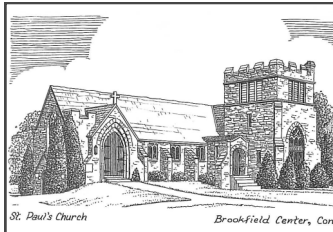


# Saint Paul's Church

(Episcopal/Anglican)

Brookfield, Connecticut

*Fifth Sunday of Easter  
April 29, 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](http://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**

**"Think About His Love/Jesus Loves Me"**

**W. Harrah/  
arr. T. Fettke**

**Opening Hymn**

**"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"**

**Hymnal, 376**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

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.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### First Reading:

Reader: A reading from Acts. (8:26-40)

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

### Psalm 22:24-30

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \*and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*he rules over the nations.

- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; \*they shall be known as the Lord'S for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*the saving deeds that he has done.

### **Second Reading:**

Reader: A reading from First John. (4:7-21)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

*People: Thanks be to God.*

### **“Where Charity and Love Prevail”**

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn;

let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess;

and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.

## **Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8**

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

People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

### **"Where Charity and Love Prevail"**

Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;

be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son;

as members of his body joined, we are in him made one.

Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name;

our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.

Words: 9<sup>th</sup> cent. Latin, trans. by Omer Westendorf; Music: Alexander R. Reinagle; Tune: St. Peter

## **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)**

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

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

Dale S. and Ruth F. Carpenter.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*The Celebrant 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) “Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant”**

Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road;  
We are here to help each other get the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you

laugh, I'll laugh with you.

I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

Words: Richard Gillard; Music: *Servant Song*, Richard Gillard (arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham)

## **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; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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. 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 teams in the hallway available to pray with you.*

## Communion Songs

**“I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord”**

**Hymnal, 304**

**“In Christ There is No East Or West”**

**Hymnal, 529**

## 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**

**“God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him”**

**Hymnal, 379**

## Dismissal

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

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**Postlude**

**“Be Joyful in the Lord”**

**M. Jordan**



## **Join Us to Celebrate First Communion - Sunday, May 6th!**

All are invited to celebrate with the four students who will receive First Communion during the 10:30 am service on Sunday, May 6th. Please come support their hard work and commitment as they take this new step in their faith. You are invited to join the students and their families downstairs in Crocker Hall following the service for a reception in their honor. We hope to see you there!

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## **Mother's Day Memorials**

Mother's Day is May 13. Anyone wishing to have flowers on the altar in loving memory of a mother, please make your check payable to Saint Paul's Church, with the name or names of those to be remembered written on the memo line. All memorials are due by Sunday, May 6, in order to be included in the Mother's Day bulletin. Please contact Gail Winkley, at 203-775-3343 or [gailwinkley@yahoo.com](mailto:gailwinkley@yahoo.com) if you have any questions. All the ladies worshipping with us on Mother' Day will receive a flower.

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## **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](mailto: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!**

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## **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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## **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](mailto:maryperry2@me.com)) know and we will work with you to schedule a convenient time. Your Prayer Servants today are 8:00 Pat Brought and Donna Cennamo, 10:30 Walter VonEgidy and Dave Williams.

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## **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. Loaves & Fishes Hospitality in New Milford, is the recipient of our food basket collections for the month of April.

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## Calendar for the Week

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

Sun., Apr. 29	-	8:00 AM	-	<b>Traditional Eucharist</b>
		9:30 AM	-	Rector's Forum
		9:30 AM	-	Communion Class
		10:30 AM	-	Sunday School
		10:30 AM	-	<b>Contemporary Eucharist</b>
Mon., Apr. 30	-	7:00 PM	-	Men's Bible Study
Tue., May 1	-	9:15 AM	-	Ladies Bible Study
		5:45 PM	-	Boot Camp
Wed., May 2	-	10:00 AM	-	<b>Holy Eucharist and Healing</b>
Thu., May 3	-	7:30 PM	-	Music Night
		7:30 PM	-	Property Committee
		7:30 PM	-	Mission Committee
Sat., May 5	-	7:30 AM	-	Men's Prayer Breakfast
		10:00 AM	-	PraiseMoves

**Next Sunday - Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Holy Eucharist at 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.**

The Reverend Joseph Shepley, Rector

### Readings

Acts 10:44-48; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17; Psalm 98

### **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