



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

99 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818 | 401-884-4116 | stlukeseg.org | [@stlukeseg](https://www.instagram.com/stlukeseg)

The Second Sunday of Advent | December 6, 2020

Daily Morning Prayer: Rite Two

The people's responses are in bold.

Prelude

Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele (3 variations)
(based on Hymn 67, "Comfort, comfort ye my people")

Georg Böhm

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant 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.

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 INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Officiant Our King and Savior now draws near:

People **Come let us adore him.**

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Officiant and People

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;

his mercy is everlasting; *

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Officiant Our King and Savior now draws near:

People **Come let us adore him.**

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Officiant and People

1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.

8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 40:1-11.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; *
call upon him when he draws near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways *
and the evil ones their thoughts;
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, *
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, *
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, *
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
For as rain and snow fall from the heavens *
and return not again, but water the earth,
Bringing forth life and giving growth, *
seed for sowing and bread for eating,
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; *
it will not return to me empty;
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, *
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter 3:8-15a.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things,

strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Comfort ye and Every valley from Messiah* George Frideric Handel
Brad Logan, soloist

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark 1:1-8.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon The Rev. Timothy T. Rich

The Apostles’ Creed

Officiant and People

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

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.

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. For Michael our presiding bishop, Nicholas our bishop, for all bishops and other ministers; and for the clergy and lay staff of our parish. We join with communities throughout this diocese and pray for Emmanuel, Cumberland; and Emmanuel, Newport.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your care all of those who work for justice, freedom, and peace. We pray for those in our Armed Forces.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially for Urba Burton, Steve Mazur, Joe Taylor, Elaine Decker, Beth Hunter, Alex Myers, Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew, Paula A., Mike, Roz, Thomasine Manickas, Janet Kitchen, Kay Derderian, Christopher Gormley, Arlene & Bill Dubois, Joanie B., Cole R., Doreen Gardner, Kerri Turgeon, Samantha Mossey, Sophia Martin, Don B., Paul M., "C", George Graham, Florence & John MacQueen, Maddalyn, Gary & Cindy M., Kathy L., Lou R., Kenneth Hunter, Bob Schulman, Heather M., Wendy, Irene, Tyler, Sue & Mel Awes, Sam Hopp, Richard, Billy Leite, Donna P., Spencer Collins, Robbin Mackie, Kusum Singh, Neil & Tracy, and Mackenzie C.

And during this time of global pandemic we pray: God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Silence

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

Officiant and People

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

Hymn 67



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*

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Participants

Preacher/Officiant The Rev. Timothy T. Rich, Rector
Minister of Music Rodney Ayers
Soloists Brad Logan and Birgitta Whited
First Reading Laura Sullivan
Second Reading Judi Nichols
Gospel Reading Caitlyn Holmstedt
Prayers Mike Grady

THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE'S

Sunday, 12/6

Worship with us online at stlukeseg.org
5 pm Sunday Social Hour via Zoom

Monday, 12/7

10:30-12 EG Food Cupboard

Wednesday, 12/9

10:30-12 EG Food Cupboard
7 pm Adult Faith Formation via Zoom

Friday, 12/11

10:30-12 EG Food Cupboard

Sunday, 12/13

Worship with us online at stlukeseg.org

Sunday Social Hour At 5 pm

Zoom Meeting Information:

Meeting ID: 867 0659 8842

Passcode: 370893

Find the link in our Weekly email!

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US!



Hope, Peace, Joy and Love!

**Join Us in Virtual
Worship, Reflection,
and Song**

www.stlukeseg.org
Facebook & YouTube

- *Morning Prayer Services -- Each Sunday of Advent*
- *Daily Advent Blog -- Nov. 29 through Dec. 24*
- *St. Luke's Christmas Concert -- as of 5pm, Sat., Dec. 12*
- *Christmas Eve Day -- as of Noon*
 - *A Celebration of Christmas -- Stories, Songs and Prayers for Children & Families*
 - *Lessons & Carols -- Scripture Readings, Seasonal Prayers, Christmas Music, and Sermon*

Resources For Your Advent Journey

From Forward Movement - forwardmovement.org:

“Waiting and Watching”

“A Way to the Manger”

“O Wisdom – Advent Devotions on the Name of Jesus”

“I Witness” Kate Moorehead

“What Are You Waiting For?” Christine McSpadden

“Expecting Jesus” Danielle Elizabeth Tumminio

“Joy of Heaven, to Earth Come Down” Margaret Bullitt-Jonas

From Amazon:

“Advent and Christmas: Wisdom from Henri Nouwen”

“The Soul of Christmas” Thomas Moore

“Preparing for Christmas” Richard Rohr

“Our December Hearts” Anne McConney

“Faithful Celebrations” Sharon Ely Pearson

Advent Blog

During the season of Advent we experience the longing for Christ's presence among us, the call to wait and to endure faithfully because we know God is faithful to us and the inbreaking of Christ into our world is so very near. This year, Advent has a special resonance; we are enduring and waiting in a way that we never have before. As we live into this season of longing and hope, we are physically apart. But while we are apart, we are able to be together, to hear each other's voices, through our Advent Blog. We are so glad to offer a resource for reflection and connection with one another, to hear the voices of the saints of St. Luke's through their reflections on the scripture for the day. Our Advent Blog is just one click away: <https://stlukeseg.org/advent-blog/>

12 Days of Christmas Blog!

Our cup is truly running over, and the enthusiasm for our Advent Blog has spilled over into the coming season of Christmas. During the 12 Days of Christmas, we will have the opportunity to continue to hear from members of our faith community as they reflect on the scripture for the day. We have seven open slots for writers. Please consider contributing your voice to the chorus of reflections! You don't need to be an expert or even have any experience writing about Scripture; just an open heart and willingness to share. If you would be willing to write a short (1-3 paragraph) reflection, email Mother Tanya at tanya@stlukeseg.org and she will send you a set of daily readings and some more detailed instructions.

Looking for readers! We want to hear your voice!

We have wonderful liturgical volunteers who regularly contribute to our shared virtual worship service, and we would like to increase our ranks! We would love to hear from more members of our congregation. All you need is a willingness to share scripture with your sisters and brothers at St. Luke's, a means of recording yourself (most of us just use our iPhone or computer!), and access to Google Drive or Drop Box. Christina will send you a reading Monday or Tuesday, and you record yourself reading and send it back to her by Thursday. It is such a joy to see familiar faces and hear familiar voices, especially while we are apart. We would love to see your face and hear your voice too! Please be in touch with Christina at cimondi@stlukeseg.org if you're willing to share in this important ministry.

St. Luke's Giving Tree



Our Giving Tree last year was a huge success thanks to all of your kindness and generous donations! Your beautiful wrapped gifts and monetary donations made it possible to help 14 families have a wonderful Christmas.

The year 2020 is very different and difficult for many families. We are asking for your help and support once again. The decision has been made this year to provide families with Walmart Gift Cards (Maybe take advantage of our RaiseRight Program!). With these cards, families can purchase gifts and food. We are asking parishioners to purchase these cards and either drop them off to Christina at the office or mail them to St. Luke's by December 10th.

Thank you for helping to put smiles on the faces of our families in need this Christmas!

Sincerely,
Judy & Karen (co-chairs)

Christmas Flower & Music Memorials

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

REQUESTED BY: _____

In loving memory of...



As in years past, we invite you to remember loved ones this Christmas season by making a memorial gift to St. Luke's. Although services will be different in this time of COVID, by your generosity, they still will include the beauty of both music and flowers. Simply make out your check to St. Luke's Church and let us know both how you would like it directed and for whom your contribution has been given. Please submit names to the office by **Saturday, December 12.**

Suggested donation for the Poinsettias and Music Memorials is \$10 per name. You can email names to Christina in the office at cimondi@stlukeseg.org or fill out this form and mail or drop off with your check to St. Luke's.

Thank you for your generosity. May your loved ones continue to rest eternal with the communion of saints and may God bless you in the weeks to come.

MUSIC MEMORIALS

REQUESTED BY: _____

In loving memory of...



Giftng that Gives Back ... to St. Luke's!

Last week, we introduced the **RaiseRight** mobile app from ShopWithScrip. **RaiseRight** introduces an opportunity for each of us to support St. Luke's through everyday purchases, like grabbing a morning coffee or buying groceries and merchandise. With over 750 brands such as Starbucks, Amazon and Walmart, there are ample possibilities to generate additional funds for the church. Essentially, it's a three-step process...



So, please, add the **RaiseRight** app to your phone today and help raise additional funds for St. Luke's! Scan the QR code below to get more details on the app. Most importantly, when downloading the app, please enter the following enrollment code to specify St. Luke's as your charitable organization of choice: **FEB88LAC73L81**



Use the Holiday Gift Guide and take advantage of increased bonus rewards during the upcoming holiday season. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting opportunity to support St. Luke's.

Thank you,
Mark & Susan Cordle, Deborah Collins & Jeremy Stowe
Your Faithful RaiseRight Project Team

Women of Grace – Sheer Poetry!

Women of Grace will meet on **Monday, December 7**, for an evening of poetry! For this meeting, Donna Leite, Jen Cormier, and Jen's co-blogger, Lori Ayotte, will lead the group in the creation of a community poem. This activity is based on Rachel Martin's Morning Edition piece 'If The Trees Can Keep Dancing, So Can I,': A Community Poem to Cope in Crisis. So, please, join us and energize your inner lyrical spirit!

Women of Grace meets once a month via Zoom. Each gathering opens with prayer and a period of fellowship, followed by the evening's discussion, and ends with a prayer or reflection. December's prayer volunteer is Laura Sullivan – thank you, Laura! We start at 7pm and promise to say our final AMEN by 9pm! Details for linking via Zoom and any additional information for the discussion will be emailed to the WOG list the week prior to the meeting. If you are not currently on our mailing list, please email Deborah Collins (collinstn01@gmail.com) to add your name and email address and receive updates on meetings.

Stained Glass Window Books and Note Cards

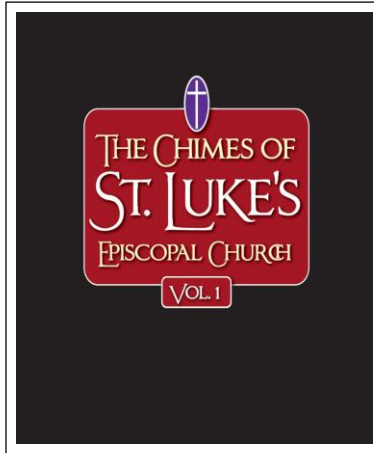
If you are missing church, here is an idea that will lift your spirits!

The Pastoral Care team will be selling The Stained Glass Window Books and Note Cards. They make wonderful Christmas gifts! The cost for our book is \$25 each or two for \$40. Shipping cost is \$2 if books are mailed to the recipient. The cost for our cards is \$10 for a package of 5 cards. They can also be picked up at the church office. Please call the office or email Christina, cimondi@stlukeseg.org, if you would like to purchase these. We accept cash and checks made out to St. Luke's Church. All proceeds go for the restoration and maintenance of our beautiful windows!

Thank you!



Another Great Holiday Gift Idea



Many of you may have heard the chimes playing from our church tower on Sundays after services or on many a Tuesday evening over the last year. Now, a recording of 31 hymns is available on CD! Selections range from 'old chestnuts' such as *Rock of Ages*, patriotic tunes--*My Country 'Tis of Thee*, gospel songs--*It's Me O Lord*, to traditional favorites like *O Praise Ye the Lord*. Contact Christina Imondi, Parish Administrator, at cimondi@stlukeseg.org to obtain a copy. There is no set price—rather, a donation to St. Luke's would be gratefully accepted.

Pastoral Care Ministry

We have a new convenient way to request to add someone to our Prayer List. Our new Prayer List Request Form is available on our website under our Parish Life tab, in our Weekly Newsletter, and it is also available in the back of the church where the prayer list is kept. Our online form is easy to fill out or you can fill out and return the hard copy form at the back of church and drop it in our basket on Sunday. The prayer list is updated weekly and available for all of us to view in a link in the Weekly Newsletter. The Pastoral Care Ministry continues to pray for all on the prayer list and send cards to the homebound and those in the hospital. By filling out the information on this new form, you will help us to keep in touch.

Thank you and stay well.

The Pastoral Care Ministry

Use your phone to scan this QR code to make an online donation to St. Luke's!



Feeding & Clothing Ministries – Changed But Not Ended

Although typical activities are not as visible around St. Luke's because of Coronavirus, many individuals are still committed to carrying out our mission of helping those in need. A recent example of St. Luke's parishioners' generosity and dedication to service is the delivery of clothing to the *Open Closet* organization in Providence.

As part of the *Rhode Island Loaves and Fishes* program, St. Luke's has actively participated in providing food and clothing for others over the past eight years. When the virus restrictions slowed the distribution of goods, St. Luke's accumulated a wealth of clothing that needed a home. One of the team of leaders from our *Loaves and Fishes* group reached out to an organization in Providence (*Open Table of Christ*) where people have access to the clothing they need along with their weekly visit to the Food Pantry.

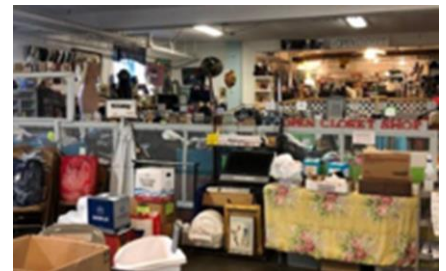
Led by Joyce Harvey, Nancy Rudicil, Caroline Sparhawk, and Linda Wegrzyn, our storeroom of clothes was sorted and packed for delivery to *Open Closet*, the clothing ministry program run through *Open Table*. A caravan of two full pickup trucks plus two SUV's packed with clothing made their way to Providence to share with our neighbors.

Open Closet, founded and run by a Rhode Island couple, is an extraordinary operation. It is a well curated thrift store overseen by Shirley and her husband Gus and a team of volunteers. Their work and commitment bring dignity for all who benefit from the donated clothing. Those who can are asked to pay a minimal price for their clothing while others receive it free of charge. All funds raised from the clothing are put back into the feeding ministry.

Work such as this by our *Loaves and Fishes* group makes us proud of our community and grateful for parishioners who reach out to help those in need. It is especially gratifying that, in this hiatus forced by the virus, there are still ways for our community to continue to help others.

At this time, the clothes being collected for our clothing ministries is limited. However, please keep your eye on St. Luke's bulletins and newsletter where a list of needed goods will be provided.

Faithfully Submitted by the St. Luke's Storeroom Sorting Party



Clothing Ministry Update

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, we have had to suspend the collection and sorting of used clothing. We have also suspended our monthly run to Woonsocket to distribute clothing due to crowds and close contact, but we have been brainstorming other ways to help:

Connecting with other Agencies:

In October we stuffed over 30 bags of clothing donations from our basement and drove them up to OPEN CLOSET at 1520 Broad Street in Providence. The group there was thankful and welcoming for our donation as they continue to sort and sell clothing in their thrift store to support feeding ministries in their community. They do accept donations Monday 8-1, Friday 8-11, and Saturday 9:30-1:30.

HELP for the HOMELESS (<http://www.helpthehomelessri.org/>) - this group continues to distribute items in Woonsocket on Sundays. We are hoping to connect with them to create “winter bags” for Men, Women, Teens, and Children to distribute in early December. Our goal is to fill 30 bags for the adults and 50 bags for the children consisting of gloves, hats, socks, underwear, blankets, bottoms, toiletries, and sweatshirts. We have secured a grant that has allowed us to purchase most of these items.

WHAT WE NEED IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP:

NEW SWEATSHIRTS FOR TEENAGERS

TRIAL SIZE TOOTH PASTE (60 ARE NEEDED)

These can be dropped at the church by Nov. 30th to be put into the bags.

THANK YOU!

Linda Wegrzyn- Children's Clothing Coordinator Ldwez@cox.net

Joyce Harvey & Caroline Sparhawk (cdsparhawk@gmail.com) - Adult Clothing Coordinators

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY, TOM GREENE!

Many of us know Thomas Casey Greene, Jr., a lifelong resident of Warwick, living at Forge Farm, the birthplace of his famous ancestor, Gen. Nathanael Greene. Though Tom was born in Boston in 1930, he has resided at the family homestead ever since. We also know that Tom is an accomplished musician in his own right, classically skilled at the organ, piano and harpsichord. In times past, he assisted with our choirs, and played for services on the organ. Nowadays, when we are open for worship, Tom customarily sits in the pew beneath the Casey family plaque on the north aisle, ponders the sermons carefully, and especially delights in the music, both instrumental and vocal.

Tom does not have access to a computer or cell phone, so he counts on snail mail and telephone conversations to stay in touch with what's going on at St. Luke's. Therefore, his parish family is in a position to surprise him with birthday cards! He'll mark his 90th birthday on **December 15th**, so please mail your well wishes to:

**Thomas Casey Greene
40 Old Forge Road
Warwick, RI 02818**

Thanks so much for your thoughtfulness as we celebrate our newest Nonagenarian!

Laura Sullivan

A Special Thank You!

We would like to send out a special thank you to Cindi and Ben Lovejoy for providing us with our lovely prelude "Come Holy Light" this past Sunday! We look forward to another piece by this amazing duo on the 4th Sunday of Advent entitled "In Our Midst". We would also like to thank them for the beautiful wooden heart distance markers along our sidewalk entering the church. Thank you Cindi and Ben!

St. Luke's Choirs Sing for You!

As a special gift from the Canterbury, St. Cecilia, and Angel Choirs to our St. Luke's family and friends, choir members compiled a special 'arrangement' of "How Can I Keep From Singing". The music is from an American folk song originally composed by Baptist minister Robert Wadworth Lowry in 1868 with the four-part arrangement published by Jeffrey Honoré in 1991. The choirs performed this piece at their 2019 Spring Concert and happily recreated that performance in this video. Here is the link: <https://stlukeseg.org/virtual-hymn-2020/> (It is also available on St. Luke's website and Facebook page).