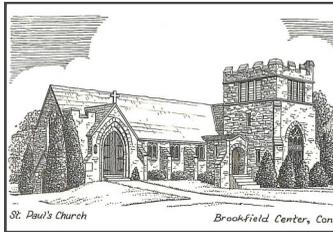


Saint Paul's Church

(Episcopal/Anglican)

Brookfield, Connecticut

Furth Sunday in Lent
March 11, 2018



"Celebrating 233 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 Crocker Hall followed by The Rector's Forum in the Guild Room at 9:30 A.M. Please join us!

Prelude

"Lenten Meditation"

R. W. Thygerson

Opening Hymn

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Hymnal, 686

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures for ever.*

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*

Kyrie eleison

John Merbecke, 1549



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Collect of the Day (Celebrant and People)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading:

Reader: A reading from Numbers. (21:4-9)

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food *and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them *and saved them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Second Reading:

Reader: A reading from Ephesians. (2:1-10)

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

“Sing My Soul, His Wondrous Love” (Verses 1-2)

Hymnal, 467

Gospel Reading: John 3:14-21

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

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is

true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

“Sing My Soul, His Wondrous Love” (Verses 3-4)

Hymnal, 467

Sermon

The Reverend Joseph Shepley

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.

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.

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.

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:
Lois and Alvin J. Tuck, Jr., Alvin Tuck, III, Alvin and Mary Tuck, and Mary Stewart Tuck.

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)

“Amazing Grace”

Hymnal, 671

Presentation

Doxology

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

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

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; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

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.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know as you kneel at the altar rail. 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 prayer servants in the hallway available to pray with you.

Communion Songs

“My God, Thy Table Now is Spread”

Hymnal, 321

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Hymnal, 691

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

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Hymnal, 690

Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Postlude in E Minor”

J. S. Bach

Saint Paul's Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

Come One, Come All to Saint Paul's Annual Easter Egg Hunt! Saturday, March 31st - 10:30 - 11:45 am This event is open to everyone - please invite family, friends and neighbors to celebrate with us. All children in grade 5 and younger are invited to gather eggs, enjoy a special treat, hear the story of our Risen Savior and make an Easter craft. This event will be held rain or shine. Please bring a container to collect eggs and boots in case of damp weather. We will move inside if needed. We hope that you can join us! We will be collecting wrapped Easter candy at the back of the church to fill the eggs.

Easter Memorials

There are envelopes on the back table for anyone wishing to have flowers decorating the church on Easter Sunday, April 1, in memory of loved ones and friends. All memorials will be listed in the Easter bulletins and are due by Sunday, March 25. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Winkley, at [203-775-3343](tel:203-775-3343) or gailwinkley@yahoo.com.

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!

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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!

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!

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 are 8:00 Linda Pendergast and Donna Cennamo, 10:30 Barbara Hock and Kathy Whipple.

Food Pantry

As part of our outreach, St. Paul's donates gift cards and non-perishable items to six area food pantries. Donations for the food pantry can be left in the basket at the back of the church or the collection bins in Crocker Hall. St. James' Episcopal Church, Danbury and their Daily Bread Food Pantry, is the recipient of our food basket collections for the month of March.



Calendar for the Week

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

Sun., Mar. 11	-	8:00 AM	-	Traditional Eucharist
		9:30 AM	-	Rector's Forum
		10:30 AM	-	Sunday School
		10:30 AM	-	Contemporary Eucharist
Mon., Mar. 12	-	7:00 PM	-	Staff Meeting
		7:30 PM	-	Vestry Meeting
Tue., Mar. 13	-	9:15 AM	-	Ladies Bible Study
		5:45 PM	-	Boot Camp
Wed., Mar. 14	-	10:00 AM	-	Holy Eucharist and Healing
		6:30 PM	-	Lenten Series
Thu., Mar. 15	-	7:30 PM	-	Music Night
Sat., Mar. 17	-	7:30 AM	-	Men's Prayer Breakfast
		10:00 AM	-	PraiseMoves

Next Sunday - Fifth Sunday in Lent Holy Eucharist at 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.

The Reverend Joseph Shepley, Rector

Readings

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33; Psalm 51:1-13

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