

1/01/2023

Shadow of the Cross
Lutheran Church

Rev. Brian C Dupre
Pastor

THE CROSS CHRONICLES



Readings for the week of Jan 1, 2023

First Reading Numbers 6:22-27

Epistle – Gal. 3:23 -29

Holy Gospel – Luke 2:21

**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.

The Folly of Human Wisdom

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who *are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”* Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. (1 Corinthians 1:18-21 ESV)

I was sitting in a restaurant with some friends several years ago, when the owner/manager, came over and said to me, “You’re a pastor, aren’t you? Do you believe in evolution?” “Here we go again; I’m forced into the age old debate”, I thought to myself. But I was wrong. This manager wasn’t looking to debate me; he was looking for ammunition to use against one of his employees who was openly professing his atheism, his homosexuality, and his total belief in evolution. I responded, “Yes, I believe in evolution; but not when it comes to the physical bodies of human beings. Caterpillars evolve and become butterflies, but amoebas do not evolve, even over millions of years into human beings.”

I was rather surprised by the manger’s response. He said, “You’re wrong, that’s an example of change, not evolution.” It was then that I realized where this guy was coming from. He did not believe in evolution at all. In his opinion, evolution does not exist in any form. And so this belief along with his faith in the Triune God, made this manager and his employee as far apart in ideology as could possibly be. They were total opposites in fact. Now I really don’t like getting involved in this type of debate. You can’t make any headway with either side because both are convinced they are absolutely right. The debater of this age holds to the foolish wisdom of the world. So instead, I simply offered what I see as the difference between change and evolution. Evolution is progressive; it implies forward motion; something becoming greater than it was before. We can say our knowledge, technology and our ability to communicate with

one another have evolved, our physical bodies have not. Change can either be progressive or regressive; it refers to motion either forward or backward; change can be for the better or for the worse, such as a change in weather or a change in health. Change we can sometimes make ourselves; evolution happens only by natural process (will of God).

But even this explanation was not soothing to either manager or employee; the manager being convinced faith in God cancels out evolution, and the employee being so lost in his unbelief, rejection of God and sin of homosexuality that even through the folly what we preach he could not be reached and brought into saving faith by anything I could say or do. They found my words foolish. So I left it at that. The lesson here is that God cannot be known, believed in, or revealed to us through the wisdom of the world. And our own human minds cannot conceive of the wisdom of God. Our own imaginations cannot limit God to only what we can understand or rationalize. We cannot define God by our weak and flawed human reason. That is why we must trust and rely on the revealed Word of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, the preaching of Christ crucified, and the Sacraments by which the Holy Spirit comes to us. These are the only true ways to discern between the wisdom of God which is holy and eternal, and the wisdom of man, which is sinful and unreliable.

Happy New Year and 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.

Sunday school is back and we are meeting in person on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. Our adult Sunday school will continue 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, Lainia 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.



**JOIN US FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL Online**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83332323924525750?pwd=Rzdpd09PU05CWxZCU1NR0E14bll5dz09> Meeting ID: 83332323924, Passcode: 525750



PAULA DEEN'S BANANA PUDDING

INGREDIENTS

- 2 bags Pepperidge Farm Chessmen cookies
- 6 to 8 bananas, sliced
- 2 cups of milk
- 1 (5-ounce) box instant French vanilla pudding
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 (12-ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Line the bottom of a 13x9 x2-inch dish with 1 bag of cookies. Layer the bananas evenly over the top.
2. Using a hand-held mixer, combine the milk and pudding in a medium bowl until well combined.
3. In another bowl, beat the cream cheese and condensed milk together with a hand-held mixer until smooth.
4. Fold the whipped topping into the cream cheese mixture.
5. Add the cream cheese mixture to the pudding mixture and stir until well blended.
6. Pour the mixture evenly over the cookies and bananas.
7. Cover the pudding mixture with the remaining cookies.
8. Cover the dish and refrigerate until ready to serve, at least 4 hours.

Religious Jokes

My SERVICE

Meeting with my new pastor, I asked if I could have a church service when I eventually die. "Of course," he said, grabbing his date book. "What day do you want?"

CONFESSION

En route to church to make his first confession, my nervous seven-year-old grandson asked me what he could expect. "Confession is where you tell all the bad things you've done to the priest," I told him. He looked relieved. "Good. I haven't done anything bad to the priest."

SERMON TIME

During our priest's sermon, a large plant fell over right behind the pulpit, crashing to the ground. Acknowledging his reputation for long-windedness, he smiled sheepishly and said, "Well, that's the first time I actually put a plant to sleep."

COMMANDMENTS

When I asked my friend if she was planning to attend church, she just shook her head. "I haven't gone in a long time," she said. "Besides, it's too late for me. I've probably already broken all seven commandments."

PREACHER ON A HORSE

A preacher trained his horse to go when he said, "Praise the Lord," and to stop when he said, "Amen." The preacher mounted the horse, said, "Praise the Lord" and went for a ride. When he wanted to stop for lunch, he said, "Amen." He took off again, saying, "Praise the Lord." The horse started going toward the edge of a cliff. The preacher got excited and said, "Whoa!" Then he remembered and said, "Amen," and the horse stopped at the edge of the cliff. The preacher was so relieved and grateful that he looked up to heaven and said, "Praise the Lord!"

Bible Trivia Questions

1.Question: Who are the two people in the Bible that never died?

Answer:

- Adam & Jesus
- Elijah & Enoch
- Abraham & Moses
- Elijah & Elisha

2.Question: What did Jacob's Hebrew name mean?

Answer:

- Trickster
- Supplanter
- Red one
- Of God

3. Question: When Joseph sends his brothers back to Canaan to get Benjamin, who is left in prison?

Answer:

- Reuben
- Simeon
- Judah
- Levi

4. Question: When the brothers first arrive in Egypt, what does Joseph accuse them of?

Answer:

- Being Spies
- Theft
- Kidnapping
- Murdering one of his brothers

Explanation: He accuses them of being spies.

Reference: [Genesis 42:9](#)

5. Question: How many years did Adam live?

Answer:

- 340
- 880
- 930
- 970

Explanation: Genesis 5:5: 'And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years.'

Reference: [Genesis 5:5](#)

Answer: 1. Elijah & Enoch **Answer: 2.** Supplanter **Answer: 3.** Simeon

Answer: 4. Being Spies **Answer: 5.** 930

By Ralph Waldo Emerson
(1803 -1882)

“This is my wish for you:
Comfort on difficult days,
Smile when sadness intrudes,
Rainbow to follow the clouds,
Laughter to kisses your lips,
Sunset to warm your heart,
Hugs when the spirits sags,
Beauty for your eyes to see,
Friendship to brighten your being,
Faith so that you can believe,
Confidence for when you doubt,
Courage to know yourself,
Patience to accept the truth,
Love to complete your life.”

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

Yd Revenue \$115,160 Budgeted 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.

January 14,2023 League Meeting 9:30am, coffee10:00am Meeting

PRAISE CHOIR REORGANIZATION: Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesday, at 6pm! All are welcome!!!

SOTC CHOIR Meet Tuesday at 7:00 pm.

Announcing the SOTC Women's Weekly Bible Study, 9:00 am - 10:00 am, every Thursday. Bring a Bible, drink, and friend, Rich discussion/NO homework. Postpone and will restart Jan. 2023.

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

PRAISE CHOIR REORGANIZATION: Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesday, at 6pm! All are welcome!!!

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. Bring a Bible, drink, and friend, Rich discussion/NO homework. Presenter will be SOTC Women Postpone Jan. 2023

The Food Pantry. Please us help to fill up the food pantry. Place food donations in ESL Room across from stage in the gym.

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.

Gifts for All God's Children Thank you for all your love, prayers and support during this holiday season. SOTC and GFAGC was a blessing to seven families, with twenty-two children. Please continue to keep these families in your hearts and prayers throughout the year. God's peace be with you all.



2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-----------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 9:45am Worship No communion No bible study | | 6 pm praise choir 7pm SOTC Choir Bd of properties 6p meeting Elders 7pm meeting 6:00pm Trustee Meeting. | | | | 10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom Noon properties cleanup. |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom. | | 1:15 Unity meeting 6:00pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir | | | | 9:30 Womens League 10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom 11:15am Prayer Journey zoom Noon properties cleanup. |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom. | | 7pm SOTC Choir | 7:00pm. Finance Meeting. | 7:00p Leadership Council meeting. | | 10:00am Sunday School Adult Zoom. Noon properties cleanup. |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 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 School Adult Zoom. 11:15am Prayer Journey zoom |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | 1 | | |
| | | 7pm SOTC Choir | | | | |