



Saint Paul's Parish

174 Whisconier Road

Brookfield, CT 06804

(Episcopal/Anglican)

(203) 775-9587 (Office)

www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com

The First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 28, 2025

Preacher & Celebrant ~ The Rev. Randy Greve

8:00 am - Healing & Holy Eucharist

We extend a warm welcome to everyone who has joined us this morning.
We pray you experience the presence and love of Christ
as we worship together!

Saint Paul's Staff

Priest-in-Charge

Wardens

Vestry Members:

Organist and Choirmaster

Sunday School Administrator

The Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Jung-Chul Lee

Lois Hunt and George Stowell

Chuck Allen-*Treasurer*, David Williams-*Clerk*, Beth Beck, Bill Bennett,

Darin Crocker, Gordy Hiltz, JoAnn Hornak, Mike Kirner,

Pam Koniecki, Ned Marcalus, Bob Picheco, Bill Schrull

Kirsten Peterson

Julie Astbury

Welcome & Announcements

All stand as able

Processional Hymn

“Angels, from the realms of glory”

[Hymnal 93](#)

The Word of the Lord

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: The Word of life which was from the beginning

All: we proclaim to you.

Celebrant: The darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining;

All: the Word of life which was from the beginning.

Celebrant: That which we heard, which we saw with our eyes, and touched with our own hands,

All: we proclaim to you.

Celebrant: For our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: The Word of life which was from the beginning we proclaim to you.

Gloria in excelsis *(Please stand as able)*

All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated
at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are
the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God
the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together. **Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings

The Old Testament

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.

He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.

The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.

He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.

He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.

He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.

He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?

He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

The Epistle

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Response

“Love came down at Christmas”

(Verses 1 - 2)

[Hymnal 84](#)

(Please stand as able for the Gospel)

The Gospel

John 1:1-18

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gospel Response

“Love came down at Christmas”

(Verse 3)

[Hymnal 84](#)

The Sermon

The Rev. Randy Greve

The 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

Please stand, sit, or kneel as able for the prayers.

Officiant: Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

Intercessor: Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; Draw us, your Church, and all of your people to you – that we might be the Church and the People who you call us to be. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your presence; fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' light, and kings to the brightness of his rising; draw our nation, our President, and all in authority, to his brightness. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; bring us your peace, and bring an end conflict, terror and strife. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; draw those who do not know you yet to the knowledge and love of you. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; be especially present with those who have no where to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: As your son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of life eternal; give to the departed eternal rest and let light perpetual shine on them. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For these and for all other petitions that are too deep for words, we pray to you:

(Please add your own intercessions or thanksgivings out loud or in the silence of your heart.)

The Celebrant concludes the Prayers:

Celebrant: O Lord our God, may the light and hope of this season, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

Healing Testimonies

Offertory Hymn

“While shepherds watched their flocks by night”

[Hymnal 95](#)

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 steps.*
-
- *Let an usher know if you prefer to remain seated at your pew for distribution of the Bread and Wine.*

Communion Hymn

“You are here”

You are here among us
For we have gathered in Your name
We can feel Your presence in this place.
You are here among us,
You are enthroned upon our praise
You are here, here to heal
And here to save.

You are here in our midst
How we’ve waited for moments like this
Have Your way in this place
Holy Spirit come do as You wish
We are changed as you move in our midst.

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Communion Hymn

“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: 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

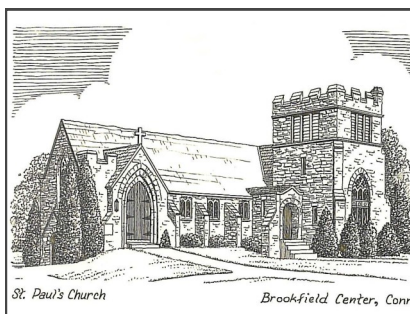
“Joy to the world! the Lord is come”

[Hymnal 100](#)

Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



St. Paul's Church Brookfield Center, Conn.
"Celebrating 240 years in the Spirit"

HIGHLIGHTS:

Welcome - Our preacher & celebrant today is the Rev. Randy Greve, a brother at Holy Cross Monastery in (West Park, NY). Holy Cross is part of the Episcopal Church's Benedictine monastic tradition, where monks live in community, following the Rule of St. Benedict, and dedicate themselves to prayer, hospitality, and service. Brother Randy entered Holy Cross in 2005 and made his life profession in 2010. Originally from Houston, Texas, he pursues a love of photography in his spare time. In addition to serving at the monastery, he is Fr. Nate's spiritual director.

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.

12 Days of Christmas Updates

- **Holy Land Revisited** - At **12:30 today in the Guild Room** we are reconnecting with our Holy Land guide via Zoom review our recent trip, check out some of our pictures, share our experiences and get an update about life currently in Israel. Be sure to join us if you have ever been to the Holy Land in the past or are thinking about for the future.
- Our **"Pizza, Games & Prizes" Night**, canceled by Friday nights snow, has been rescheduled to this **evening at 5 pm in the Guild Room**. Great family event...bring a friend.
- Everything else is still on schedule.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

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.

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.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFO:

Name Tags - Please be courteous to fellow parishioners, newcomers, visiting clergy, 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.

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.

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

Sunday School - Sunday School classes start at 10:40 am. During advent bring your children directly into church with you for the lighting of the Advent Candles after which they will be directed to their classrooms. Children will return to their parent or guardian before the start of Communion.

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 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.

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)

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)
	5:00 pm	- <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Pizza, Games & Prizes," Guild Room (Zoom)
Mon., Dec 29	12:30 pm	- <i>12 DAYS</i> : "Downton Abbey Tea Party," Guild Room
	7:00 pm	- Men's Bible Study, Guild Room
Tue., Dec 30	3:30 pm	- <i>12 DAYS</i> : " <i>David</i> " Movie Danbury AMC Theaters
Wed., Dec 31	10:00 am	- Healing & Morning Prayer (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	10:00 am	- St. Paul's Walking Group, `Richter Park, Danbury
	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 Second 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](#) - [John 1:19-51](#)

