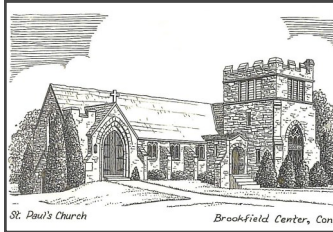


Saint Paul's Church

(Episcopal/Anglican)

Brookfield, Connecticut

*Twenty Third Sunday
after Pentecost
Covenant Sunday
November 12, 2017*



"Celebrating 232 years in the Spirit"

*Preacher & Celebrant
The Reverend Joseph Shepley
Rector*

8:00 A.M. Worship Service

*When you enter church, talk to God. When you worship, let God talk to you. After church, talk to each other.
Please be mindful of others' need for silence before the service.*

www.saintpaulsbrookfield.com

203-775-9587 (Office)

We extend a warm welcome to everyone who has joined us for worship this morning. We pray you experience the presence and love of Christ as we worship together! We invite you to join us after the service for coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall, followed by The Rector's Forum in the Guild Room at 9:30 A.M. Please join us!

Prelude

"Prelude on *Wachet Auf*"

M. Dupre

Opening Hymn

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

Hymnal, 436

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant:

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.*

Gloria in Excelsis

Hymnal, S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect of the Day (Celebrant and People)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading:

Reader: A reading from Joshua. (24:1-3a, 14-25)

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. "Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 78:1-7

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

- 3 That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, *we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, *which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn; * that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, *and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments;

Second Reading:

Reader: A reading from First Thessalonians. (4:13-18)

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

“Rejoice! Rejoice Believers”

Rejoice! Rejoice believers, and let your lights appear!

The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.

The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh;

Up, watch in expectation! At midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;

Look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.

The marriage feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand;

Rise up, ye heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand.

Gospel Reading: Mathew 25:1-13

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a

shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

“Rejoice! Rejoice Believers”

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth’s redemption, and ever be with thee!

Words by Laurentius Laurenti Tune: *Munich*

Sermon

The Reverend Joseph Shepley

Presentation of Covenant Cards at the Altar Covenant Cards on the Back Table Covenant Song “Take My Life, and Let it Be”

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.

Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Words by Frances R. Havergal (1836-1879); Tune: HOLLINGSIDE (John Bacchus Dykes, 1823-1876)

Nicene Creed (Please Stand As Able)

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.

Prayers of the People (You May Stand, Sit, or Kneel)

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For our Bishops, and all bishops and other ministers.

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence.

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your name for ever and ever.

We remember the faithful departed this day in whose memory the altar flowers are given:

Perry Epting, Susan Friese, and Harry Gurski, Jr.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Officiant adds a concluding prayer.

Confession of Sin (Please Kneel)

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence.

Priest 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.

Celebrant: 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.*

Peace (Please Stand As Able)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory (Please Stand As Able) “The Lord Will Come and Not Be Slow”

The Lord will come and not be slow, his foot-
steps cannot err;
Before him righteousness shall go, his royal
harbinger.

Truth from the earth, like to a flower, shall bud
and blossom show;
And justice, from her heavenly bower, look
down on us below.

Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might, this
wicked earth redress;
For thou art he who shalt by right the nations

all possess.
The nations all whom thou hast made shall
come, and all shall frame
To bow them low before thee, Lord, and glori-
fy thy Name.

For great thou art, and wonders great by thy
strong hand are done:
Thou in thy everlasting seat remainest God
alone.

Words: John Milton (1608-1674); Music: *St. Anne*, att. William Croft ((1678-1727),
harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889))

Presentation

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Great Thanksgiving (Please Stand As Able)

Celebrant: 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus

Hymnal, S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

The Celebrant continues (You may stand, sit or kneel)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 for ever. *AMEN.*

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Agnus Dei

John Merbecke, 1549



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To receive in one kind is considered full communion. If you choose to receive a blessing only, please cross your arms over your chest. For those who wish to intinct the Bread, by dipping it in the Wine rather than drinking directly from the Chalice, you may signify this choice by holding the consecrated Bread between your fingers. Please intinct the Bread in the small Chalice which will come before the larger Chalice. After you leave the altar rail, please know that we have healing teams in the hallway available to pray with you.

Communion Songs

“Once He Came in Blessing”

Hymnal, 53

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Hymnal, 324

Postcommunion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn

“Jesus Came Adored By Angels”

Jesus came, adored by angels, came with peace
from realms on high;

Jesus came for our redemption, lowly came on
earth to die:

Alleluia, alleluia! Came in deep humility.

Jesus comes again in mercy, when our hearts are
bowed with care:

Jesus comes again in answer to our earnest heart-
felt prayer;

Alleluia, alleluia! Comes to save us from despair.

Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, bringing news of
sins forgiven:

Jesus comes in sounds of gladness, leading souls
redeemed to heaven;

Alleluia, alleluia! Now the gate of death is riven.

Jesus comes on clouds triumphant, when the
heavens shall pass away;

Jesus comes again in glory; let us then our hom-
age pay;

Alleluia, alleluia! Till the dawn of endless day.

Dismissal

Lay Reader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

“Postlude on *Wachet Auf*”

J. G. Walther

Thanksgiving Baskets

For the November food baskets, please bring items you would enjoy at Thanksgiving. We will make up 3 baskets for the same families who will be receiving the gifts from our Christmas Giving Tree. We will need three turkeys to be donated. While you shop, if you could please choose any items from the following list: Gravy/Stuffing, Pumpkin Pie Mix, Bread or Dinner Rolls, Cranberry Sauce, Fruit Pie Fillings, Fresh or Canned Vegetables, Pie Crust, Potatoes,

Sweet Potatoes, Onions, Celery, Carrots, Fresh or Canned Fruit, Cake Mix, Soup, Juice or Cider, Paper Products/Decorations, Brownie Mix, Nuts.

All food donations are due by Sunday, November 19th. Once the food donations have come in, we will need volunteers to divide the food into the baskets for the families. Please speak with Barbara DeAnzeris, 203-775-3722.

Lessons and Carols: Save the Date!

Our annual Festival of Lessons and Carols will be held on Sunday, December 10 at 5:00 PM. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this beautiful Advent service which consists of Scripture readings about the birth of Jesus interspersed with the singing of traditional carols led by our choir. What a truly wonderful way to prepare your heart, mind, and voice for Christmas!

Or better yet, if you like to sing, you are welcome to join our special choir for this service. Rehearsals are on the following 3 Mondays from 7-9 PM: 11/20, 11/27, 12/4 and Thursday, 12/7. The only prerequisites are as follows: 1) you like to sing Christmas music, and 2) you like to be around people who like to sing Christmas music. No previous participation in the music ministry required! It may be just the thing if you've been looking for a small group to join for Advent! Please contact Kirsten Peterson for more details and to sign up:

kirpeterson@comcast.net

Pray It Up!

Notice the Red and White prayer request cards in the pew? Each Sunday, fill out your request, put it in the red bowl on the table on the way to communion. Then take a card from the bowl either right then or after service. Pray for that request for one week. How comforting to know that your request is being prayed for and that you are praying for someone else's! You might just be praying for the person sitting next to you! Or, if you'd prefer - please send your request to St. Paul's at prayingnow2@gmail.com!

Synthesis CE Study Guide

You may pick up a copy of the week's Synthesis CE Study Guide, as well as the following week's, for your personal use. They are located at the back of the church. Thank You!

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Upon entering the church, please turn off your cell phone or switch it to a worship respectful setting. Please be sure to dispose of all food and drinks before entering the church. Thank You!

Prayer Servant Teams

Prayer for any need or request is available at each service. After you have received communion, please see one of our trained Prayer Servant Teams (with the Blue Name Badges) who are available at the open side door at the entrance to the Vesting Room. Prayer is available in the Vesting Room, Hallway or Back Room as space is available. Our Prayer Servants are ready to confidentially take your request and pray for you and with you. Should you wish to schedule a private prayer time, please let Fr. Joe or Mary Perry, Prayer Ministry Leader (maryperry2@me.com) know and we will work with you to schedule a convenient time. Your Prayer Servants today for Healing Sunday are: 8:00 Donna Cennamo and Linda Pendergast, 10:30 Barbara Hock and Kathy Whipple.

Calendar for the Week

(We welcome and encourage parishioners to come to any of these ministries.)

Sun., Nov. 12	-	8:00 AM	-	Traditional Eucharist
		9:30 AM	-	Rector's Forum
		10:30 AM	-	Sunday School
		10:30 AM	-	Contemporary Eucharist
Mon., Nov. 13	-	7:00 PM	-	Men's Bible Study
Tue., Nov. 14	-	9:15 AM	-	Ladies Bible Study
Wed., Nov. 15	-	10:00 AM	-	Holy Eucharist and Healing
Thu., Nov. 16	-	7:30 PM	-	Music Night
Sat., Nov. 18	-	7:30 AM	-	Men's Prayer Breakfast
		10:00 AM	-	PraiseMoves
		11:00 AM	-	St. Paul's Quilters

Next Sunday — Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Eucharist at 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.

Celebrant, The Reverend Joseph Shepley, Rector
Preacher, Patrick O'Connors

Readings

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Saint Paul's Staff

Rector
Wardens
Seminarian
Parish Office Coordinator
Organist and Choirmaster
Coord. of Contemporary Worship & Family Ministries
Sunday School Administrators
Sexton

The Reverend Joseph Shepley
Mary Perry and David Williams
Stephen Nagy
Beth Miller
Kirsten Peterson
Patrick O'Connors
Nicole O'Connors
Doug Melody