



THE CROSS CHRONICLES



Readings for the week of January 6, 2022

Epiphany

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6

Epistle – Ephesians 3:1-12

Holy Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12

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

SHADOWOFTHECROSSLC.ORG

and this link for secure electronic giving:

Worship service livestream:

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

Sunday services are 8:30 a.m., and 11:00 am.

Fellowship hour with refreshments will follow the 8:30 am and 11:00 am services. Pastor Dupre's Sunday Bible study has begun and it is at 10:00 am. **Holy Communion** will be on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays during the 11:00 service and the 2nd and 4th Sunday during the 8:30 am service.

COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted in the state and also here at SOTC. Social distancing and mask are still respected however they are not required. We ask if you have not been vaccinated please wear your masks. Please do not come to church if you have a fever, other flu like symptoms or if you have been around someone who has tested positive for the Corona Virus in the past two weeks.

"Rip Van Winkle Syndrome"

Matthew 24:42-44

Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Dear friends, happy 2022! Where has the time gone? It seems like yesterday we merged intentionally 4 churches to become Shadow of the Cross. That was almost three years ago now! Time truly flies, and if you aren't paying attention, life will pass you by. That is the message Jesus gives us in the scripture text above. It is a warning not to become spiritually complacent; taking your faith and salvation for granted.

Unfortunately, it is very easy to do. We at SOTC have been very blessed. We are growing, where some congregations are stagnant or shrinking. God has provided us with financial stability and dedicated workers in our church. When times are good, it is very easy to overlook God, disregard our obligations, take our spiritual life for granted and lose the spirit of humility and thankful hearts.

I call this the “Rip Van Winkle” syndrome. Rip Van Winkle is a story by Washington Irving about a man who becomes complacent with life. As Wikipedia puts it, “He is quick to help his neighbors with any sort of drudgery but shies away from profitable labor. His farm has fallen into neglect because of his easy-going nature. In a word, Rip was ready to attend to anybody’s business but his own; but as to doing family duty, and keeping his farm in order, he found it impossible.” Because of his complacency, he falls asleep one day, sleeps through the Revolutionary War; and wakes up twenty years later to find his wife and all his friends have died and the world he knew no longer exists

This is the same type of horror we may wake up to on the Last Day if we sleepwalk our way through our spiritual lives. If we allow ourselves to be complacent, and unprepared and unrepentant; if our patience grows so thin waiting for Jesus’ return that we shy away from anything profitable to our faith; if our worship lives suffer from neglect; if we are ready to attend to anybody’s earthly business rather than our own spiritual business, then we will fall asleep. And we will not be awake when the Son of Man returns. And the world we wake up to in this case, will be much worse than any fictional story could depict.

As we begin the new year, my prayers are for you and our congregation; that we do not become complacent; that we continue to serve the Lord in whatever capacity He calls us to do; continue to strengthen our faith and spiritual lives through Word and Sacrament; and to continue to support one another in our faith-walk together. Someone told me that there is joy in our congregation now. I considered that a very high complement. I pray that joy remains and I will also return the complement by saying it is a joy and a pleasure serving as your pastor. Happy New Year and God bless you all!

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

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

- **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.



Sunday school is back and we are meeting in person on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Our adult Sunday school will continue on 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/6176422508?pwd=Rzdpd09PU05CWZCU1NROEI4bll5dz09>

Meeting ID: 617 642 2508, **Passcode:** 648947



Maple Glazed Chicken Breasts

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons pure maple syrup
- 1 tablespoon reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1 clove garlic, minced

- 1 teaspoon minced fresh ginger
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, (about 8 ounces), trimmed and tenders removed (see Tip)

Directions

- **Step 1**
Whisk syrup, soy sauce, lemon juice, garlic, ginger and pepper in a small, shallow dish. Add chicken and turn to coat with the marinade; cover and refrigerate for 2 hours, turning once.
- **Step 2**
Coat an indoor grill pan with cooking spray and heat over medium heat. Remove the chicken from the marinade (reserving the marinade) and cook until an instant-read thermometer inserted into the thickest part of the breast registers 165 degrees F, 3 to 5 minutes per side.
- **Step 3**
Meanwhile, pour the reserved marinade into a small saucepan and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Cook until reduced by about half, about 4 minutes. Liberally baste the chicken with the reduced sauce and serve.

HOLY HUMOR

- * **Question:** Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?
- * **Answer :** Noah -- he was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.
- * **Question:** : Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?
- ***Answer:** Pharaoh's daughter -- she went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little profit. *Oops. That should read "prophet"*
- ***Question:** What kind of man was Boaz before he got married?
- ***Answer:** Ruth-less.

- ***Question:** How did Adam and Eve feel when expelled from the Garden of Eden?
- ***Answer:** They were really put out. : for seven years.
- ***Question:** Who was the greatest **comedian** in the Bible?
- ***Answer:** Samson -- he brought the house down

Bible Trivia Questions

- Question:** Name one of the two birds Noah sent from the Ark.
- Answer:** A Raven and a dove
- Question:** What animal tempted Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden?
- Answer:** A serpent
- Question:** What gave Sampson his strength
- Answer:** His hair
- Question:** God asked Abraham to make a sacrifice to Him on Mount Moriah. What was it ?
- Answer:** His son Isaac
- Question:** What are the four rivers listed as flowing out of Eden?
- Answer:** Phishon, Gihon, Hiddekel (Tigris) and Phirat (Euphrates)

Mask Mandate: Oakland County health officials are requiring masks for students and staff in all preschools and K-12 public schools regardless of vaccination status.

Oakland County Health Division issued an emergency health order with immediate effect that will impact about 210,000 students across 28 public school districts and 22 charter schools academies. The order also applies to daycare centers and vocational schools.

A Message from the CDC on Covid-19 precautions: (updated regularly) click link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> COVID Data Tracker

Find maps and charts tracking cases, deaths, and trends of COVID-19 in the United States, updated daily by 8 pm ET.

New Vaccination and Case Trends tab displays trends in people receiving at least 1 dose of vaccine and being fully vaccinated along with trends in cases, by age group. Users can now filter all maps on County View tab to display only metropolitan counties or only non-metropolitan counties

COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review

An interpretive summary of this week's data

COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review

Thumbnail

How Do I Find a COVID-19 Vaccine?

COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review

Thumbnail

Your Community. Stay up to date on the latest data in your community at the state and county level.

County View Track cases, deaths, hospitalizations, and more for your community.

Community Profile Report

View key indicators for all regions, states, core-based statistical areas, and counties across the US.

Community Profile Report - Forecasting

See expectations for case increases or decreases for your state and across the US

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 Blessings!

SOTC International Friendship Center 2022 social events for ladies!

January Theme Social Event: Floral Arrangement Workshop – Deborah

Monday January 10 9am ESL Bible Study 10am Social Activity

Monday January 24 9am ESL Bible Study 10am Social Activity

Help Wanted!

Shadow of the Cross is looking for is looking for PRAYER WARRIORS...mornings and evenings open! NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!!! ONLY A LOVE FOR JESUS, and a desire to follow His footsteps and pray with and for others. IF YOU HAVE A FEW EXTRA MINUTES, please consider joining the team....CALL: **Mary Rooker or Nancy Faith.**

Regarding the Pledge..... You can make your pledge in as many payments as you like but please have them paid by the end of this year. The weather is going to start getting bad and we would like to have the work done. Thank you for your pledges!!

Roof Repair/AC Pledge Drive December 21,2021 Report THANK YOU

Amount of pledges: \$ 20,145.00 of our \$50,000.00 goal Funds Received (as of 12/21/21) \$30,215.00

PLEDGE COMMITMENTS – Roof/AC

Jeanette Adams	Barbara Hatcher	John Rousseau
George and Kay Barnes	Max Heise	Mary Rooker
Reanelle Beaty	Herschel and Angie	Steve and Heather
Carole Boulware	Hembree	Rooker
Villada Brown	Joyce Hilpert	John Rousseau
John Burhop	Robb Howell	Lola Sample
Craig Clark	Alice Iaconelli	Diane Smith
Brenda Clavon	Bob and Mary Jo Keller	Felicia Smith
Ava Davis	James and Dawn	Ronald and Carol
Pastor and Margo	Kivimaki	Smolka
Dupre	Russ and Lindsay	Joe and Sandy Soukup
Annie Edwards	Lapworth	Norma Speier
Doug Eiben	Ann Little	Dorothy Tankard
Shirley Eiben	Gloria Marchand	I. Thompson
Herb and Nancy	Sharon Martin	Ellis Threadcraft
Engling	Dorothy McClure	Daniel and Connie
Timothy and Clare	Roddy McClure	Strausberg
Engling	Keith McKee	Katherine Wemyss
Merlin Fields	Patricia Melton	William & Robin Ward
Nancy Faith	Lauren Mosley	Chester & Linda
Mary Gardner	Ruth Palmer	Wilcoxson
Veronica Green	Lynette Robinson	Charleen Woodfield

This list will be updated as pledges come in. Thank you!

A
Happy
New Year
★ 2022

A festive New Year's greeting featuring the text "A Happy New Year" in a shimmering gold cursive font. The text is surrounded by various gold star shapes, including small five-pointed stars and larger, multi-pointed starburst designs. The year "2022" is written in a gold, slightly stylized sans-serif font at the bottom right, accompanied by a small gold star.