

Saint Paul's Church

(Episcopal/Anglican)

Brookfield, Connecticut

*First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018*



*Preacher & Celebrant
The Reverend Joseph Shepley
Rector*

10:30 A.M. Worship 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. Please join us!

Prelude **“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”** **J. Mansfield**

Opening Hymn **“Lo! He Comes, With Clouds Descending”** **Hymnal, 57**

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.*

Lighting of One Candle on the Advent Wreath

“Reckless Love”

Before I spoke a word
You were singing over me
You have been so so good to me
Before I took a breath
You breathed Your life in me
You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending
Reckless love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending
Reckless love of God

When I was Your foe
Still Your love fought for me
You have been so so good to me
When I felt no worth
You paid it all for me
You have been so so kind to me

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me

Caleb Culver | Cory Asbury | Ran Jackson © Watershed Publishing Group, Bethel Music Publishing,
Richmond Park Publishing CCLI License # 33760

Children’s Sermon

The Reverend Joseph Shepley

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

First Reading:

Reader: A reading from Jeremiah. (33:14-16)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 25:1-9

Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in **you**; *let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over **me**.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to **shame**; *let the treacherous be disappointed in their **schemes**.
- 3 Show me your ways, O **LORD**, *and teach me your **paths**.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and **teach me**, *for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day **long**.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and **love**, *for they are from ever-**lasting**.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my trans-**gressions**; *remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O **LORD**.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the **LORD**; *therefore he teaches sinners in his **way**.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing **right** *and teaches his way to the **lowly**.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and **faithfulness** *to those who keep his covenant and his **testimonies**.

Glory be to the Father, and to the **Son**,* and to the Holy **Spirit**:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever **shall be**,
*world without end. **A-men**.

Second Reading:

Reader: A reading from First Thessalonians. (3:9-13)

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night” (Verses 1-2)

Hymnal, 640

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36

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

People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night” (Verse 3)

Hymnal, 640

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:

Caroline H. Bellesheim, Irene Gruza, Joseph and Caroline Hock, Gustave and Helen Johnson, Jane Johnson, and Patricia McKenna.

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)

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

Silence.

Celebrant 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) "Rejoice"

Humbly You came to save
To offer all Your grace and love so amazing
Let every heart adore
The Savior Christ our Lord who's mercy's un-
failing

Glory to God in the highest
And peace to the earth

Rejoice Emmanuel God with us
Rejoice Emmanuel God with us

Let all the earth proclaim
There is no other name who grants us salvation
The hosts of heaven sing
To praise our newborn King the ruler of na-
tions

You are my hope you are my peace
You are the love the love that rescues me
You are my hope you are my peace
You are the love the love that rescues me

Presentation

Doxology

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

Praise Him above Ye heav'nly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Amen

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

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who 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)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us

out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

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

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Saint Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and 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 healing teams in the hallway available to pray with you.

Communion Songs

"Jesus, Name Above All Names"

Jesus, name above all names,
beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us,
blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Jesus, loving shepherd
vine of the branches, Son of God
Prince of Peace, wonderful counselor
Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

He is the Prince of Peace, wonderful counselor
Mighty God, everlasting Father,
and the government shall be on his shoulders,
and His increase will have no end.

Jesus, Way of salvation,
King of kings, Lord of Lords,
the way, the truth, and the Life,
Mighty creator, my Savior and friend.

Words and music by Patricia Cain ©1978 Scripture in Song. ARR. ICS. UBP. CCLI #33760

“How Great is Your Love”

In the dark of night I call Your Name
I am waiting for morning
In all my pain and suffering
You are standing beside me
I am safe in the shadow of your wings

From the mountain tops
To the deepest valley
I will praise Your Name,
The one who goes before me
Hallelujah, Jesus you are my refuge
How great is your love

You calm the storm inside of me
You speak peace to my troubles
You lift me up on eagles wings
You give me strength when I'm weary
My hope and trust is in You Lord, and I sing

From the depths oh Lord, I cry to You
Waiting for you, Lord to make me new
In the dark of night You are the light
Oh shine your light, down upon me

© 2018 Patrick O'Connors

“Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace)” (Please Stand)

All these pieces broken and scattered
In mercy gathered mended and whole
Empty handed but not forsaken
I've been set free, I've been set free

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
Oh I once was lost but now I am found
Was blind but now I see

Oh I can see You now
Oh I can see the love in Your eyes
Laying Yourself down
Raising up the broken to life

You take our failure, You take our weakness
You set Your treasure in jars of clay
So take this heart Lord I'll be Your vessel
The world to see Your life in me

Joel Houston | Jonas Myrin © 2014 Hillsong Music Publishing CCLI License # 33760

Postcommunion Prayer (Remain Standing)

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.

Words: Godfrey Thring (1823-1903); Music: Regent Square, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)

Dismissal

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

“Savior of the Nations Come”

J. S. Bach



Christmas Memorials

Remember your loved ones and friends with a beautiful poinsettia plant that will be decorating the church for the Christmas services. There are envelopes on the back table for this purpose. All memorials are due by Sunday, December 16th, in order to be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Winkley, at 203-775-3343 or gailwinkley@yahoo.com.

Lessons and Carols: Save the Date!

Our annual Festival of Lessons and Carols will be held on Sunday, December 16 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: 11/26, 12/3, 12/10 and Thursday, 12/13. 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!

*

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 Pat Brought and Donna Cennamo, 10:30 Walter VonEgidy.

Christmas Giving Tree

Annually, Saint Paul's adopts families from Brookfield who are financially struggling. Soon there will be a tree in the back of the church with gift tags attached listing items requested by the families. If you would like to bring some extra joy to the families, please take a tag or two from the tree. **The unwrapped (a change from past years) gifts are due back to church by Sunday, December 9th, with the tag attached (most important).** Please keep under the maximum limit of \$30 per gift. In addition to the individual families we will be working with there will also be tags for a holiday shopping table. This will provide small Gift items (up to \$10: crayons, markers, hats, mittens, ear phones, movie tickets, etc.) and holiday necessities (batteries, tape, wrapping paper, bows, and candy). Please find your tag number on the clipboard and write your name and phone number in the corresponding space. Thank you in advance for showering Christmas blessings on the families.

Calendar for the Week

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

Sun., Dec. 2	-	8:00 AM	-	Traditional Eucharist
		9:30 AM	-	Rector's Forum
		10:30 AM	-	Sunday School
		10:30 AM	-	Contemporary Eucharist
Mon., Dec. 3	-	10:00 AM	-	Christian Caring
		7:00 PM	-	Stephen Ministry
		7:00 PM	-	Men's Bible Study
		7:00 PM	-	Lessons and Carols Rehearsal
Tue., Dec. 4	-	9:15 AM	-	Ladies Bible Study
		5:45 PM	-	PraiseKicks
		7:00 PM	-	Ladies Evening Bible Study
Wed., Dec. 5	-	10:00 AM	-	Holy Eucharist and Healing
Thu., Dec. 6	-	7:00 PM	-	Music Night
		7:30 PM	-	Mission Committee
		7:30 PM	-	Property Committee
Sat., Dec. 8	-	7:30 AM	-	Men's Prayer Breakfast
		9:15 AM	-	PraiseKicks
		10:00 AM	-	PraiseMoves
		10:00 AM	-	Jericho Food Pantry

**Next Sunday — Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist at 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.**

The Reverend Joseph Shepley, Rector

Readings

Baruch 5:1-9;Philippians 1:3-11;Luke 3:1-6;Canticle 4

Saint Paul's Staff

Rector
Wardens
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
Beth Miller
Kirsten Peterson
Patrick O'Connors
Nicole O'Connors
Doug Melody