



**Saint Paul's Parish**

**174 Whisconier Road**

**Brookfield, CT 06804**

(Episcopal/Anglican)

(203) 775-9587 (Office)

[www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com](http://www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com)

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 21, 2025**

**10:30 am ~ Christmas Pageant & Holy Eucharist**

**Celebrant ~ The Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Jung-Chul Lee**



**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

**Welcome & Announcements****The Lighting of Four Candles on the Advent Wreath**

Celebrant: Today we light the first, second, third, and fourth candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE; the second candle is PEACE; the third candle is JOY; and the fourth candle is LOVE.

*The candles are lit.*

Scripture: Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. *John 12:34*

**All: Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. Amen.**

**St. Paul's Christmas Pageant 2025**

*For each carol, we ask the congregation to please join in for all the verses*

**"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"**

*Sung by Congregation, seated*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

## **Mary & the Angel Gabriel**

### **"The Angel Gabriel"**

*Sung by Congregation, seated*

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favored lady," Gloria!

"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honor thee,  
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
most highly favored lady," Gloria!

## **The Journey to Bethlehem**

### **"O Little Town of Bethlehem"**

*Sung by Congregation, seated*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!  
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

## **Angels Announce His Birth to Shepherds**

### **"The First Nowell"**

*Sung by Congregation, seated*

The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherd in fields as they lay;  
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.

They look-ed up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.

## **Shepherds Find Jesus**

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

*Sung by Congregation, seated*

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on each and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!  
  
Christ by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

## **The Three Wisemen**

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

*Sung by Congregation, seated*

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.  
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!  
  
Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;  
heaven sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.  
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

## "Away in the Manger"

*Sung by Children only*

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

*Instrumental Interlude*

*Sung by Congregation, standing*

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
close by me for ever and love me I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in they tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

*Thank you to everyone who made today's Christmas pageant a memorable event.*

*Please join us downstairs in our parish hall following the service for coffee hour to celebrate our children and the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.*

## The Peace

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

**People:** And also with you.

*All stand as able for hymns*

## Offertory Praise

"God with Us"

Oh, You've come to bring peace to be Love, To be nearer to us. You've come to bring life to be Light, To shine brighter in us. Oh, Emmanuel, God with us.	<i>Chorus</i> <i>Our Deliverer, You are Savior,</i> <i>In Your presence we find our strength.</i> <i>Over ev'rything our Redemption,</i> <i>God with us, You are God with us.</i>
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*(Song continues on next page)*

Oh, You've come to be Hope to this world, For Your honor and name. And, You've come to take sin to bear shame, And to conquer the grave. Oh, Emmanuel, God with us.	You are here, You are holy, We are standing in Your glory (Lord). <i>Repeat 3X</i>  <i>Chorus 2X</i>
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*Chorus*

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## Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;	Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise him, all creatures here below;	Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

## The Holy Communion

### The Great Thanksgiving

*(Remain standing as able)*

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And with thy spirit.**

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is meet and right so to do.**

**Celebrant:** It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, because thou didst send thy 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, with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing:

# Sanctus

Hymnal S-129

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.\_\_\_\_\_

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

*You may stand, sit or kneel.*

**Celebrant** All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

**AMEN.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,  
**All: 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.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**



## Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei*

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.

## The Prayer of Humble Access

**All:** 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 we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

- Please follow the ushers directions for receiving the Eucharist at the altar rail.
- Let an usher know if you prefer to remain seated at your pew for distribution of the Bread and Wine.

## Communion Praise

“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.

*(Song continues on next page)*

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.  
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## Communion Praise

“Here I Am to Worship”

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made  
This heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

*Chorus 1*  
*So here I am to worship*  
*Here I am to bow down*  
*Here I am to say that You're my God*  
*And You're altogether lovely*  
*Altogether worthy*  
*Altogether wonderful to me*

King of all days  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came  
To the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor

(Bridge)  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross'

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## Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All:** Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## Blessing

Celebrant: May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. .  
**Amen.**

## Recessional Hymn

“O come, O come, Emmanuel”

[Hymnal 56](#)

*(Verses 5-8)*

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;  
bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

## Dismissal

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

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

## Postlude

“How Bright Appears the Morning Star”

Johann Christoph Bach

## HIGHLIGHTS:

**Salvation Army** - The Salvation Army kettles are here again this week. The proceeds go to the Human Services Department in our town, who reviews those who have “critical and urgent needs” that cannot be met through other funding sources.

**Christmas Flowers** - Anyone wishing to remember loved ones and friends with a poinsettia plant that will be decorating the church for the Christmas services may do so by filling out one of the envelopes on the table at the back of the church; send an email request to [dszen@yahoo.com](mailto:dszen@yahoo.com) or contact David Szen. All Christmas memorials are due today to be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

**Quilt Drawing** - Once again, in time for Christmas our Quilters are holding their annual drawing. Come to coffee hour to check out this year’s Christmas themed masterpiece quilts, lovingly made by our award winning quilters. Tickets will be available after the service in Crocker Hall. The drawing will be held during coffee hour.

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

**Adult Advent Series** - Is looking at the six major streams of faith and practice that define Christian tradition. Based on Richard Foster’s landmark book, *“Streams of Living Water: Essential Practices from the Six Great Traditions of Christian Faith,”* let’s learn together how the great traditions of the Church can deepen our faith and shape us into people who live, love, and serve like Jesus. The class starts at 9:30 am each Sunday in the Guild Room.

## UPCOMING:

**Coats & Socks Drive** - During the winter months we collect used coats and new socks (preferably white) to benefit the various agencies in Danbury supported by the Jericho Partnership. Leave the coats on the rack and socks in the basket in the back of the church.

**End of Year Donations** - All money to be credited to your 2025 account MUST be in the Parish Office by December 31st. Any money received after December 31st will be credited to your 2026 account.

**Potential Tax Savings** - If you meet the following requirements, your normal donation to Saint Paul's can result in a tax savings for you. This program is called "A Qualified Charitable Distribution." The two requirements are: 1) The contributor must be 70 years and 6 months old. 2) A retirement account must already be in place. This can be an IRA or a 401K account. For further information contact Jim Miller at (203) 426-4022 or Chuck Allen at [stpaulstreasurer@charter.net](mailto:stpaulstreasurer@charter.net).

**12 Days of Christmas** - Be sure to checkout our brochure for the complete schedule of events as we worship, celebrate, fellowship, outreach, reflect & discover the entire Christmas season.

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFO:

**Covenant Envelopes** - for 2026 are in the back of the church. Please take yours and those of any friends who may be absent, as this helps us save on mailing costs. Please do not use the 2026 goldenrod envelopes until the new year, and do not use the 2025 green envelopes after December 31, 2025; otherwise it will be credited to your 2026 account. If you do not wish to use the covenant envelopes, as long as your gift can be identified, an account is established in your name and you will receive quarterly statements. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Gurski, Financial Secretary, or the Parish Office at 203-775-9587. Thank you.

**Name Tags** - Please be courteous to fellow parishioners, newcomers, Bishop Ahrens, and guests by extending a warm welcome to them and by wearing your name tag. You can leave them in the baskets at the doors as you leave for refiling. And remember to wear them to coffee hour.

**Please Use Microphone** - When making announcements, please use the lectern or the handheld microphone. Even though you think you have a strong voice, people watching online or in the back of the church cannot hear you.

**Coffee Gathering** - Following this service, join us downstairs in Crocker Hall for coffee.

**The Priest-in-Charge Weekly** - Fr. Nate has a weekly e-mail, "*The Priest-in-Charge Weekly*," to communicate things directly from his desk to yours. If you did not receive his e-mail this week and would like to, write Fr. Nate at [priest@saintpaulsbrookfield.com](mailto:priest@saintpaulsbrookfield.com) and let him know.

**Our Facilities** - Our restrooms are located downstairs at the rear of our parish hall. Take the stairway to the right as you exit the sanctuary. The restrooms are located on the far left, across from the kitchen. A play area for our young ones is also set up in the parish hall as well as live streaming and audio of the service on a wide screen TV. In addition, coloring book packages are available for youngsters to use in the pews. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.



### St. Paul's Christmas Calendar

<b>Wednesday, December 24th</b>	10 am	-	Holy Baptism
	5 pm	-	Family Christmas Eve Service
	9 pm	-	Traditional Christmas Eve Service
<b>Wednesday, December 25th</b>	9 am	-	Christmas Day Service

## Calendar For The Week

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

(Check website for up to date Zoom links - [www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com](http://www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com))

Sun., Dec 21	8:00 am - <b>Traditional Holy Eucharist</b> (YouTube Live)
	9:30 am - Adult Class, Guild Room
	10:30 am - <b>Christmas Pageant &amp; Contemporary Holy Eucharist</b> (YouTube Live)
Mon., Dec 22	7:00 pm - Men's Bible Study, Crocker Hall (YouTube Live)
Tue., Dec 23	9:30 am - Ladies Tuesday AM Bible Study, Guild Room
Wed., Dec 24	10:00 am - <b>Holy Baptism &amp; Holy Eucharist</b> (YouTube Live)
	11 - Noon - Drive Thru Food Collection #149
	5:00 pm - <b>Family Christmas Eve Service</b> (YouTube Live)
Thu., Dec 25	9:00 pm - <b>Traditional Christmas Eve Service</b> (YouTube Live)
	9:00 am - <b>Christmas Day Service</b> (YouTube Live)
	10:00 am - St. Paul's Walking Group, Fairfield Hills, Newtown
Fri., Dec 26	6:00 pm - 12 Days: Pizza & Game Night, Crocker Hall
	7:30 am - John 21:12 Group, Theo's Downtown Diner, New Milford
	8:00 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Crocker Hall
Sat., Dec 27	10:00 am - Praise Moves, Crocker Hall
	6:00 pm - 12 Days: "Hot Dogs & Holiday Lights"
	8:00 am - <b>Traditional Holy Eucharist</b> (YouTube Live)
Sun., Dec 28	9:30 am - Adult Class, Guild Room
	10:30 am - Sunday School
	10:30 am - <b>Contemporary Holy Eucharist</b> (YouTube Live)
	6:00 pm - 12 Days: "Holy Land Revisited," Guild Room (Zoom)



### Next Sunday - 1st Sunday after Christmas Day

8:00 am & 10:30 am

Preacher: Rev. Randy Greve

### Readings for January 4th

[Isaiah 61:10-62:3](#) - [Psalm 147](#) - [Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7](#) - [John 1:1-18](#)

