



Central Square Congregational Church, UCC

71 Central Square, Bridgewater MA 02324 – (508) 697-6016 – cscucc.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!*

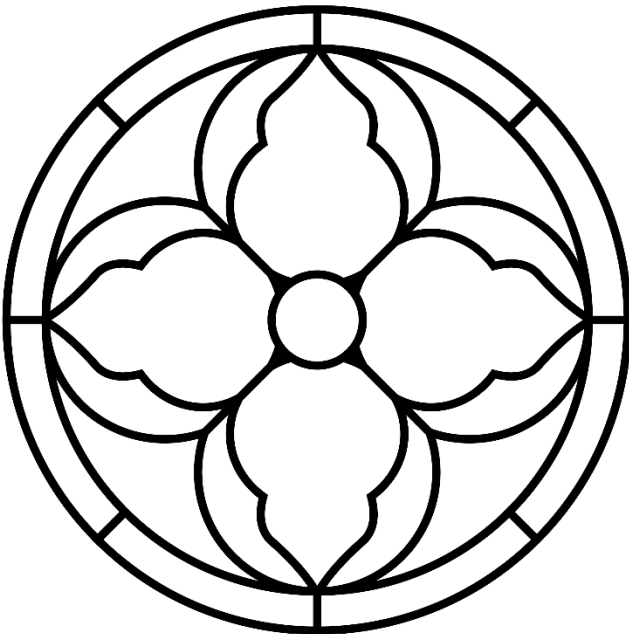
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Check our Website: www.cscucc.org



Sunday, January 9, 2022



CSCC Staff

Ministers:

All the People!

Pastor:

Rev. Elizabeth Stotts – csccpastor@hotmail.com

Congregational Administrator:

Deborah Lancaster – office@cscucc.com

Minister of Music:

Julia Scott Carey – juliascottcarey@gmail.com

Director of Video Evangelism:

Paul Holmes

Treasurer:

David Sheibley – treasurer@cscucc.com

Sexton:

Rich Sullivan

Musical Guest: Caroline Corrales, Soprano

Epiphany Sunday

Prelude: *"By the Still Waters"* Amy Beach

Welcome & Announcements

Introit: *"Brightest and Best"* Christine Robbins

Call to Worship

One: We gather:

All: a community of faith in God's subversive world.

One: We gather:

**All: to celebrate that no darkness can extinguish light,
to remember that love will always be more powerful than death,
and to trust that peace will always be stronger than violence.**

One: We gather:

All: as a people of faith, to live as the light of God in this world.

One: Welcome to worship!

Prayer of Invocation

O Star-flinging God,
whose light dances across eternity,
meet us in our worship today and
dazzle us into your presence in this new year.

Open our hearts to the mystery of your love.

Awaken us to your presence in the ordinary.

Reveal to us what is possible, but not yet present.

Heal us, that we might be healers.

Reconcile us to you and to ourselves,
that our living might be reconciling.

Stop us often, we pray
with news that is good,
with hope that holds,
with truth that transforms with a Word
tailored to this trail we're on.

May the word of your grace guide our steps
like the sun by day and the north star by night,
as we travel into the gift of a new year. Amen.

Opening Hymn #158 *“O Morning Star, How Clear and Bright”*

Gospel Reading: **Matthew 2:1-23**

Prayer of Brokenness/Confession

O God, we confess that it is hard to be hopeful
when there is so much sickness and fear
and pain and sorrow in the world.
We confess, O God, that we keep our heads down
and fail to envision where You are at work in our world.
We fail to perceive You, even as You are revealed to the world.
Be revealed to us, O God, in new and uplifting ways.
May hope and joy be revealed to us.
May Your justice, mercy, and love be revealed to us
when we so desperately need it.
Be revealed in our hearts, O God,
so that we might break open Your light into the world.
In Jesus' name, we pray that all things will be revealed. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

As the magi revealed Christ to the world,
God's love is revealed in us by others who love us.
Let yourself be loved. Let yourself be cared for.
Let yourself break down and cry when you need to.
Let others lift you up.
Know God's love is in the words of assurance from friends,
the listening ear, the shoulder to cry on.
Know God's love is with you
when you love one another and care for them as well.
Go and share God's love. Amen.

Musical Meditation: *“I Send My Heart Up to Thee”* Amy Beach

Epiphany Message

Musical Meditation: *“A Psalm of Life”* Frederick Cowen

Prayer for All People

We thank you God that you know what it is to be human,
Fragile and vulnerable,
searching for ways to stay alive in dangerous and complicated times
We thank you that you know the struggles and temptations
of living in darkness.
And we thank you that you give light to the world.

We gather our hearts in prayer and acknowledge
that sometimes it's easier to stay in the shadows,
where things can stay hidden,
where people can't see our cracks and flaws.
Cast your light on our darkness, God of love.

We gather our hearts in prayer and acknowledge
that we have at times brought darkness
into the world by our anger, our selfishness, our violence.
Cast your light on our darkness, God of love.

We gather our hearts in prayer and acknowledge
that we are sometimes skeptical of light
and find it easier to trust its absence.
Cast your light on our darkness, God of love.

And in our prayer together,
We open our hearts and minds to the light of your love
And we pray for all who are living in darkness.
Help us to be your light in the world...
[...silent prayer...]
Holy God, in your name we pray the prayer you taught us saying...

The Lord's Prayer

(Please use the wording that is most meaningful for you.)

*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, the power and the glory forever.
Amen.*

Closing Hymn #157: *“Brightest and Best”*

Benediction

May the path that Christ walks to bring justice upon the earth,
to bring light to those who sit in darkness,
to bring out those who live in bondage,
to bring new things to all creation:
may this path run through our life.
May we be the road Christ takes. Amen.

Postlude: *“Moonbeam Fairies”*

Frederick Cowen



Tuesday, January 11th at 7:00 p.m. - Outreach Meeting

Wednesday, January 12th at 7:00 p.m. - Trustees Meeting

Monday, January 17th - Church Office Closed for Martin Luther King Day

Wednesday, January 19th at 7:00 p.m. - Cabinet Meeting

COVID UPDATE

Dear Members and Friends of Central Square Church,

The number of COVID cases in our community during this Omicron flare up has surpassed the number of cases we endured a year ago, at the highest peak. Out of an abundance of caution, we are suspending in-person worship on Sunday mornings until further notice.

Worship, as always, will be live-streamed via [Facebook Live](#) and [YouTube](#) as well as on BTV throughout the week. You can also access worship from our website: www.cscucc.org

In the meantime, please reach out to the church office if you need anything! (508-697-6016) A meal, a prayer, someone to talk to... we're here for you.

In Christ,

Rev. Beth, Staff and the Deacons

*Do you need a meal, a call, spiritual care, or even just a prayer?
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
csccpastor@hotmail.com.

CSCC Deacons

Deb Sorgman – debsorgman@gmail.com
Jae Stotts – jaestotts@gmail.com

CSCC Care Team

centralsquarecareteam@gmail.com

Carol Chaffee
Phoebe Hogg
Bev Mitchell
John Scott
Rev. Beth Stotts

End-of-Year Giving

During this time, 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.cscucc.org).

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