



Saint Paul's Parish

174 Whisconier Road

Brookfield, CT 06804

(Episcopal/Anglican)

(203) 775-9587 (Office)

www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com

The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
December 24, 2025

Preacher & Celebrant ~ The Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Jung-Chul Lee



Welcome & Announcements

All stand as able

Opening Hymn

The Christmas Acclamation

Celebrant: Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people:
for unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior which is Christ
the Lord!

People: **Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth.**

Song of Praise

The Christmas Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of
your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our
Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our
Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of the Lord

Please be seated for the readings

The Old Testament

Isaiah 43:1-7

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

Sing to the LORD a new song; *
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
**and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.**

In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

New Testament Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as able for the Gospel)

The Holy Gospel

John 1:1-14

All stand.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Holy Baptism

The Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

Celebrant: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The candidate is presented by their Parents and Godparents, as follows

Parents & Godparents:

I present Michael Cory to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents & Godparents:

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents & Godparents:

I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the child.

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Celebrant: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Celebrant: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Celebrant: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Celebrant: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Celebrant: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

Then the Celebrant addresses the congregation.

Celebrant: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Michael in his life in Christ?

All: We will.

Celebrant: Let us join with those who are committing Michael to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

All: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

All: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

All: I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidate

Celebrant: Let us now pray for Michael who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader: Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Open his heart to your grace and truth.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Send him into the world in witness to your love.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying:

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant pours water upon the candidate, saying:

Celebrant: Michael Cory Chengeri, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

When this action has been completed, the Celebrant, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over the candidate, saying:

Celebrant: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Then the Celebrant places a hand on the candidate's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying:

Celebrant: Michael Cory, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Baptism Candle Presentation

Celebrant: Walk in the faith of Christ crucified and risen. Shine with the light of Christ.

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Offertory Praise

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Celebrant: 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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You may stand or kneel.

Celebrant: 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."

All: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.

Celebrant: 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 St. 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.

All: **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

All: Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours now and forever. Amen. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread A brief silence is kept.

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

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.*

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: God our Father, you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

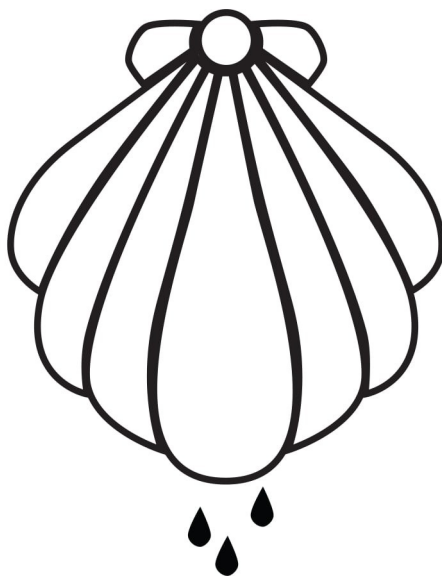
The Christmas Blessing

Celebrant: May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.
All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



This morning we welcome into the Church
through Holy Baptism

Michael Cory Chengeri

Parents: Kaileigh Rywalt & Michael Chengeri

Godparents: Brittany Slegona & Cory Rywalt

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and warmest greetings from the Parish staff and Vestry:

Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Jung-Chul Lee

Wardens

Lois Hunt and Dan Bacon (*Acting Warden*)

Vestry Members

Chuck Allen-Treasurer, David Williams-Clerk,

Beth Beck, Bill Bennett, Jeff Chowanec, Geoff Dent, JoAnn Hornak,

Mike Kimer, Ned Marcalus, Diane Peterson, Bob Picheco, Bill Schrull

Organist and Choirmaster

Kirsten Peterson

Sunday School Administrator

Julie Astbury

We are delighted that you have joined us in joyous celebration of our Lord's Holy Birth. May the birth of the Christ Child fill you with wonder and joy throughout the year to come!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12 Days of Christmas Festivities - As we continue to rejoice in the season, be sure to join us at our many 12 Days of Christmas celebrations as detailed on the enclosed insert.

Year End 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.

Drive Thru Food Collection - Since April 22, 2020, we have held 149 food drives, collecting much needed food for our neighbors and local food pantries. Our next Drive-Thru Food Collection is Wednesday, January 7th from 11 am to noon. If you are unable to drop off during these hours, alternate arrangements can be made prsen@gmail.com.

Prayer Needs? - You can let us know by submitting your need on our website or emailing prayerchain@saintpaulsbrookfield and our team of intercessors will pray for your request or you can ask for a prayer servant to call you and we can pray together!

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. To receive his e-mail, write Fr. Nate at priest@saintpaulsbrookfield.com and let him know.

Sword Points - To receive our weekly electronic newsletter, ***Sword Points***, and other communications from us online, send your name and e-mail address to StPaulsSwordPoints@gmail.com.

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 in the far left corner of the parish hall, across from the kitchen. Live streaming and audio of the service on a **wide screen TV** is set up in the parish hall. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.

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)

Wed., Dec 24	5:00 pm - Family Christmas Eve Service (YouTube Live)
	9:00 pm - Traditional Christmas Eve Service (YouTube Live)
Thu., Dec 25	9:00 am - Christmas Day Service (YouTube Live)
Fri., Dec 26	10:00 am - St. Paul's Walking Group, Fairfield Hills, Newtown
	6:00 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Pizza, Games & Prizes Night," Crocker Hall
Sat., Dec 27	7:30 am - John 21:12 Group, Theo's Downtown Diner, New Milford
	8:00 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Crocker Hall
	10:00 am - PraiseMoves, Crocker Hall
	6:00 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Hot Dogs & Holiday Lights"
Sun., Dec 28	8:00 am - Traditional Holy Eucharist (YouTube Live)
	10:30 am - Contemporary Holy Eucharist (YouTube Live)
	12:30 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Holy Land Revisited," Guild Room (Zoom)
Mon., Dec 29	12:30 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Downton Abbey Tea Party," Guild Room
Tue., Dec 30	3:30 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "David" Movie Danbury AMC Theaters
Wed., Dec 31	10:00 am - Healing & Holy Eucharist (YouTube Live)
	11:30 am - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Hot Soup / Lunch," Crocker Hall
Thu., Jan 1	12:00 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Healthy Hike," Williams Park
Fri., Jan 2	5:00 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Holy Rollers Duckpin Bowling," Danbury
Sat., Jan 3	7:30 am - John 21:12 Group, Theo's Downtown Diner, New Milford
	8:00 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Crocker Hall
	10:00 am - PraiseMoves, Crocker Hall
	6:00 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Cooking w/Tim," Kitchen / Guild Room
Sun., Jan 4	8:00 am - Traditional Holy Eucharist (YouTube Live)
	9:30 am - Adult Class, Guild Room
	10:30 am - Contemporary Holy Eucharist (YouTube Live)
Mon., Jan 5	7:00 pm - <i>12 DAYS</i> : "House Blessing," White's Home, Brookfield



Next Sunday - The First Sunday after Christmas Day

8:00 am & 10:30 am

Preacher: Rev. Randy Greve

Readings for January 4th

[Jeremiah 31:7-14](#) - [Psalm 84](#) - [Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a](#) - [Matthew 2:13-15,19-23](#)

