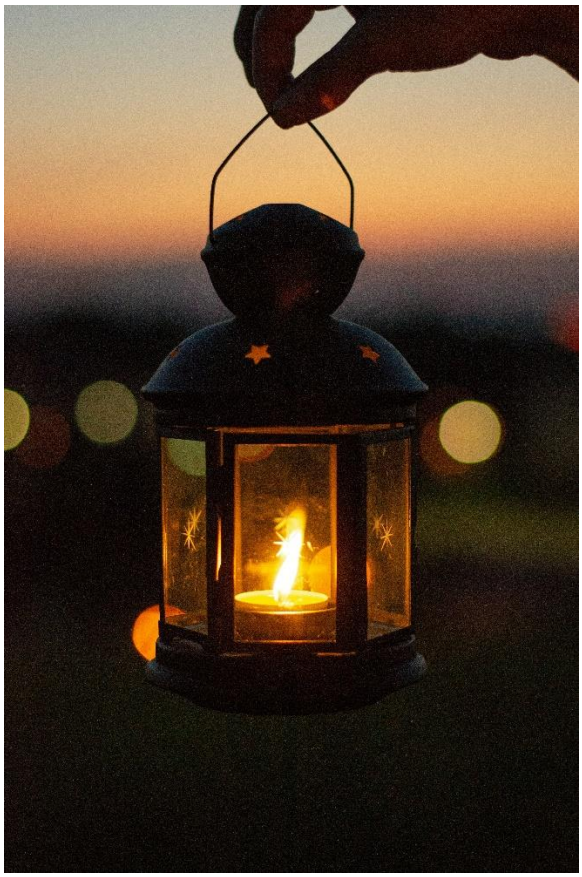
Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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, November 8, 2026

10:00AM

Prelude: *"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"* D.L. Jones

Welcome & Announcements

Invitation to Fellowship

Introit: *"Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing"* J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

One: The days are busy, and our calendars are full.
All: Still, we come seeking a moment of peace.
One: The world tells us to hurry, prepare, accomplish, and do more.
All: God invites us to slow down, breathe, and pay attention.
One: We come carrying our worries, our expectations, and our weariness.
All: We come hoping to find the light of Christ among us.
One: Keep your lamps burning. Keep your hearts open.

All: For God is already here, waiting to be noticed.

One: Let us worship the God who meets us in every moment.

All: Let Us Worship!

Opening Prayer

Holy God, in a world that constantly asks us to hurry, help us find our way back to you. Quiet the noise that fills our minds. Settle the worries that weigh on our hearts. As we gather in this place, remind us that we do not have to earn your presence or create the perfect conditions to experience your love. You are already here. Teach us to notice the sacred in the ordinary, to recognize your light in one another, and to tend the flame of faith within us. May this time of worship restore our spirits and prepare us to carry your light into the world. Amen.

Opening Hymn #369: *"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"*

Moment For All Ages

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:1-13 Pg.806

Anthem: *"Matthew 25"* Victoria Davison & Rudy Lupinski

Sermon: *"Matthew 25: Part 1"* Rev. Beth Stotts

Hymn #616: *"I Want to Be Ready"*

Prayers of the People

Celebrations and Concerns

(At this time, you are invited to share your prayer requests with the congregation. When you have finished, you may say, "This is my prayer". The congregation will reply, "This is our prayer".)

Moment for Meditation and Reflection

Prayers of the People

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 #112: *"Keep Awake, Always Be Ready"(v. 1)*

Offering Our Gifts

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory: *"Shine"* Ed Roland

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

Closing Hymn: *"Watchmen, Wait In Expectation"* A. Pratt

(see insert)

Benediction:

Postlude: *"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"*
Thomas Keesecker

What's Happening at CSCC This Week

Sunday, November 8

Sr. Choir Rehearsal 8:30am *(Sanctuary)*
Jr. Choir Rehearsal 9:40am *(Sanctuary)*
Worship 10am *(Sanctuary & Online)*
Kids Church 10:10am *(Kids Church Room)*

Tuesday, November 10

Church Office open 9am-1pm *(Office)*

Wednesday, November 11

Office Closed for Veterans Day
Thrift Shop open 10am-2pm *(Fellowship Hall)*

Thursday, November 12

Food Pantry 10am-1pm *(Church Street)*
Property and Finance 7pm *(Sanctuary)*

Friday, November 13

Church Office open 9am-1pm *(Office)*

Saturday, November 14

Thrift Shop open 10am-2pm *(Fellowship Hall)*
Turkey Dinner 5:30 pm *(Fellowship Hall)*

Sunday, November 15

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

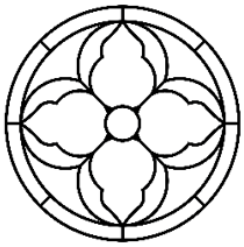
We are delighted to Worship with you today!

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

a just world for all ucc.org

WISE for Mental Health
Welcoming • Inclusive
Supportive • Engaged



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 Muurisepp, Jr. Deacon

Care Team

Bev Mitchell – bev1944@comcast.net
Nina Gabel-Jorgensen – ngjvns@gmail.com
Debra Moore – debramoore912@gmail.com

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:	Vacant

To contact the Church Office:

E-mail: office@csccucc.com
Phone: 508-697-6016

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

Please donate to our ministries!

venmo

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Instagram: **@**centralsquarechurch

Mustard Seeds Prayer List

Prayer List of the People For the week of November 8, 2026

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

• Asking for prayers for Addi Pryor, who is a local teen with a reoccurring osteosarcoma who is facing a leg amputation. (10/28)
• Diana Francis asks for prayers for her best friend Meredith's father who suffered a stroke recently, and the family is determining how to meet his needs. Additionally, she thanks everyone for the prayers for her dad who is doing better now. (10/20)
• Continued prayers for John & Karen, friends of the Sheibleys, whose son and partner are facing a very serious medical situation for their newborn. (10/19)
• Prayers for our friend Bob Richards who is going through some health issues. (10/13)
• Deb Moore asks for prayers for a friend and her husband as he struggles with multiple health issues. (9/28)
• Asking for prayers for Michelle and her children Brayden and Rowan. (8/30)
• Asking for prayers Meghan Damon's family member struggling with health issues. (8/27)
• Asking for prayers for Jessica Mastin's dear friend Sheila and family (8/20)
• Terry Reynolds asks for prayers for Cori, daughter of her longtime friend whose cancer has returned and she is not doing well. (7/26)
• Drew Sullivan is asking for prayers as he struggles to find the right career and become independent. (7/12)
• Katrina Judge asks for continued prayers for her father as his treatment continues. (6/14)
• Prayers for Cheryl whose Parkinson's is progressing. (5/14)
• 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)
• 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)
• Nina Gabel's colleague Mayra Mieses 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)
Continued prayers for all veterans and those serving in 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!

Reflection questions:

- What does "being ready" mean to you spiritually?
- Why do you think all ten bridesmaids fall asleep?
- What might "oil" represent in our lives?
- What causes us to become spiritually distracted or exhausted?
- What does our congregation do that helps people remain spiritually awake?
- Where in my life am I running on empty?
- What helps keep my spiritual lamp burning?
- Where might God be inviting me to slow down and pay attention?
- What can I let go of to make more room for the holy?

Practice for the week:

Keep a "God sightings" journal for one week.
Each day, write down one moment when you notice: kindness, beauty, unexpected grace, courage, reconciliation, compassion, or evidence of God's presence.

Faithfulness is not frantic activity.
Sometimes it is simply learning to stay awake to what God is already doing.

Watchmen, Wait In Expectation by Andrew E. Pratt
(To the tune of Ode to Joy)

1 Watchmen wait in expectation,
wait the coming of the dawn;
keep the charge that they've been given,
faithful to the vow they've sworn.
Now, amidst anticipation,
keep us faithful to your task,
till you greet us, loving Saviour,
this is all we seek or ask.

2 Bridesmaids wait in expectation,
each lamp trimmed with hopeful flame;
wait the bridegroom, at his coming
he will call them each by name.
Now, amidst anticipation,
keep us faithful to your task,
till you greet us, loving Saviour,
this is all we seek or ask.

3 Still we wait in expectation,
wait the coming of your word;
keep alight the faith we carry,
that our hope may be assured.
Now, amidst anticipation,
keep us faithful to your task,
till you greet us, loving Saviour,
till we're welcomed home at last.

Andrew E Pratt