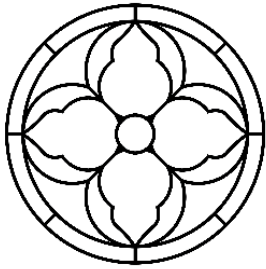


Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

71 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 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, May 17, 2026

10:00AM

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR WORSHIP

Prelude: *"Oh Love, How Deep"* Ian Wood

Welcome, Announcements, & Invitation to Fellowship

OPENING OUR HEARTS

Introit: *"I Lift My Voice"* Andrea Ramsey

Call to Worship

One: In the presence of God, we are gathered-

All: Different in story, yet woven together in grace.

One: Jesus prayed that we might be one-

All: Not the same, but united in love.

One: Come, bring your full self – your questions,
your culture, your calling

All: For in this community, all belong and all are needed.

One: Let us worship the God who creates unity without erasing diversity

All: Let us worship God!

Opening Prayer

Holy One, you are not divided, yet you are vast
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, a living unity of love.
We come before you as many-
many voices, many histories, many ways of being-
and we ask that you bind us together
not by sameness, but by your Spirit of love.
As Jesus prayed for his disciples,
he prays still for us: that we may be one.
Teach us what that means-
To honor difference, to listen deeply, to love boldly
Shape us into a community where unity is not uniformity,
but a sacred harmony of your people. Amen.

Opening Hymn #259: *“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”*

Moment For All Ages

EXPLORING THE WORD

Gospel Reading: John 17:1-11 pg.879

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Words of Grace

Anthem: *“Ascension Day”* Allen Toussaint

Sermon: *“One, But Not the Same”* Rev. Beth Stotts

Hymn #309: *“We Are Your People”*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrations, Concerns, & Prayer Requests

Moment for Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer *(Please use the wording that is most meaningful for you)*

*Creator God, who is in heaven, Holy is Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

Prayer Response Hymn #283: “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory: *“The Ascension of Jesus”* Stephen DeCesare

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.*

Prayer of Dedication

LIVING WITH THE WORD

Closing Hymn #542: *"Born of God, Eternal Savior"*

Benediction

Postlude: *"We Are One"* Jack Feldman

What's Happening at CSCC This Week

Sunday, May 17

Sr. Choir Rehearsal 8:30am (Sanctuary)
Church office open 9am-1pm (Office)
Jr. Choir Rehearsal 9:40am (Sanctuary)
Worship 10am (Sanctuary & Online)
Kids Church 10:15am (Fellowship Hall)
Potluck Lunch 11am (Kids Church Room)

Tuesday, May 19

Church office open 9am-1pm (Office)

Wednesday, May 20

Thrift Shop 10am-2pm (Fellowship Hall)
Prayer Circle 6pm (Sanctuary)
Cabinet Meeting 7pm (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, May 21

Church office open 9am-1pm (Office)
Food Pantry 10am-1pm (Church Street)

Friday, May 22

Church office open 9am-1pm (Office)

Saturday, May 23

Thrift Shop 10am-2pm (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, May 24 – PENTECOST!

Sr. Choir Rehearsal 8:30am (Sanctuary)
Worship 10am (Sanctuary & Online)

Follow us!

Instagram: @centralsquarechurch

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/cscuccbridgewaterma

Check our Website: www.cscucc.org

We are delighted to Worship with you today!

In this church, no matter who you are

*or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

**An Open
and Affirming
Congregation**



Do you need a visit? A meal? Someone to pray with?
Contact Rev. Beth, a Deacon, or a member of the Care Team.

Pastor

Rev. Beth Stotts – csccpastor@hotmail.com

Deacons

Deb Sorgman – debsorgman@gmail.com

Anne Malmquist – amalmquist@comcast.net

Cristi Ciaramitaro

Stephanie Holmgren, Altar Deacon

Liam O'Connell, Jr. Deacon

Tallinn Muurisep, Jr. Deacon

Care Team

Carol Chaffee – galchaffee@gmail.com

Bev Mitchell – bev1944@comcast.net

Nina Gabel-Jorgensen – ngjvns@gmail.com

Debra Moore – debramoore912@gmail.com

For Emergency Pastoral Care, call: 508-659-2361

Church Staff and Officers

Pastor:	Rev. Elizabeth Stotts
Minister of Music:	Julia Scott Carey
Director of Video Evangelism:	Paul Holmes
Office Manager:	Jennifer Foronjy
Sexton:	Rich Sullivan
Kids Church Director:	Eric Stotts
Moderator:	Anne Malmquist
Communications:	Diane Sheibley
Treasurer:	David Sheibley
Financial Secretary:	Karissa Marquis

To contact the Church Office:

E-mail: office@cscucc.com

Phone: 508-697-6016

If you would like to make an appointment with Rev. Beth, please email her at csccpastor@hotmail.com.

Pastoral emergency #: (508) 659-2361

Please donate to our ministries!



Mustard Seeds Prayer List

Prayer List of the People For the week of May 17, 2026

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

- Prayers for Cheryl whose Parkinson's is progressing. (5/14)
- Mary Barnsley asks for prayers for Katt, who is having a very difficult pregnancy. (5/7)
- Prayers of healing for John Shalginewicz of the Bridgewater Food Pantry as he recovers from a recent dog bite. (5/7)
- Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of Liz Stansel following her recent passing. (5/3)
- Natalie Muuriseppp asks for prayers on the passing of her grandmother, Olive. (5/3)
- Prayers for Sally Burke as she transitions to a memory care unit in Easton. (5/3)
- Carol Chaffee asks for continued prayers for her friend's sister as she navigates the dementia diagnosis. (5/3)
- Prayers for Kurt Walker. Kurt grew up in our church. Prayers for his mom, Carol Daiker Howe as well, and requests for cards and visits for her. (4/19)
- Prayers for Barbara Montero, friend of Patrick Donahue, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. (4/19)
- Prayers for Mary Barnsley's family, especially her sister Peggy who lost her husband Charlie unexpectedly today. (4/12)
- Elyse Racicot asks for prayers of peace for her dad, Beau who is living with dementia, and for herself, for her to have peace in her mind and body due to the pain and anxieties she lives with. She also asks for prayers for all the families who have lost a loved one to addiction, and for Nick Destiny and Drew who they lost to this disease. (4/5)
- Mary Barnsley asks for prayers for Heather and Mitch as they continue to mourn their daughter who passed away last year. (3/29)
- John Sharland asks for prayers for our veterans, especially those MIAs of Vietnam, and shared that our local Veterans memorial has been restored and is being rededicated today. (3/29)
- Diana Francis asks for prayers for her Dad who is navigating some abnormal test results and further tests to see what exactly is happening. (3/29)
- Sara Terpeny asks for prayers for her family on the passing of her father, Steve Moss, and thanks that she and her sisters were able to be with him during his last days in hospice. (3/22)
- Continued prayers for the kids of our church and all the kids around the world, may they find peace, kindness and love, always. (3/15)
- Deb Sorgman asks for prayers for the people of Maui and Hawaii as a whole with everything they have been going through there. (3/15)
- Erik & Natalie Muuriseppp ask for prayers for continued recovery for Gloria who has had her tumor removal surgery and gotten some good reports. (3/15)
- Kay Wheeler asks for prayers for her friend Pat who is dealing with returning health issues. (3/8)
- Heather Ciaramitaro asks for prayers for Frank as he navigates new MS challenges. (2/22)

- Tallinn Muurisepp asks for prayers for his Meme's mom and brother, as well as his Pepe's brother, who is going through a hard time. (2/22)
- Brianna and Liam O'Connell ask for prayers for Brianna's parents Shantia and Jonathan, and cousin Nette as they navigate two Alzheimer's diagnoses and other health concerns. (2/8)
- Prayers for Katrina Judge, her father and her family as they navigate the devastating news that his cancer has metastasized. (2/8)
- Nina Gabel's colleague Mayra Mises is on indefinite medical leave. Prayers for her and her family. (2/1)
- Stephanie Holmgren asks for prayers for her father-in-law Richard, who was diagnosed with colon cancer. (11/9)
- Prayers for Ashley Earp's sister going through breast cancer. (10/26)
- Mary Barnsley asks for prayers for her sister-in-law Maryann with memory issues. (9/18)
- Donna & Bill O'Neil ask for continued prayers of healing and comfort for their friend, Shaun King who had colon surgery successfully while his chemo was suspended for healing. Prayers are appreciated & working for him! He awaits more updates of scans and restarting his chemo. Thank you for praying for him! (8/26)

Continued prayers for all veterans and those serving on active duty.

Please note: We, the church, are in constant prayer for our church family, our community, our nation, and our world. We are in need of prayer, all of us. It is what brings us together! If you have requested an addition to the prayer list, it is helpful for you to provide updates to the church office, whenever possible, or request that the prayer concern be removed as it is no longer a concern or the issue has passed. If we have removed a prayer concern and you would like it added back to the list because there is a great need to keep the prayer in the forefront of our hearts and minds, please go ahead and make this known to the church office. Thank you!