

12/04/2022

Shadow of the Cross
Lutheran Church

Rev. Brian C Dupre
Pastor

THE CROSS CHRONICLES



DECEMBER

Readings for the week of Dec.4,2022

First Reading Acts.9:1-22

Epistle – Rev.5: (1-7), -8-14

Holy Gospel –John 21:1-14, (15-19)

**Ctrl+Click this link for the Shadow of the
Cross website:**

SHADOWOFTHECROSSLC.ORG

Worship service livestream:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM0cM0gle1sMO4AbuYc5I7Q>

Worship Service: Sunday 9:45 am **Holy Communion** every Sunday.

Prayer Journey: 2nd and 4th Saturdays 11:15 am via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8482337828?pwd=SDEweUIQTVVOcWtkY3ZjNytNRHVwUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 233 7828 Passcode: 333179

Fellowship hour with refreshments will follow service.

Pastor Dupre's Sunday Bible study begin at 11:00 am.

Aaron Clark has created a SOTC YouTube channel and will be streaming the service. Please direct all questions to the church office 248 474-0675, Mon – Friday, 9:45 am 2:00 pm. Thank you. Tuesday Bible Study is at 11:30 am. You can also join us via Zoom, contact the office for the information,

“Echoes of Christmas”

I can't tell you how many people have told me that Advent is their favorite time of year. And I echo that sentiment; it is my favorite time of year also. It's filled with joy and expectation of the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. But have you noticed over the years that even unbelievers get excited as Christmas approaches? I understand why we the faithful have hearts filled with joy at this time of year; the coming of Jesus into this world brought the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting by grace through faith. We are no longer slaves to sin. We no longer have to fear death because Christ has rendered it ineffective. And we will be restored to the fullness of being and grace in the image of God as we were originally created. And we will live as kings and queens in the kingdom God the Father prepared for His people before the foundation of the world. If that isn't something to get excited about, then there is nothing to get excited about.

Then why do those who do not know Jesus or have rejected Him as Lord and Savior get so excited at this time of year? Are they being hypocrites for celebrating the birth of One they don't believe in? Is it merely the exchange of gifts on Christmas that makes them happy, behave a little nicer and express genuine love and concern for their family and neighbors? I don't believe so. I believe it is the echoes of Christmas that stirs in them, just as it stirs in us. We cannot deny that at this time of year, something inside us stirs beyond external influences; not the colorfully decorated trees, not the pretty lights, not the perfectly wrapped packages and not the highly flammable drinks.

This is what I believe happens every year with the coming of Advent. The echoes of Christmas are the internal stirring caused by the Holy Spirit within us and within unbelievers as well. These echoes remind believers of the love, grace and mercy that has come to us in Christ Jesus. These echoes entice the unbeliever to taste and see the goodness in Christ Jesus. For the believer, an echo may be an old, beloved hymn learned as a child, being sung during an advent service. It may be a fond memory of the last Christmas spent with a loved one. It may be that the birth of your child happened during this season. Echoes: the ability to reflect; fond memories. But unbelievers have fond memories too. For the unbeliever an echo may be favorite pumpkin pie that a grandmother made every Christmas; maybe it was the nativity scene that mom and dad set up faithfully over the fireplace mantle. Maybe it was a special Christmas TV show. The Holy Spirit uses what we hold dear in our hearts and our precious memories; echoes of Christmases past; to show us the joy of Christmas is greater than the material here and now; echoes designed by the Holy Spirit to soften the hearts of those who deny so that they may also experience the true meaning of Christmas and that it is more spectacular than any package, bag, box or car; echoes designed to prove real gift of Christmas is the overwhelming joy, the unconditional love, the everlasting life and peace born on a cave in Bethlehem. I hope you enjoy advent as much as I will. Merry Christmas! God bless you all! –Pastor Dupre

The peace of the Lord be with you -Rev. Brian Dupre, Pastor, SOTC

SOTC Zoom Account

Any chairperson needing to use the Zoom account for their ministry, please contact the Church office. There is a sign-up sheet in the office to reserve your date and time.



a.m.

**JOIN US FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL Online**

Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom and we hope to see you there. If you have any questions regarding our Sunday school, please feel free to call any of the Sunday school staff, Dawn Kivimaki, Lori Smith, Laina Burk, Shirley Bowden, Myita Davis, Roderick McClure, Barbara Profit or the church office 248-474-0675. The Zoom link will remain the same until further notice.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83332323924525750?pwd=Rzdpd09PU05CWZCU1NR0E14bll5dz09>

Meeting ID: 83332323924, **Passcode:** 525750



Mustard-Crusted Prime Rib with Madeira Glaze

Ingredients:

- 1 bone-in beef rib roast (about 5 pounds)
 - 1 /2 cup stone-ground mustard
 - 6 small garlic cloves, minced
 - 1 tablespoon brown sugar
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1/2 teaspoon coarsely ground pink peppercorns, optional
-

vegetables:

- 2 pounds medium Yukon Gold potatoes, cut into eighths (about 2-inch chunks)
 - 4 medium carrots, halved lengthwise and cut into 2-inch pieces
 - 1 medium red onion, cut into eighths (but with root end intact)
 - 1 medium fennel bulb, cut into eighths
 - 3 tablespoons olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
 - 1 teaspoon brown sugar
 - 3/4 teaspoon salt
 - 1/2 teaspoon pepper
 - **madeira glaze:** 1 cup balsamic vinegar
 - 1/2 cup Madeira wine
 - 1 teaspoon brown sugar
-

Instructions:

1. Let roast stand at room temperature for 1 hour. Preheat oven to 450°. Combine mustard, garlic, brown sugar, salt and, if desired, peppercorns; brush evenly over top and sides of roast but not over bones (mixture may seem loose but will adhere). Place bone side down on a rack in a shallow roasting pan. Place pan on middle oven rack; immediately reduce heat to 350°. Roast 1 hour.
2. Toss potatoes, carrots, onion and fennel with next 5 ingredients. Arrange vegetables in a single layer in a 15x10x1-in. baking pan on lowest rack of oven. Roast meat and vegetables, stirring vegetables midway through baking, until meat reaches desired doneness (a thermometer should read 135° for medium-rare, 140° for medium and 145° for medium-well), about 1-1/2 hours. Cover roast loosely with foil during last 30 minutes to prevent overbrowning. Let stand 15 minutes before carving.

Meanwhile, for glaze, combine balsamic vinegar, Madeira wine and brown sugar in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat; cook until reduced to 1/2 cup, about 15 minutes. Let glaze cool to room temperature. Serve roast with vegetables and glaze and, if desired, pink peppercorns and fennel fronds. Total Time Prep: 20 min. Bake: 2-1/2 hours + standing

Religious Jokes

A Buddhist monk strode into a Zen pizza parlor and said, "Make me one with everything." When he got his order, he gave the proprietor a \$20 bill, which the guy pocketed. "Hey," asked the monk, "where's my change?" "Change," replied the owner inscrutably, "must come from within."

A man was praying to God. He said, "God!?" God responded, "Yes?" And the guy said, "Can I ask a question?" "Go right ahead," God said. "God, what is a million years to you?" God said, "A million years to me is only a second." "Hmmm," the man wondered. Then he asked, "God, what is a million dollars' worth to you?" God said, "A million dollars to me is as a penny." So the man said, "God, can I have a penny?" And God cheerfully said, "Sure! Just a second."

A minister died and went to heaven and ahead of him at the Pearly Gate was a guy in sunglasses and a leather jacket and the guy said to St. Peter. "I'm Joe Nestorenko, cabdriver of Las Vegas." Saint Peter gave him a golden robe and golden staff and then it was the minister's turn. "I am Elmer Lundberg, pastor of Zion Lutheran for forty-five years." Saint Peter gave him a cotton robe and wooden staff." "But that man was a taxi driver? and he gets a golden robe? and golden staff?" And St. Peter said, "Up here, we go by results. While you preached, people slept; while he drove, people prayed."

Bible Trivia Questions

Question: Who was to be named Zacharias, after the name of his father, until his mother intervened?

Answer: John.

Question: What happened to King Nebuchadnezzar before being restored as king?

Answer: He went mad and lived as a beast

Question: Which two tribes of Israel were not named after sons of Jacob?

Answer: Ephraim and Manasseh.

Question: What did Melchizedek give to Abram?

Answer: Bread and wine.

Question: Who escorted the slave with the letter to Philemon?

Answer: Tychicus.

Sweet Jesus Is Born

Today is born sweet Jesus, the Lord.
Let us be glad, let us rejoice.
Today is born sweet Jesus, the Lord.
Let us be glad, let us rejoice.
Sweet Jesus is born, great joy does He bring.
Let trumpets sound and church bells ring.
The gifts He brings this holy night
are peace, hope, and joy, and love's pure light.
Quiet your heart and hear the Lord's name.
Sweet Jesus the Lord, this night He came.
He came to be with us on Earth.
The Heavens and Earth rejoice His birth.
Sweet Jesus is born. His birth was foretold.
God's only Son is to behold.
On bended knee we come to adore
Sweet baby Jesus, Christ the Lord.
Love is the heart of Jesus the Lord.
His birth opened up God's heavenly door.
The joy and hope that sweet Jesus brings
will live in the hearts of those who believe.

By Marcia A. Newton

Publisher's note: If you have information, prayer request, something you would like to share with your church family, a poem, a song, a scripture, a picture of something that puts a smile on your face, please send it to Veronica's email sotclutheran.officemanager@gmail.com or Dawn's email sotclutheran.secretary@gmail.com

Information for the Newsletter, please submit by the 20th of each month for the following month's publication. Thank you and Bless

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Financial Information as of November 22,2022

Actual Revenue \$115,160 Budget Revenue \$129,009 Under Budget (\$13,849)

******ONLINE GIVING & DONATIONS******

Some of you may not be aware but SOTC has an easy and convenient way to make one time or recurring donations to the church on our website. You can use a credit card, checking or saving account to make donations just go to our home page @ www.shadowofthecrosslc.org and click on donate in the upper right corner. Its super easy! If you have questions, contact the office.

Advent Services: December 7 (Peace), December 14 (Joy). The services will be at SOTC at noon with a soup and salad luncheon following.

Christmas Eve is on a Saturday so the Candlelight service will be at 7:00 pm and **Christmas Day** at the regular time of 9:45 am. **New Year's Eve** 7:00 pm, **New Year's Day** 9:45 am.

The peace of the Lord be with you -Rev. Brian Dupre, Pastor, SOTC

SOTC Women's League: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 – Women's Christmas Dinner 5:30pm meet, 6:00pm Dinner Served.

DeLuca's Restaurant – 27424 Warren Rd at Inkster Rd. Gift Exchange - \$15.00 limit.

PRAISE CHOIR REORGANIZATION: Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesday, at 6pm

SOTC CHOIR: Meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm.

Free English as a Second Language Class has been postponed until further notice.

Announcing the SOTC Women's Weekly Bible Study, 9:00 am - 10:00 am, every Thursday. Will be postpone until Jan.2023.

Tuesday Bible Study 11:30 am will be postpone until Jan.10,2023.

The Food Pantry is low on peanut butter, mashed potatoes and can fruit. Please help to refill it. Place food donations in ESL Room across from stage in the gym.

GIFTS FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN 2022 HOUSEHOLDS ENROLLED FOR SOTC:

For the 2022 Holiday Gift Exchange, SOTC has been enrolled 7 families, representing 22 children! Our largest group to date.

If anyone is interested in fulfilling any "Wishlist's", please visit the Gifts for All God's Children website @ giftsforallgodschildren.org and choose "Get Involved" or "Donate"

We pray that all the children sponsored by SOTC and all the families of GFAGC be blessed with the Fullness of God for the holidays and every day

Respectfully Submitted, Lainia Burk and Barbara Hatcher, GFAGC

BD. OF PROPERTIES are in need of help with the work around the building. They meet on Mondays @ 6pm. Work night for Trustee 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Tuesday.

DECEMBER 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		29	30	1	2	3
		6 pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir	Advent service Noon-HOPE-1st w/soup & salad			10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultsZoom .Noon properties cleanup.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.	6:00pm Trustees Meeting. 7:00pm Elders' Meeting.	1:15Unitymeetin 5:30Deluca'sWL 7pm SOTC Choir 7:00pm.SchoolBd upper Campus	Advent service NoonPEACE2nd w/soup & salad			9:30 Womens League 10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultsZoom 11:15am Prayer Journey zoom Noon properties cleanup.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.		6pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir	Advent service Noon- JOY-3rd w/soup & salad 7:00pm. Finance Meeting.	7:00p Leadership Council meeting.		10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultZoom. Noon properties cleanup. Int'l Mens Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.		7pm SOTC Choir	6:30 PIE meeting @ SOTC	10:30 Visually Impaired BStudy		10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultZoom. 11:15am Prayer Journey zoom 7pmCHRISTMAS EVE BYCandlelight w/communion
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
CHRISTMAS DAY 9:45am Worship & Sunday School. 		6pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir				7pm New Years Eve.w/communion 