



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, December 19, 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

Check our website: www.cscucc.org

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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



**Guest Artists: Christina English, Mezzo-Soprano
Stephanie Kacoyanis, Mezzo-Soprano**

A MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES



***HYMN #119:**

“My Soul Gives Glory to My God”



GOSPEL READING:

Luke 1:39-56



MESSAGE:

“The Lady of the Inn: A Christmas Opera”

Music by Mari Kotsky

Libretto by Katherine Garrison Chapin



PRAYERS

Moment for Meditation and Silent Reflection

Prayer for All People

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Holy One, kindle in us the desire to remain awake; that we might be ready for you, and eager to pray.

O God, in days to come the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray today for the church, that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths. Come Dear Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

We pray today for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth. Come Dear Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs. Come Dear Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In your Kin-dom, O Holy One, even the wilderness and dry land are glad and rejoice. We pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate that they might obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing might flee away. Come Dear Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In the fulness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer. Come Dear Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Jesus comes among us with great might, and in manger mild, we might recognize his face and his voice, and rush to adore him. All of this we pray in his name saying...

The Lord's Prayer

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 and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



CLOSING HYMN #128: "In the Bleak Midwinter"



BENEDICTION



POSTLUDE: "Czech Drumming" Jarrod Radnich

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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!





Dates to Remember

Friday, December 24th - Christmas Eve Service
Story and Song service at 5:00 p.m.
Traditional Candlelight Service at 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 26th - Hymn Sing Sunday

Sunday, January 2nd – Special Music Sunday

Sunday, January 9th - Epiphany and Communion Sunday



Poinsettias for the Altar
\$10 each Due date for ordering: Dec. 19

Poinsettias will once again be sold to decorate the altar and honor loved ones.

Visit www.cscucc.org/christmas for more info or to order, or speak to a member of the History & Memorials Committee after Sunday service on Dec. 5, 12, or 19.

Central Square Congregational Church UCC Bridgewater, MA www.cscucc.org

TODAY is the final day that you can order poinsettias!!



Homemade Christmas Cookies Needed!

We are once again providing personal bags of homemade holiday cookies to those less fortunate.

If you are able, please cook a dozen or two of your favorite cookies and bring them to the church on Sunday, December 19th. Because all the cookies will be mixed up and packaged in groups of 3-4, please avoid the use of nuts. Also, please no cookies that are too sticky or creamy on top!!

The cookies will be delivered to Father Bill's and/or MainSpring House.

Dropoff: **TODAY**, Sunday, December 19, 3:00-3:30 p.m. (or bring them to worship that morning and leave them in the Fellowship Hall).

BRIDGEWATER SENIOR CENTER

Remembering Those We Lost

A non-denominational vigil at the senior center for all ages.

Led by
Reverend Beth Stotts

DECEMBER 15, 2021
10:30AM

PLEASE RSVP
508-697-0929

SENIORCENTER@BRIDGEWATERMA.ORG



A reminder that the Central Square Church Office will be closed beginning on Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th through New Year's Eve on Friday, December 31st. The Church Office will re-open on Monday, January 3, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. and remain open Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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:verses)

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

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

My favorite song from today was:

because...



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

During the service I wondered about...



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 Deacons

Deb Sorgman – debsorgman@gmail.com

Jae Stotts – jaestotts@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.