Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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

Friday, December 24, 2021
10:00 p.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/csccuccbridgewaterma

Check our website: www.csccucc.org

Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Guest Artist: Cameron Shave

CSCC Staff

Ministers:
All the People!

Pastor:
Rev. Elizabeth Stotts – csccppastor@hotmail.com

Congregational Administrator:
Deborah Lancaster – office@csccucc.com

Minister of Music:
Julia Scott Carey – juliascottcarey@gmail.com

Treasurer:
David Shelbly – treasurer@csccucc.com

Sexton:
Rich Sullivan
CALL TO WORSHIP FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

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 that was 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.

OPENING HYMN: “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,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all 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.

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with love and awe;
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION
Gracious, loving and merciful God, on this Christmas Eve,
as the light of your Word penetrates our hearts,
as we are reminded of the gift of life and faith,
as the glories of the heavenly hosts are echoed in our church,
we open ourselves up to your Spirit and give you thanks.
We are grateful that your story has become our story,
and we celebrate the sacred birth story.
We take to heart the wonder of your love,
and pray that we may walk in your ways and delight in your will.
Help us, Loving God, to be the faithful, gracious,
loving, giving and forgiving people you would have us be.
Be with us in our worship this night
and fill us with the same awe from this same night, so long ago. Amen.
MUSICAL OFFERING: “Grown-Up Christmas List” by David Foster

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

PRAYER

HYMN: “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 soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;  
Fall on your knees, Oh, hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!  
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 shall He break for the slave is our brother,  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His holy name;  
Christ, is the Lord, Oh, praise His name forever!  
His pow’r and glory evermore proclaim!  
His pow’r and glory evermore proclaim!


MEDITATION

MUSICAL MEDITATION: Cameron Shave

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Advent Wreath Lighting Song (verse 5)

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

ANTHEM: “On This Day Earth Shall Ring” arr. Gustav Holst

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
CLOSING HYMN:  “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, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

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.

BENEDICTION:

One:  Glory to God in the highest! Jesus is born!
All:  God has come to us and shared our common lot,
      And so we rejoice!
One:  Go forth rejoicing in the love of God, the peace of Christ,
      and the power of the Holy Spirit.
All:  Amen

POSTLUDE  “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem”  by John Carter

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Dates to Remember

Sunday, December 26th
Christmas Hymn Sing Sunday

Sunday, January 2nd
Special Music Sunday
"A Year of Jubilee" with Julia Scott Carey

Sunday, January 9th
Epiphany and Communion Sunday

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Sign up
for
Weekly E-mail Blasts and our monthly newsletter, “Steeple Sounds"

You’ll see some little slips of paper at the end of each pew – if you are new or just visiting, or even if you’ve been here a while – we invite you to give us your mailing address and/or e-mail address so that we can be sure you’re in the loop for upcoming events and important news of the church. Just fill out the short form and drop it in the collection plate at the back of the Sanctuary on your way out today!
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.

To contact Rev. Beth, call the church office at 508-697-6016 or email her at cscpastor@hotmail.com.

CSCC Deacons
Deb Sorgman debsorgman@gmail.com
Jae Stotts jaestotts@gmail.com

CSCC Care Team
Carol Chaffee
Phoebe Hogg
Bev Mitchell
Rev. Beth Stotts

End-of-Year Giving

We encourage you to continue your support of CSCC, to the degree you are able.

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 (www.csccucc.org).
Christmas Poinsettia Memorial List

On Christmas Eve, you may take home your poinsettia at the end of the worship service that you attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Given by:</th>
<th>In Loving Memory of/in Honor of:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Lawson</td>
<td>Brad Lawson, John Lopez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Lawson</td>
<td>Greta Holmberg &amp; Janice Lawson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Lawson</td>
<td>John Lopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave and Diane Sheibley</td>
<td>Susan Wershing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave and Diane Sheibley</td>
<td>Amber &amp; Tom Sheibley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth Sheibley &amp; Michelle Brokmeier</td>
<td>Grandparents of Rebecca and Ben Sheibley – Ed and Beverly Healy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Brokmeier &amp; Beth Sheibley</td>
<td>The parents of Michele Brokmeier - William F. &amp; Joan A. Brokmeier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Maclay</td>
<td>Mom &amp; Dad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Stotts Family</td>
<td>Jon Lybarger &amp; Julie Lybarger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve &amp; Connie Chandler</td>
<td>Joseph &amp; Mabel Filipek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve &amp; Connie Chandler</td>
<td>Chester &amp; Mary Chandler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy Hubbell</td>
<td>Kelli &amp; Molly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Crawford</td>
<td>Loved Ones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloria Weinrebe</td>
<td>The Weinrebe &amp; Taylor Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Chaffee</td>
<td>David Chaffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gail Wright</td>
<td>Scott Wright</td>
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<tr>
<td>Krissy Cannizzo</td>
<td>Ryan Mitchell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Krissy Cannizzo</td>
<td>Gramma Peggy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denise Molinari</td>
<td>Lawson &amp; Molinari Family Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Terry Reynolds</td>
<td>Loved Ones</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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