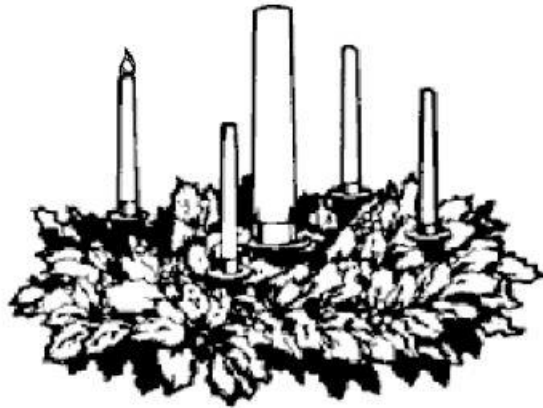


# **First Sunday of Advent**

**November 29, 2020 10:00am**

**Online Service**

**Facebook/YouTube**



**PRELUDE :**

Creator of the Stars of Night

*by Flor Peeters*

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,  
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.

When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in splendor bright,  
Not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blameless mother mild.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE ENTRANCE RITE** (pg. 355, BCP)

**OPENING HYMN**

HYMN 56

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

*Veni, veni Emmanuel*

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*  
Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

*People* **The Lord is Risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*The Celebrant says:*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love  
you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**Kyrie** *(said)*

*Celebrant:* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*People:* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

*Celebrant:* Lord have mercy upon us.

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

**Lector:** In first century Christianity, Paul wrote these words to the church in Corinth:

**Lector:** God has given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in Christ, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has strengthened among you— you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the Revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Congregation:** *Advent is the season when we await the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ made new again in the baby of Bethlehem. God sends the peace of Christ to Earth.*

**Lector:** On the first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle named hope.  
May this light ever remind us God is hope. In the name of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

(Here light the first Advent candle)

### THE COLLECT *of the DAY*

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.

**People**        **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever **.Amen.**

## THE WORD *of GOD*

### THE LESSONS

#### THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil--  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
From ages past no one has heard,

no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
'There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.  
*After the reading, the Lay Reader says*  
The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18**

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
**shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
**stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

O Lord God of hosts, \*  
**how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
**you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
**the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
**give us life, that we may call upon your Name.**

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*  
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

### **THE EPISTLE:**

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*After the reading, the Lay Reader says*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, CH 123, v. 4

*by Michelle Stoodley*

**Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
That the King of Glory may come in. (Repeat)**

**Who is the King of Glory?  
The Lord strong and mighty in battle.  
Who is this King of Glory?  
The Lord of hosts is his name.**

**Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
That the King of Glory may come in. (Repeat)**

## THE GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

*Then, all still standing, the Minister reads the Gospel, first saying:*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark

*People*           **Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*           **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Charles B.W. Hamill

## THE NICENE CREED   *The congregation stands*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **THE PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE** Form 3 BCP p. 387

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

*Leader* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

*Leader:* Father we pray for your holy catholic Church;

*People:* **That we all may be one.**

*Leader:* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*People:* **That your name may be glorified by all people.**

*Leader:* For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our presiding Bishop; Ian and Laura, our Bishops; Charlie and Judy, our priests; and for: Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries, Common Good Gardens, Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services, the AA and DBSA groups that meet at Grace Church, the Early Head Start Program, Boy Scout Troop 51, Alex Treser and Cru Ministry, The Rev. Stacey Kohl and Christ Church Norwich, Patrick Dominguez and his church planting effort and Kateri Medical Services in Nigeria. Pray for this gathering and for all ministers and people. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for: Christ Church, Ansonia; St. Paul's, Bantam. Postulants and candidates for Holy Orders; the Commission on Ministry.

We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons.

**People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

*Leader:* We pray for those in the service of our country: Travis Board, J.C. Glick, Dornn Harris, Christopher Parham, Joshua Rinier, Ripley and Audrey Quinby, Nathaniel Burnham, Daniel Martin, Christian White, Todd Buroff, Tami Morgan, Adam Randal, Daniel Kronz, Tom Cote and Branden Peace. We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*People:* **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

*Leader:* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake.

*People:* **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

*Leader:* We pray today for: Kate, Kent, Chad, Myra, Mark, Jennifer, Lisa, Janice, Nancy, Cassidy, Andrea, Lucinda, Hilda, Bryan, Barbara and Jon Zakhar, Laura & Tommy Urban, Dee Labelle, Lennart Nicholson, Thomas Burnham, Earlene Bell, Fran Tarrio, Aurelia Knox, Sarah Craig, Joyce, Marjorie, Sophie, Len Pass, Jon-Scott, Eugene Williams, James, Marguerite, Marla, Kay Hall, Mike Trask, Meredith, Frank Roman, Penny, Jane, Marsha, Justin Iondo, Margie, Jordan Forest, Tom, Bjorn, Laura, AJ, Tony, Michelle, Nathaniel and Tanya Burnham, Erin, Jim Donahue, Brian, Bernie, Sandee, Sue, Veronica, Dianne Hunt-Mason, Ronnie Sundheimer, Beth, Billy, Rosalie Isele, Emily, Patrick Roderick, Ray, Bob Antoniac, Cam, Nina, Reina, Shaine, Peggy Schaumburg, Jessica and Ed Courtney.

Please add your own petitions either out loud or in silence. (Silent Pause) Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

*People:* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

*Leader:* We remember those who have died... please add your own petitions either out loud or in silence. (PAUSE) Give to the departed eternal rest.

*People:* **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Leader:* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.

*People:* **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Leader:* Let us pray, either out loud or in silence, for our own needs and those of others.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 360, BCP)

*The Deacon or Celebrant then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

# THE HOLY COMMUNION THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B (BCP pg. 367)

*The people remain standing.*

*The Celebrant faces them and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus** *all say*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore according to his command O Father:

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

## **We await his coming in glory**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever..

**AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 trespasses,**

**as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,**

**and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE BREAKING *of the* BREAD**

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## OFFERTORY

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (pg. 365, BCP)

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

## CLOSING HYMN

HYMN 381, v. 2

THY STRONG WORD

*Ton-y-Botel*

**Lo, to those who dwelt in darkness, dark as night and deep as death,  
Broke the light of thy salvation, breathed thine own lifegiving breath:**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

## THE DISMISSAL

*After the Recessional the Priest or Deacon says*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*Celebrant and People* **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## POSTLUDE:

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

*by Edward G. Mead*

## **CONTINUING PRAYERS**

We ask your continuing prayers for others in our diocese and for those in our parish family who are serving in the armed forces. Please prayer for:

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for: Christ Church, Ansonia; St. Paul's, Bantam, Christ Church, Bethany. Postulants and candidates for Holy Orders; the Commission on ministry and its members.

The leaders of the nations, for those in the service of our country: Travis Board, J.C. Glick, Dornn Harris, Christopher Parham, Joshua Rinier, Nathaniel Burnham, Daniel Martin, Christian White, Todd Buroff, Tami Morgan, Adam Randal, Daniel Kronz, Tom Cote, Branden Peace and John Christensen and crew.

### **THIS WEEK AT GRACE CHURCH: Nov 29– Dec 6**

Today            10:00 am    Online Livestream Only on Facebook and YouTube  
                     4:00 pm    Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Merrill Hall)

Monday

Tuesday        6:00 pm    Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Merrill Hall)

Wednesday    12:00-1pm   Shoreline Soup Kitchens Community Lunch: TO-GO Food Only!  
                     6-8:00pm    DBSA Support Group (parking lot)

Thursday

Friday           10:00 am    Women of Grace (Grace porch/Merrill Hall or Zoom)  
                     12:00 pm    Men's Bible Study (Zoom)

Saturday

Sunday          10:00 am    Online Livestream Only on Facebook and YouTube  
                     4:00 pm    Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Merrill Hall)

### **Church Offices Hours:**

Monday- Closed, Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 AM– 1:00 PM

## **OUR PARTICIPANTS TODAY**

TECH TEAM:	Kyle Trask-Kuchta	10 am
ALTAR GUILD:	Kathy Bartus	
FLOWER DELIVERY:	Bob Day	

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God  
and in thanksgiving for His many blessings.*

## **GRACE CHURCH STAFF**

Rector, The Rev. Charlie Hamill  
Minister of Music, Christina Burnham  
Parish Administrator, Liz Keirstead  
Digital Communications Director, Kate McKinney  
Sexton, Sherry Schiavone

## **GRACE CHURCH VESTRY**

Senior Warden, Matt Stosse  
Junior Warden, Kate Mason  
Treasurer, John Kennedy  
Clerk, Julie Peace  
Clerk Pro Tem, David Condren  
Vestry Members: Cathy Auger, Dale Schneider, Alan Buroff,  
Carly Trask-Kuchta, Robert Mulvihill, Cherie Suhie

## **GRACE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PLEASE NOTE: The Wednesday Healing Service  
has been cancelled through the end of 2020**

### **Women of Grace Invitation to New Book Study into Advent**

On Friday October 23, The Women of Grace began using Life Change publication to study Philippians until Advent. At that time they will move on to an Advent lesson called "All Earth is Waiting" by Katie Dawson. The group will meet outside Fridays at 10am on the porch at Grace if the weather is nice. If there is bad weather, the meeting will move to Zoom online. For more information and questions, contact Kathy Bartus by email **[bartuskab53@aol.com](mailto:bartuskab53@aol.com)** or Christina Burnham at **[whh1773@rocketmail.com](mailto:whh1773@rocketmail.com)**. Or you can contact the church office for more info at **860-388-0895**.

### **Study and material resource needs!?**

If you need any resources either for prayer, study or even material resources, please contact Pastor Charlie at the office, 860-388-0895, or go to our website, **[GraceOldSaybrook.org](http://GraceOldSaybrook.org)** and click on the "COVID19" button for more updated info and resources.

### **Altar Flower Memorials**

Just a reminder that though we haven't had in-person, in-sanctuary worship together in a long time, the Altar Guild is still accepting donations for Sunday altar flowers made out to "Grace Church Altar Guild" in memory of loved ones. For more information please contact Barbara Bowie by email at **[coljim95@gmail.com](mailto:coljim95@gmail.com)** or Betty Salldin at **[bettyalldin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bettyalldin@sbcglobal.net)**

### **Sunday and Holiday Sermon CD's and Grace Church Newsletters...**

If you are interested in sharing or hearing the sermons again, you can order a CD with any Sunday's Sermon from our Digital Media Communications Director, Kate McKinney. In addition to our CD ministry, would you like to receive an email (digital) version of our monthly newsletter with updated events and pastoral notes and letters? For more info on getting on the newsletter email list or to order CD's with the Sunday Sermons, email Kate at **[gracechurchdigital@gmail.com](mailto:gracechurchdigital@gmail.com)**, or leave a message for her at the church phone, **860-388-0895**.

## **Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Line is back!**

We have a wonderful heritage of prayer. In the 70s, a Prayer Line was established at Grace. Now, after a few years' hiatus, the Prayer Line is up and running and again.

Here's how it works...If you need prayer for something, call one of the Prayer Line Chairpersons (Joyce Brinley and Barbara Bowie). Either use your directory or call the church office for their contact info.

Please briefly tell them your request. The Prayer Line will take it from there. The Chairperson will pass the prayer on to a Prayer Team member, who will pass it to the next Prayer Team member, and so on. Once a member hangs up the phone, the intercession begins!

The Prayer Line is available to receive requests **9:00 am to 8:30 pm**. Typically, the Prayer Line requests for the day go out to members about 7:00 pm. However, requests of an emergency nature will be passed on immediately.

We are so grateful to have this ministry active again. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to have your brothers and sisters in Christ lift up your requests to God.

## **Puzzles for Prisoners**

The men at Allendale prison in Fairfax, SC can use some gently used (or new) jigsaw puzzles to get them through this extended time of lockdown because of COVID-19. Volunteer program facilitators have not been permitted inside the prison since early March of this year.

You can help minister to the men during this challenging time by donating your used (or new) jigsaw puzzles and/or by writing cards and notes of encouragement. You might also want to see if your family members or neighbors have puzzles they'd be willing to donate.

Contact Julie Peace at [\*\*wpeace@snet.net\*\*](mailto:wpeace@snet.net) or **860 391-2215**. She will answer any questions you may have and will ship your cards, notes and puzzles to Allendale.

P.S. Meredith Kronz (The Rev. Charlie Hamill's mother-in-law) and Julie Peace and two other volunteers co-facilitate a Christian Book Club at Allendale during normal times.

## **Food Pantry Donation Basket at Grace Church**

We will continue to accept non-perishable food donations throughout the fall and winter. The basket will remain outside the main side entrance to Grace Church 24/7. If you are curious as to what kind of foods they are in need of most you can go to the Shoreline Soup Kitchen & Pantries (SSKP) website. However, typical food needs include soup cans, peanut butter, canned vegetables, rice and cereal. In addition, you can always make a cash donation to SSKP. Thank you for your ongoing donations to feed those in need along the shoreline!

## **The Giving Tree 2020**

The Giving Tree is set up in the foyer of Merrill Hall adorned with green tags for purchases of a gift card at the various stores in our area. The businesses include but are not limited to: Famous Footwear, Kohl's, Marshall's, WalMart, Big Y, Stop & Shop or any of the outlet stores in Westbrook and Clinton or other local stores.

When purchasing your gift card, please be certain to attach your receipt/gift receipt to the gift card. It is important that a gift card/receipt is given directly to a specific person versus leaving under the tree. Those **specific people** would be Father Charlie, Julie Peace, Parish Secretary– Liz Keirstead, Parish Sexton– Sherry Schiavone or Bunnie Lubs.

If you are presently not attending services due to Covid-19 and would still like to participate, you can choose a business– purchase a gift card in any denomination, and contact Bunnie Lubs for drop off.

The deadline for gift cards/receipts is **Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**.

Due to Covid-19, the town of Old Saybrook's annual holiday giving program is not collecting tangible items for Socks for All, If you would like to donate a gift card or monetary amount to Socks for All, please contact Bunnie Lubs for drop off–

Thank You!

## Memorial Christmas Flowers



If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one(s) this Christmas, please fill out the form below and mail it, with your check, to the church, or leave it in Liz Keirstead's mailbox. Please return the form, along with your payment *no later than Friday, December 11 by noon.*

Christmas Flowers (suggested \$15.00 donation for each name)

Quantity Ordered \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your check payable to: Grace Church Altar Guild*

**Please call Barbara Bowie at 860/399-9473 for more**

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**Your name**

**Your telephone number**

**I would like to make an offering toward Christmas altar flowers in memory of: *(full Christian names please; initials and nicknames will not be printed)* Please print legibly.**

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