One: We pray that as we celebrate Christmas, we are grateful to You for all that we have.

All: As we reflect on the light of the Christ candle, may we remember and celebrate the love of God made manifest to us this night and always. Amen.

#### SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

**MUSICAL RESPONSE:** "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" Jarrod Radnich
\*CLOSING HYMN: "Silent Night" (See Insert)

\*CLOSING HYMN:
\*BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING HYMN: "Joy to the World" (See Insert)
POSTLUDE: "O Christmas Tree" Philip Keveren

## **CSCC-UCC Staff and Officers**

Ministers: All the People!

**Pastor**: Rev. Elizabeth Stotts – <a href="mailto:csccpastor@hotmail.com">csccpastor@hotmail.com</a>

Julia Scott Carey Minister of Music: **Director of Video Evangelism:** Paul Holmes **Receptionist:** Jenne Foroniy Moderator: Anne Malmquist Vice Moderator: Denise Molinari Clerk: Diane Sheibley Treasurer: David Sheibley Asst. Treasurer: Larry Brown **Financial Secretary:** Judy Pino Rich Sullivan Sexton:

# **To contact the Church Office:**

E-mail: office@csccucc.com

Phone: 508-697-6016

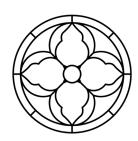
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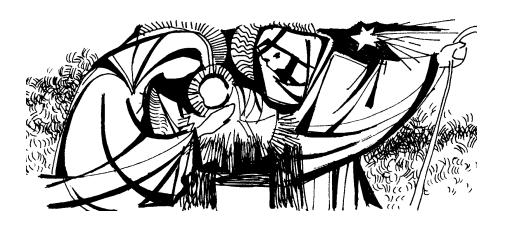
Check our Website: www.csccucc.org

# Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

71 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 02324



# -Christmas Eve-



December 24, 2022 10:00 PM **PRELUDE:** "A Celtic Christmas Overture" L. Shackley

WELCOME

INTROIT: "Night of Silence" Daniel Kantor

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all who are faithful and all who seek joy in your lives

All: It is the season to sing praises to God for the Christ Child is near.

One: The symbols of hope, peace, joy and love

shine brightly in our hearts.

All: May they remain with us throughout the year.

One: We now share a promise fulfilled by God.

All: That our beloved Child is born and will call us to new lives of love, joy and faith in action! Amen.

\*HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (See Insert)

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

MUSICAL OFFERING: "Grown-Up Christmas List" David Foster

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

One: O God, we light the first candle. We kindle it with hope. We long for You to come to our world, to break through and reign with compassion, justice, and peace.

All: Mighty God, creator of the world, break through all that keeps us from You. We ask for Your mercy and reform us in Your image. Visit us with Your justice, love, and peace. Amen.

One: O God, we light the second candle. We seek Your comfort and peace. Both mighty and tender, You come. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by You.

All: Saving God, look upon Your world and heal Your land and Your people. Prepare us to be changed. Teach us to be tender and just, as You are. In Your peace, Amen.

One: Source of Joy, we light the third candle of Advent. Through Joy we are called by You to prepare for a deeper faith. This Advent, we ask for Your mercy and a joyful new beginning.

All: Merciful God, we give thanks that you send messengers to call us to greater faith. In your joy, lead us to Your light. Amen.

One: O God of All Love, we light the fourth candle of Advent. Fill us with your grace and light and love. Tonight we recall the times we have struggled to love others, sometimes even ourselves. Even though life is not always easy, we hear you calling out to us, in love, and we respond.

All: O God of hope, peace, joy, and love. As Mary and Joseph welcomed You into the world, now help us welcome You into our lives. Give us courage to hope; strength to seek peace. Fill our spirits with joy; and our hearts with love. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

\*HYMN: "O Holy Night" (See Insert) ANTHEM: "Baby, What You Goin' to Be?" Natalie Sleeth **SCRIPTURE READING:** Isaiah 9: 2; 6-7 (Bible Pg.555) \*HYMN: "What Child Is This" (See Insert) **GOSPEL READING:** Luke 2: 1: 3-7 (Bible Pg.832) REFLECTION "Embodiment" Rev. Beth Stotts \*HYMN: "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" (See Insert)

#### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Christ Candle's light that shines for us here Tells out the good news that God has come near! God came, a poor baby, in one time and place, To show all creation the wealth of God's grace.

#### PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE ON CHRISTMAS

One: Jesus Christ, born in a stable, be with the poor and the homeless this Christmas time.

All: As we pray, live and give; shine your everlasting light. (Silent prayer)

One: Jesus Christ, born of Mary, be with young mothers across the world this Christmas time.

All: As we pray, live and give; shine your everlasting light. (silent prayer)

One: Jesus Christ, visited by Shepherds, be with all who have to work this Christmas, and those who long to work.

All: As we pray, live and give; shine your everlasting light. (silent prayer)

One: Jesus Christ, who became a refugee, be with those who fear for their lives, and those who have left homes and families this Christmas.

All: As we pray, live and give; shine your everlasting light. (silent prayer)

Continued on back...

## **Christmas Poinsettia Memorial List**

You may take home your poinsettia at the end of the service.



## Given by: In Loving Memory Of:

Kay Wheeler Julie Lybarger

The Sheibley Family All our loved ones

Bev Mitchell Family George H. Mitchell

Carol Howe My father, Herman Daiker

My mother, Madeleine Daiker

My son, Scott Walker

Jenne Foronjy & Sisters Our Mom, Patty Gannon

The Shave Family Our Shave and Langevin Loved ones

Bruce Maclay Mom & Dad

Gail Wershing Frank Wershing

Al & Mary Wilson

The Ciaramitaro Family Adam & Lost loved ones

The Molinari Family Loved ones

Troy Hubbell Kelli & Wally

Ellen Crawford Loved ones

Diane & Peter Glass Our Parents & Nephew Jordan

Jane O'Connell Loved ones

The Lyons Family Loved ones

## **Christmas Poinsettia Memorial List**

You may take home your poinsettia at the end of the service.



## Given by:

Bill and Terry Reynolds

Rachel Lawson

Gail Wright

Lynn Pietras

Anne Chaffee

Anonymous

## **In Loving Memory Of:**

Loved Ones

**Brad Lawson** 

Greta Holmberg Janice Lawson

Scott

Fred & Alice Yeaton

My Husband David Chaffee

#### "O Come All Ye Faithful"

O Come All Ye Faithful
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of Angels;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing all that hear in heaven God's holy word.

Give to our Father glory in the Highest; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

### "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 appeared and the Spirit felt its worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!

O night divine, the night when Christ was born;

O night, O Holy Night, O night divine! O night, O Holy Night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another, His law is love and His gospel is peace. Chains he shall break, for the slave is our brother.

And in his name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,

With all our hearts we praise His holy name. Christ is the Lord! Then ever, ever praise we,

His power and glory ever more proclaim! His power and glory ever more proclaim!

#### "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!

Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear, for sinners here The silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce him through, The Cross be borne for me, for you, Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

#### "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 the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come Offspring of a Virgin's womb Veiled in flesh the Godhead see Hail the incarnate Deity Pleased as man with man to dwell Jesus, our Emmanuel Hark! The herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

#### "Silent Night"

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth "

#### "Joy to the World"

Joy to the World , the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

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.

#### Mustard Seeds Prayer List for the week of December 24

Please note: Prayer requests should be submitted by calling the Church Office at: (508) 697-6016 or by e-mail to: office@csccucc.com.

- Prayers for Judy Pino's son as he battles serious health issues, and for the Pino family.(12/21)
- It is with great sadness that we share the news that Ann Boudreau has died. Please hold Steven and the rest of the Boudreau family in love and prayer as they remember and grieve. (12/22)
- Celebrations for the chimes, kids church, and for the lessons that we learn from the Grinch understanding the true meaning of Christmas. (12/18)
- Continued prayers for Gail Wright's son-in-law, Dan, and the entire Reardon family, as they continue to mourn the loss of his mother, and face the declining health of his father. (12/18)
- Prayers for Barbara Morey's brother in Florida, who has been diagnosed with multiple cancers and has suffered a stroke. (12/18)
- Prayers of comfort and strength for Jenne Foronjy and her sisters as they come to terms with the profound loss of their mother, together with the ongoing struggles of their individual situations.(12/13)
- Prayers of health, healing, and courage for Judy Balzarini, friend of Kathleen Mosher, as she fights cancer. (12/11)
- Prayers of thanks for this congregation, and wishes of safe travels for friends and family this holiday season. (12/11)
- Prayers of strength and recovery for Bob and Michelle, friends of Bill O'Neil, who both suffer from substance abuse. (12/11)
- Continued prayers for Diane & Peter Glass' great nephew Ben, who is still in a mental health facility and not doing well. Prayers that a long-term facility for him will be found, and for strength and courage for him and his family. (12/11)
- Prayers for Bette DeKoning's brother and sister-in-law, who have both experienced serious heart issues recently. (12/11)
- Continued prayers of healing and strength for the family of Doug Anderson, formerly of the Bridgewater area and now living in Wisconsin. His grandson, James, is battling a cancerous spinal tumor, and is back in the hospital to start a difficult round of chemo. (12/11)
- We lift up in prayer and acknowledgement those that aren't among us -- friends and family that are struggling. We pray that they may be embraced by the love of God, and find peace and healing. (12/4)
- Prayers for action and words for the peaceful resolution of the violence in our country. (11/27)
- Prayers for Mary Barnsley's friend's mother, Robin, who is fighting brain cancer. (11/20)
- Prayers for Kimberly Davis who is recovering from surgery. (11/17)
- Prayers of healing for Rachel Lawson's brother Rubin, as he recovers from surgery.
- Continued prayers of healing and support for Mike Bundock as he begins a new, intensive round of treatment for brain cancer. (11/6)
- Prayers of understanding and acceptance for the family of Natalie Mosher's girlfriend, Jiseon. They have not been accepting of who she is and her relationship with Natalie. Prayers of love as well for Natalie and Jiseon.
- Prayers for friend Bonnie, who is struggling with stomach cancer and not doing well. (10/23)
- Prayers for Mark Sorgman's Dad, Norm Sorgman, who is 92 and has been in the hospital for a couple of weeks, gaining strength to be transferred and have the surgery he needs. (10/16)
- Prayers for members of Gloria Weinrebe's family who have experienced the passing of a family member; whose son was in a motorcycle accident; whose daughter-in-law has medical

concerns that are keeping her from working; and for other family members facing medical issues. (9/25)

- Prayers for Gordon Brailsford's sister-in-law Ellie who suffered a stroke. (9/25)
- Celebrations for Tami Kurahara's medical good news, and continued prayers for her on her health journey. (8/28)

Continued prayers for all veterans and those serving on active duty in the military both in the United States and abroad.



Sunday, December 25 Christmas Day Online Worship 10am

(Online only)

Sunday, January 1 New Years Online Worship 10am

(Online only)

#### The church office will be closed for the week of Dec.25 - Jan.1

Our regular office hours are Tuesday – Friday from 9am-1pm. Please call 508-697-6016 to make an appointment or to speak with Rev. Beth. You can also contact her by email at csccpastor@hotmail.com.

