## **Central Square Congregational Church, UCC**

71 Central Square, Bridgewater MA 02324 – (508) 697-6016 – csccucc.org "We are a Christian community of people who are reaching out to our neighbors, at home and abroad, sharing our faith and our resources."

## We are delighted to have you in Worship today!

In our church, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/csccuccbridgewaterma Follow us on Instagram: Centralsquarechurch

Check our Website: csccucc.org

## **CSCC Staff**

Ministers: All the People!

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Stotts – <u>csccpastor@hotmail.com</u>

Congregational Administrator: Deborah Lancaster – <u>office@csccucc.com</u>

**Minister of Music**: Julia Scott Carey – <u>juliascottcarey@gmail.com</u>

Treasurer: David Sheibley – <u>treasurer@csccucc.com</u>

**Sexton**: Rich Sullivan



December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 10:00 AM

# CHRISTMAS HYMN SING SUNDAY

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth: Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: [Refrain]

#### Call To Worship (Adapted from Isaiah 9:2; 6-7a)

One: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

- All: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.
- One: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- All: Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

#### **Opening Prayer**

It may seem naive, in a world of grief, to choose to live in joy;
It may seem foolish, in a world where solemnity is power, to sing and dance to a different tune;
It may seem cruel, in a world of suffering and injustice, to speak of light and celebration;
But you have come, Jesus, to bring joy into our grief, light into our darkness, singing into our mourning and it is an act of healing and proclamation to believe and embrace the joy you offer.
Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Amen.

#### Hymn: Joy to the World!

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let ev'ry heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

#### Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies With th' angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem Hark, the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of peace, Hail! the Son of RighteousnessLight and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wingsMild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may dieBorn to raise the some of earth, Born to give them second birthHark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King

#### Hymn: The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

#### Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-20

#### Hymn: Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song? [Refrain]

#### Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King and peace to all the earth.

#### Gospel Reading: John 1:1-18

#### Hymn: It Came upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven's all-gracious King." The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing. Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

#### Hymn: Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, o crib for a bed The little Lord Jesus, lay down His sweet head The stars in the bright sky, looked down where He lay The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes; I love Thee Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay, close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

#### Scripture Reading: Isaiah 52:7-15

#### Hymn: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching, O'er silent flocks by night Behold throughout the heavens, There shone a Holy light

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born

The shepherds feared and trembled, When, lo! Above the Earth Rang out the angel chorus, That hailed our Savior's birth

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born

#### Hymn: O Holy Night

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining It is the night of the dear Savior's birth! Long lay the world in sin and error pining Till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices Oh night divine, Oh night when Christ was born Oh night divine, Oh night divine

Truly He taught us to love one another His law is love and His gospel is peace Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother And in His name all oppression shall cease Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, Let all within us praise His holy name

Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices Oh night divine, Oh night when Christ was born Oh night divine, Oh night divine

#### A Time for Holding Each Other's Prayers

(You may come forward and light a candle sharing your prayer aloud or simply hold it in your heart.)

#### **Prayer for All People**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. 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: What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?

- This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mary
- So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, Come, peasant, king, to own him The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone him
  - This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mary

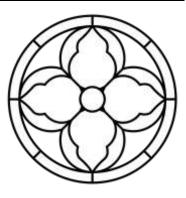
#### **Closing Prayer**

#### Benediction

## **UPCOMING WORSHIP**

Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Music Sunday "A Year of Jubilee" with Julia Scott Carey

**Sunday, January 9**<sup>th</sup> Epiphany and Communion Sunday



**Do you need a meal, a call, spiritual care, or someone to pray with?** *Contact the Office, a Deacon, or a member of our Care Team.* 

To contact Rev. Beth, call the church office at 508-697-6016 or email her at <a href="mailto:csccpastor@hotmail.com">csccpastor@hotmail.com</a>.

#### **CSCC Deacons**

Deb Sorgman <u>debsorgman@gmail.com</u> and Jae Stotts <u>jaestotts@gmail.com</u>

#### CSCC Care Team

Carol Chaffee, Phoebe Hogg, Bev Mitchell, John Scott

### **End-of-Year Giving**

We encourage you to continue your support of CSCC, to the degree you are able. Offerings can be made in any of the following ways: \* Checks can be mailed to the church (71 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 02324) \* Bill-pay through your bank can be set up for one-time or recurring payments \* Payments can be made via the Paypal link at the top of our website home page (www.csccucc.org).

If you have any questions, you can email the Treasurer directly and confidentially at <u>treasurer@csccucc.com</u> or call the church office at 508-697-6016.