Prayer and Silent Reflection

*Call to Worship

Creator God we come with songs aching to be sung,
with words aching to be spoken and questions aching to be answered,
with feelings aching to be expressed and thoughts running wild,
with hearts aching for love and arms aching for embrace.
We come with wounds aching to be healed,
with emptiness aching to be filled and joy aching to overflow.

Let your love soak into the spirit and skin like soothing salve,
leave a vision of hope where once there was none,
so that all may say we have met with God today,
and everyone was touched with a glimpse of grace.

*Hymn #15 "Rejoice, You Pure in Heart" Verses 1, 2, 3 & 4

Rejoice, you pure in heart; lift praises to the sky;
your festive banner wave with joy, the cross of Christ raise high!
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

Bright youth and snow-crowned age, strong souls and spirits meek,
raise high your free, exulting song, God's wondrous praises speak.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

With voice and strong as ocean's surging praise,
send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of ancient days.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

Yes, on through life's long path, stll singing as you go,
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

*Invocation

Eternal God, mother and father of every living creature, whose spirit of love is celebrated in our worship; be our nurturing guide and strengthening tenderness, that we may grow and serve in ways of trust, compassion and purposeful living. Amen.

Word for the Young

Stewardship Moment

Call to Confession

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer:

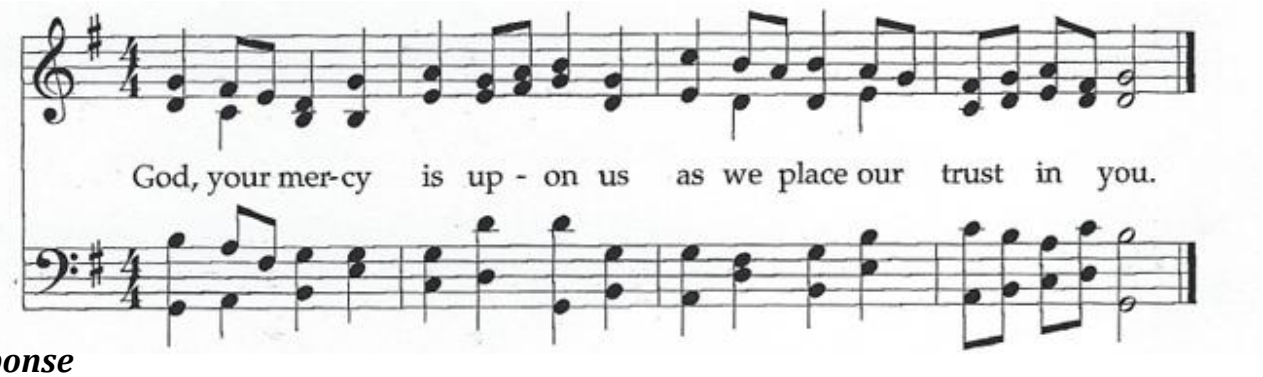
Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you have called us to live in faith and freedom, but we live with tightness in our chest. You have called us to move in a new direction, but we cling to the path we know. You have called us to reach outward in love but we draw inward for protection. You have called us to live with abandon, in trust, but we live carefully, in fear. God forgive us. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

God sent Jesus not to judge us but to save us. God accepts both our courage and our fears. Dare to accept the gift of a new beginning.
In the name of Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Responsive Psalm Psalm 40:1-3, 9-11 Hymnal #740



Response

I waited patiently for the LORD, who inclined to me and heard my cry,
who drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure,
who put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

Response

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O God.
I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
from the great congregation.
Do not, O God, withhold your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

Response

Scripture Reading 2 Kings 5: 1-14

Homily

*Hymn #588 "Have Thine Own Way, Lord!" Verses 1 & 3

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!
Power, all power, surely is thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

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.

Call for the Offering

Offertory "Just Dream" S. Barrett

*Hymn #687 "In Christ There Is No East or West" Verses 1, 2 & 3

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one community of love throughout the whole wide world.

In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be;
all children of the living God are surely kin to me.

*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 "Autumn" Vivaldi

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. Portions of our liturgy today are from *Touch Holiness*, Duck and Tirabassi.

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 Seserman
Ushers: Annmarie Gavin, Kate Lazarovich, Judy November
Greeters: Sally Bullard, Marla Ker

Flowers are donated by Peggy McAloon
"In memory of my beloved husband Ken McAloon"

The Social Concerns Committee is once again 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. Visit their table during Fellowship Hour to choose a tag with an item that you would like to purchase.
Items are due back to DUC by Sunday, November 22.

Back by Popular Demand . . .

SAVE THE DATE FOR LET'S DO DINNER
Your choice to be a GUEST or a HOST - Friday, November 13

Sign-up during Fellowship Hour
Join in an evening of food and friendship!

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 Vicki Marchant
Office Administrator: Jane Wilson
Sexton: Thom Higgins