



Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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

**Sunday, October 10, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

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!

Follow us on Facebook:

[facebook.com/cscuccbridgewaterma](https://www.facebook.com/cscuccbridgewaterma)

Check our website: www.cscucc.org



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

Treasurer:

David Sheibley – treasurer@cscucc.com

Sexton:

Rich Sullivan





PRELUDE: *"It Is Well"*

Dan Musselman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



INTROIT: *"Morning Mood"*

Edvard Grieg



CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Mark 4:35-41)

One: In the midst of life's storms, God is with us.

All: What have we to fear?

One: In the darkness and terror, God is with us.

All: Of whom shall we be afraid?

One: Rise up, people of God, for you are loved and saved.

All: Thanks be to God who cares deeply for us.



PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, you are greater than the most powerful forces in this world. We are in awe of you. You have the power to still us in our restlessness. In our worship today, remind us to be still and know that You are God. O God who answers out of the whirlwind of everyday life, breathe in us Your Holy Spirit to strengthen, comfort, and guide us in the midst of the storms of life. O still, small voice, speak to us this hour that we might become makers of Your peace in our homes, in our communities, in our world. We pray all this in the name of the One who calmed the raging sea. Amen.



OPENING HYMN #89: *"Awake, Awake to Love and Work"*
(included in the Bulletin)



SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 46 (Pew Bible pg. 450)



GLORIA PATRI:

*Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without End! Amen. Amen.*



MUSICAL MEDITATION: *"I Am Thine O Lord"* Marcia Wells



GOSPEL READING: Mark 4:35-41 (Pew Bible pg. 816)



SERMON "Storm Stories"



MUSICAL MEDITATION: "When Peace, Like a River" Horatio Spafford



PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE

One: Holy God, Creator of all things, we come to you today with our whole selves.
You are our safe place to hide. You are our mighty fortress.
You are our ever-present help in time of need.
We can and do turn to you in the midst of our troubles.
And God, our world is full of troubles. Difficulties, pain, suffering, indifference...

So many of us feel afraid, hopeless, lost.

**All: Be with us. Fill us with your hope and your spirit.
Remind us that nothing we can put our trust in you.
Your love and grace are like streams of water in the desert.
Your joy comes splashing down upon us.
You refresh and renew us like rain coming down on the earth.**

One: Holy God, Bring your water of life to those who are thirsty and weary.

**All: Where there are wars, bring your peace.
Where there is starvation, fill the empty bellies.
Where there is despair, bring your hope.
Where there is animosity, bring your reconciliation.
Where there is abuse, bring your tender mercies,
Where there is poverty, bring your charity.
Where there is illness, bring your healing.
Where there is grief, bring your gentleness.
Where there is injustice, bring your justice.**

One: God is our refuge and strength,
always ready to help in times of trouble.

**All: We give thanks for God's presence,
the Sovereign who dwells with us in humility,
accepting our pain and our weakness in love.**

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PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE (continued)

**All: We give thanks for God's presence,
the Sovereign who dwells with us in humility,
accepting our pain and our weakness in love.**

One: So we will not fear, even if earthquakes come,
and the mountains crumble into the sea.

**All: We give thanks for God's promises,
that allow us to let go of the fears and anxiety that keep us
paralyzed, that give the darkness such power over us.**

One: Let the oceans roar and foam.
Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge!

**All: We give thanks that we can grieve the losses,
we can mourn the destruction, but they shall not consume us.
God is with us, in grief as in love, and our hearts shall be open to
grace.**

One: God is here among us;

**All: We give thanks that the Body of Christ is present:
the hands of God offering comfort,
the eyes of God weeping with us,
the feet of God walking alongside us,
the strength of God helping us to rebuild.
God is here among us: For we are the Body of Christ.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**



CLOSING MUSIC: *"Storm"*

Rachel Portman



CLOSING PRAYER

Creator God, as our worship ends, may your peace go with us.

May you guide us through the challenges we face,
protect us when in need, and inspire us with your love.

May we acknowledge your presence in all the human goodness we will see.

May you bring us together again rejoicing in love, rejoicing in our beloved
community.

Creator God, we go into this day, fully aware of you with us. Amen.



BENEDICTION

So now we leave this space of worship
And while so much of the road ahead is uncertain,
And the path constantly changing,
we know some things that are sure.
We know God is love.
We know Christ's light endures.
We know the Holy Spirit this there,
found in the space between all things,
closer to us than our next breath, binding us to each other,
until we meet we again.
Go now in peace. Amen.



POSTLUDE: *"Shelter from the Storm"*

Bob Dylan

GUEST PREACHER BIO

Rev. Dr. Ned Allyn Parker is the Associate Dean for Institutional Advancement at Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School. He grew up in the small fishing village of Port Clyde, ME, which often becomes a backdrop for his narrative sermons. He is a third generation American Baptist minister and spent seven years as one on a team of five pastors at Seattle First Baptist Church in Seattle, WA, before returning to New England to serve Andover Newton in his current role. He holds a BA from Hampshire College, an MDiv from Andover Newton Theological School, and a DMin in preaching and homiletics from Seattle University. Ned and his rescue dog Lucky like adventures and long drives with the windows down!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!!

The Food Pantry needs a few volunteers who are available from approximately 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. on Thursdays to deliver bags of groceries to Bridgewater residents without transportation.

In most cases, a member of the Food Pantry will contact the volunteer(s) a day in advance on Wednesday. If you can help, please contact the Church Office at: (508) 697-6016 or send an e-mail to Deborah Lancaster at office@cscucc.com for further information.

Volunteers are also needed to bring empty cardboard boxes (already broken down) to the Transfer Station for disposal. It takes about an hour every few weeks.

If you can volunteer, please contact Jack Melcher or Bill O'Neil for further information through the Church Office at: office@cscucc.com

SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING EVENTS SAVE THE DATE!!

Friday, October 15th @ 7:00 p.m.
An Ice Cream Social will take place in Fellowship Hall where Dave Moore will present a slide show featuring old photos of the Central Square Church and other buildings around the Common from the early Bridgewater days. Everyone is invited to attend. There will be ice cream as well as different sauces and toppings to create ice cream sundaes for all to enjoy!

Saturday, October 16th from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. - 200th Anniversary Dinner Celebration at T. J. Smith's Victorian House Restaurant in East Bridgewater. Tickets are available for order; details available in the [Steeple Sounds](#) newsletter or at the Church website: www.cscucc.org

Sunday, October 17th at 10:00 a.m. Worship Service will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Church's founding.

Saturday, October 23rd from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Women's Guild Fall Yard Sale at the Church.

Today in Worship

today's date _____

Write or draw your responses during the service,
then tell someone about it later!

Today's Bible lesson is from: _____

(book) (chapter:versus)

This is about (or made me think about)...

Something I heard
or learned
about God today is...

During the service I wondered about...

My favorite song from today was:

because...



Words or ideas that
I didn't understand are...

One thing I'll remember
from today's service is...





To contact Rev. Beth,
please call the Church Office at
508-697-6016
or e-mail her at:
csccpastor@hotmail.com.

*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 by emailing:
office@cscucc.com

CSCC Deacon

Deb Sorgman – debsorgman@gmail.com

CSCC Care Team

Carol Chaffee

Phoebe Hogg

Bev Mitchell

John Scott

Rev. Beth Stotts

Contributions Welcomed!

During this time, we encourage you to continue your support of CSCC, to the degree you are able. We know this may be a trying time for you financially as well as emotionally, so please know that we understand if you are not able to meet your usual giving goals. But for those who can, remember the church has ongoing expenses that need to be attended to.

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 at: www.cscucc.org.

If you have any questions, you can e-mail the Treasurer directly and in confidence at: treasurer@cscucc.com or call the Church Office at 508-697-6016.