

**Welcome to our Guest Preacher!**

Rev. Dr. Mary Louise Gifford retired from full-time ministry at the First Congregational Church of Randolph, UCC in December 2020. She currently serves as the Moderator of the Board of Directors of the Pilgrim Association of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ.

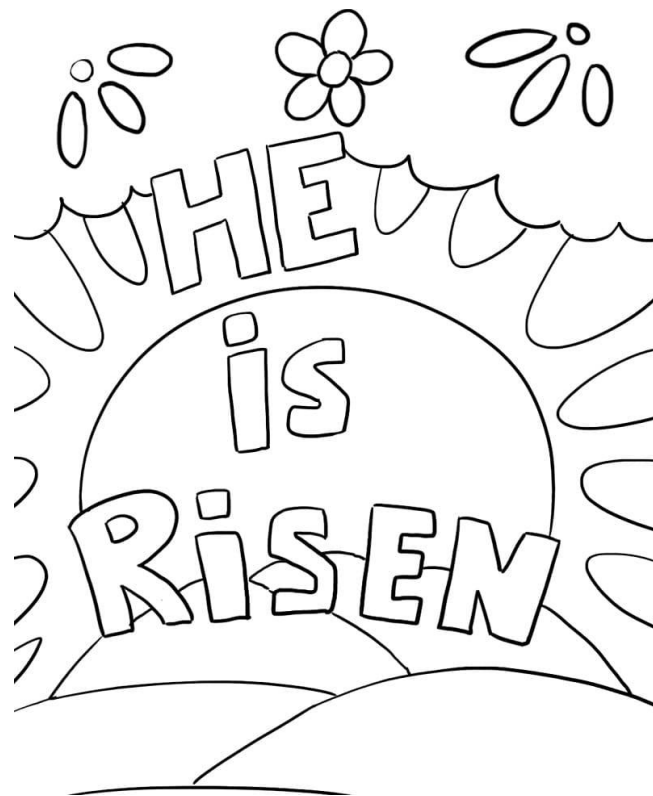
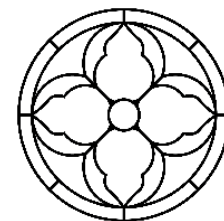
Dr. Gifford holds Masters' Degrees in both Psychology and Theology, and earned her Doctorate in Ministerial Leadership (2008) from Andover Newton Theological School. She has been leading congregations and supervising seminarians for over twenty years. She lives in Weymouth with her husband Mark. They have three grown children and three grandchildren. She loves art, and painting is her hobby.



**Central Square Congregational Church, UCC**

71 Central Square, Bridgewater, Massachusetts 02324

*"We are a Christian Community of people  
who are reaching out to our neighbors,  
at home and abroad,  
sharing our faith and our resources."*



**Sunday, April 16, 2023**

Please Note: This service is subject to change by the guidance of the Holy Spirit

\* Denotes please rise in body and/or spirit.

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**Prelude** "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" John Carter

### Welcome and Announcements

**Invitation to Fellowship** (If you are new or visiting, please include your address, phone number, and e-mail address when you sign the fellowship pad at the end of the pew so that we may properly welcome you to our community.)

**Introit:** "Victory (with Alleluia)" Palestrina

### \*Call to Worship

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

One: We have not seen the risen Christ,

**All: But we see Him in the lives of those transformed by grace.**

One: We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,

**All: But we have seen Him in the faces  
of everyone whose love encourages us.**

One: We have not touched the wounds from the cross,

**All: But we have been called  
to bring healing to the scarred of the world.**

One: Let us worship and let us join our hearts in prayer...

### \*Opening Prayer

Holy One,

In this Easter season, turn us into Easter people.

Awe us with creation's gifts.

Transform us in resurrection power.

Meet us face-to-face through those around us.

Fill us with the grace and power of Jesus Christ.

Through our worship today,

Remind us of our place in creation,

Called to be your hands and feet and heart in the world.

Amen.

**\*Opening Hymn #507:** "Jesus the Very Thought to Me"

### Kids Church Dismissal

**Scripture Reading:** 1Peter 1:3-9 p.983

**Gospel Reading:** John 20:19-31 p.883

**Musical Meditation:** "Behold, the Great Redeemer Died" P. Cardall

**Sermon** "Thomas the Twin" Rev. Dr. Marylou Gifford

**\*Hymn #254:** "These Things Did Thomas Count"

### Prayers

#### Celebrations and Concerns

(Conclude your prayer with the words "This is my prayer."  
Congregation responds, "This is our prayer".)

#### Moment for Meditation and Reflection

**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.*

### Recognition of Gifting

**Offertory:** "I Will Rise" Chris Tomlin

#### \*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

*Praise God all creatures here below*

*Praise God for all that Love has done*

*Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.*

**\*Closing Hymn #238:** "Now the Green Blade Rises"

### Benediction

**Postlude:** "Now the Green Blade Rises" J. Leavitt

## Mustard Seeds

### Prayer List of the People For the week of April 16, 2023

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

- Our hearts and prayers go out to John Schuller and the Schuller family on the loss of our dear friend, and their wife, mother, and grandmother, Lin. (4/2)
- Prayers of celebration, and continued prayers of healing, for Nic & Aiden Cannizzo's grandfather who is home and doing outpatient rehab. (4/2)
- Prayers of celebration for Aiden Cannizzo, who was accepted to Southeastern Regional High School. (4/2)
- Prayers of comfort for the family of Mike Lally following his death, and prayers for all who suffer with depression. (4/2)
- Prayers for Gordon Brailsford's brother, Russell, who is in the hospital with a blood condition. (4/2)
- Prayers of healing for Savannah Wells' dance teacher's son, Tom. (4/2)
- 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, continues to battle metastatic cancer with surgeries and chemo, and has much more ahead. (3/26)
- Continued prayers for Diane & Peter Glass' great nephew Ben, who is doing well at his mental health facility. (3/26)
- Prayers for Ashley Earp and her family, as her father has recently been diagnosed with dementia. (3/19)
- Prayers of health and healing for Frank Ciaramitaro's mother, who is recovering from surgery. (3/5)
- Prayers for Owen's friend who is starting a new job, for safe travels and a fresh start. (3/5)
- Prayers for Ashley Earp and her family, as her oldest struggles with mental health issues. (3/5)
- Continued prayers of healing and health for our dear Food Pantry worker Pat Conn, who has been released from Lifecare and is now continuing to recover at home. (2/21)
- Prayers for our friend John who has not been well. (2/12)
- Continued prayers for Tami Kurahara, who has had her surgery and is doing well, and who deeply appreciates all the prayers and good thoughts. (2/12)

- Prayers for all those affected by the opioid crisis, and specifically for Ellen Crawford's co-worker, who recently lost her brother. (2/12)
- Continued prayers for Mark Sorgman's brother, Todd, who is doing well following his stroke and is recovering at home. (1/29)
- Prayers for Norm Sorgman as he continues to recover from heart surgery. (1/15)
- Prayers for those who are victims of racial prejudice, and endure verbal attacks because of it, and specifically for Natalie Mosher's girlfriend, Jiseon. (1/8)
- Prayers of health, healing, and courage for Judy Balzarini, friend of Kathleen Mosher, as she fights cancer. (12/11)
- Prayers of strength and recovery for Bob and Michelle, friends of Bill O'Neil, who both suffer from substance abuse. (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 support for Mike Bundock as he continues his 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 Bonnie, friend of Steve Boudreau, who is struggling with stomach cancer and not doing well. (10/23)
- 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)

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

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***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!*



Wednesday, April 19	<b>Thrift Shop open 10am – 1pm</b> <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>
Wednesday, April 19	<b>Cabinet meeting 7pm</b> <i>(Fireplace Room)</i>
Wednesday, April 19	<b>BSU Choir Rehearsal 7pm</b> <i>(Sanctuary)</i>
Thursday, April 20	<b>Food Pantry open 10am – 1pm</b>
Saturday, April 22	<b>Thrift Store open 10am – 1pm</b> <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>
Sunday, April 23	<b>Worship 10am</b> <i>(Sanctuary and Online)</i>
Sunday, April 23	<b>Feminist Women of Faith 11:30am</b> <i>(Fireplace Room)</i>

*Please note: the office will be closed this week.  
Rev. Beth is available by appointment.*



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**Follow us on Facebook:** facebook.com/cscuccbridgewaterma

**Check our Website:** [www.cscucc.org](http://www.cscucc.org)

## CSCC-UCC Staff and Officers

<b>Ministers:</b>	All the People!
<b>Pastor:</b> Rev. Elizabeth Stotts –	<a href="mailto:csccpastor@hotmail.com">csccpastor@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Minister of Music:</b>	Julia Scott Carey
<b>Director of Video Evangelism:</b>	Paul Holmes
<b>Office Manager:</b>	Jennifer Foronjy
<b>Sexton:</b>	Rich Sullivan
<b>Moderator:</b>	Anne Malmquist
<b>Vice Moderator:</b>	Denise Molinari
<b>Clerk:</b>	Diane Sheibley
<b>Treasurer:</b>	David Sheibley
<b>Asst. Treasurer:</b>	Larry Brown
<b>Financial Secretary:</b>	Judy Pino

## To contact the Church Office:

E-mail: [office@cscucc.com](mailto:office@cscucc.com)

Phone: 508-697-6016

A sign with a light pink background and a dark brown central panel. The text on the sign reads: "Central Square Congregational Church, UCC 71 Central Sq. Bridgewater, MA 02324", "April 17-21", "the church office will be", "OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY", "Contact Rev. Beth at csccpastor@hotmail.com if you need to make an appointment.", "cscucc.org", and "508-697-6016". The sign is decorated with corner graphics of folded papers.

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need to make an appointment.

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