

9/04/2022

Shadow of the Cross
Lutheran Church

Rev. Brian C Dupre
Pastor

THE CROSS CHRONICLES



Readings for the week of September 4, 2022

First Reading Deut. 30: 15-20

Epistle –Philemon 1-21

Holy Gospel –Luke 14:25-35

CTRL Click this link for the Shadow of the Cross website:

SHADOWOFTHECROSSLC.ORG

Worship service livestream:

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

Sunday Services begin at 9:45 am. Holy Communion will be every Sunday.

Fellowship hour with refreshments will follow the 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.

Prayer Journey meet! 2nd and 4th Saturday 11:15 am to 11:45 am Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82381768247?pwd=UmFtZU9LT05ZYjhjWnVTL3ZkUT09>

Meeting ID: **823 8176 8247** Passcode: **206708**

"A Change of Heart Must Come"

"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.

- Matthew 21:28-32 ESV

Jesus, in this parable, cast the tax collectors and prostitutes in the role of the obedient son because they were repentant sinners. And Jesus cast the chief priest and elders in the role of the defiant son, because although they were morally upright, they did not respond to John's call to repentance. Let me tell you a short story I like to call, "The Reluctant Preacher". Many years ago, a man who had faith, kept denying God's call to the ministry. Everyone around him kept telling him that he should enter the ministry; that God had so gifted him. He even saw and experienced first-hand the work of God in his life. Yet he still refused to go. His wife, Pastors, family and friends all urged him to stop fighting the call which seemed so obvious to everyone but himself. Why did he keep refusing? He did not believe that God was calling him to the ministry. But even more so than that, he had his own agenda for his life. That agenda did not include being a Pastor or leading a congregation. It was all about him and what he could accomplish on his own in his life. And it was about money. All of his friends were buying bigger, nicer homes and cars and boats and summer cottages. And our reluctant preacher wanted all of those things too! And he figured that being a pastor was the surest way **not** to get those things. So for twenty years, he fought the call. For twenty years he was disobedient to the will of God. And for twenty years he wrestled with God for control of his life.

What happened to him? Well, as I said, a change of heart must come. And it did. One day God closed all the doors the reluctant preacher had opened for himself and left him no other option than to submit to His will. God forced the would-be preacher to admit to himself that he was a defiant son. He came to realize that the words in the Lord's Prayer are "Thy will be done" not "My will be done". And if Jesus submitted to the will of the Father, who was he that he should not submit also. You see, our friend was guilty of many sins. He was guilty of not recognizing the authority of God, of not hearing the voice of Christ in those who God directed to urge him into ministry; of lack of faith that Christ works out everything for the good of those that believe in Him and of believing his will superior to God's and not recognizing the sufficiency of God's grace.

How did his change of heart come? It came through faith. The preacher remained faithful to Christ by loving Him and confessing Christ as Lord and Savior, clinging to the cross of forgiveness. And Jesus did not give up on him, either. Christ was faithful to the preacher by loving him and by the Holy Spirit showing him all those treasures he had stored up in his heart were worthless compared to the love, salvation and eternal life found in Christ Jesus. Without faith, the preacher never would have recognized the authority of Jesus, and a change of heart would not have occurred. In case you haven't guessed, that reluctant preacher was me.

What we learn from Jesus' parable and the story of the reluctant preacher is that we all are called to serve. Some of us are hesitant, but we obey. Some of us say we will but don't. But none of us are beyond repentance and a change of heart must come to all of us sooner or later. God looks at our hearts, regardless of what we say or do because their lies our treasure and their lies our motivation. Our mouths can lie and our hands can deceive, but the truth is in the heart. And because the truth is in the heart, a change of heart must occur when we encounter Christ. We cannot remain the same in the presence of pure holiness in the same way that darkness cannot remain in the presence of light. We are all called to be faithful and obedient. This is not optional. You will discover if you haven't already that God's Will is going to be done, one way or another; with you and me or without. A change of heart must come, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen 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 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/83332323924?pwd=Rzdpd09PU05CWXXZCU1NROEI4bll5dz09>

Meeting ID:83332323924 Passcode: 525750



Gluten-Free Cheese-Crusted Pork Chops

Ingredients:

- 4 boneless center-cut loin pork chops
- 1/4 cup gluten-free flour You can use regular all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup asiago cheese, grated
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 1 egg
- 1 large lemon
- 1/4 cup chicken broth
- 1 tbsp grapeseed oil
- 1 tbsp fresh thyme finely chopped Can substitute 1 tsp dried

Instructions:

PREP PORK CHOPS

Place pork chops between pieces of parchment paper and pound (I use my rolling pin) to 1/4" thickness.

Place lightly beaten egg and the juice of 1/2 a lemon in a shallow bowl. Whisk until combined.

Place flour, cheese, salt, and pepper in another shallow dish and combine well.

Dip the pork chop in the egg mixture, coating both sides, and then into the cheese/flour mixture to coat both sides.

COOKING

Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the coated pork chops and cook for 3 minutes on both sides until lightly browned. Add the chicken broth to the pan and squeeze the juice of the remaining lemons evenly over all pork chops. Sprinkle each chop with the thyme. Lower the heat to simmer and cook with the lid on for 5 more minutes.

Carefully lift each pork chop out of the skillet with a spatula so you don't disturb the crust. Serve immediately

- **Yield** 4 servings Prep time: 10 Minutes Cook time: 10 Minutes Total time: 20 min

Religious Jokes

- Two little boys were known troublemakers, stealing everything they could get their hands, even from the church. One day a priest stopped one of the boys and asked, "Where is God?" The boy shrugged and the priest repeated, "Where is God?" The boy ran out of the cathedral crying to his home where he hid in a closet. Eventually his brother found him and asked, "What's wrong?" The crying boy replied, "We're in trouble now! God is missing and they think we took him!"
- A Sunday school teacher asked her children on the way to service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."
- Jesus, Moses, and an old man go golfing. The first one to tee off is Moses. He smashes the ball, and it is heading right for the water hazard before the green. Moses raises his club, the water parts, and the ball makes it to the green. Jesus gets up to swing, cranks it out, and it is headed for the water hazard. Jesus closes his eyes and prays. The ball skips across the water and lands on the green two feet from the hole. The old man's turn comes, and he drives the ball. The ball looks like it is going to drop directly into the water. A fish jumps from the water hazard swallowing the ball, as an eagle drops from the sky, grabbing the fish. As the eagle flies over the green, a bolt of lightning strikes the eagle, making it drop the fish. As the fish hits the green, it spits out the ball and the ball falls into the hole, making a hole in one. Jesus looks at Moses and says, "I really think I'm leaving Dad at home next time!"

- A drunk staggers into a Catholic Church, enters a confessional booth, sits down, but says nothing. The Priest coughs a few times to get his attention, but the drunk continues to sit there. Finally, the Priest pounds three times on the wall. The drunk mumbles, "Ain't no use knockin'! There's no paper on this side either!"

Every ten years, the monks in the monastery are allowed to break their vow of silence to speak two words. Ten years go by and it's one monk's first chance. He thinks for a second before saying, "Food bad." Ten years later, he says, "Bed hard." It's the big day, a decade later. He gives the head monk a long stare and says, "I quit." "I'm not surprised," the head monk says. "You've been complaining ever since you got here."

Bible Trivia Questions

Question: When Saul conquered the Amalekites, what person did he keep as a prisoner instead of killing like God said to?

Answer: The king, Agag.

Question: Which books of the Bible record all the kings?

Answer: 1st and 2nd Kings, 1st, and 2nd Chronicles

Question: Which books of the Bible did Solomon write?

Answer: Song of Solomon and Proverbs and some Psalms

Question: How many kings of Judah were there?

Answer: 20

Question: Who was the last king Daniel served under in the Bible?

Answer: King Nebuchadnezzar's.

Question: What were Daniel's three friends (Babylonian names)?

Answer: Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego.



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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Financial Information as of August 5, 2022

YTD Revenue \$27,044, Budgeted Revenue \$31,630 Under Budget \$4,586

Roof/AC Funds Goal \$50,000 Funds Received \$37,433.67

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

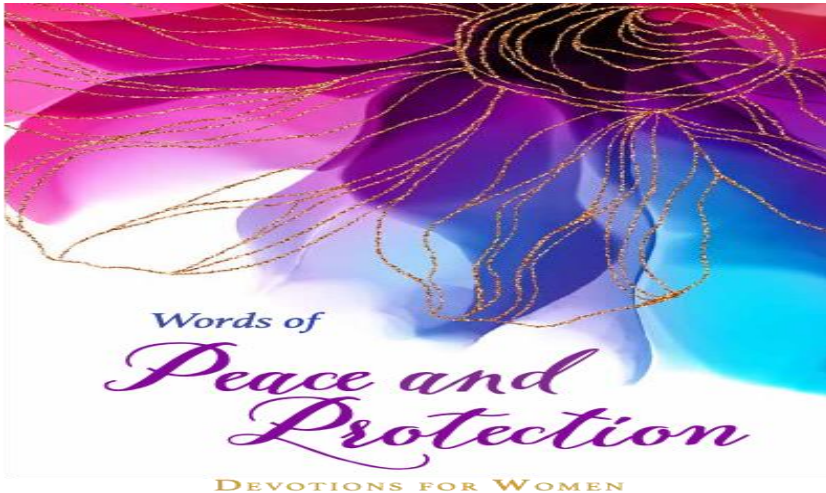
Some of you may not be aware but SOTC has an easy and convenient way to make one time or recurring donations to the church on our website. You can use a credit card, checking or saving account to make donations just go to our home page @ www.shadowofthecrosslc.org and click on donate in the upper right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

I would like to thank everyone who shared my 98th birthday with me. Everything was wonderful. God bless you all. Ann Little

Pastor Bible Study start back up Tuesday September 13,2022 11:30am

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

SOTC CHOIR will start Tuesday September 13,2022 at 7:00 pm.



If you're or your women groups are looking for a Fall 2022 study, you may want to consider this book. I am a contributing author for this collaborative collection of 52 devotions-by 52 Christian women, bound in this beautiful book, Words of Peace and Protection, published by Concordia Publishing House.

Set for a September release, it's already available for pre-order via Amazon.

God's Blessing to all, Margo Dupre



Free English as a Second Language Class /Practice Everyone

Welcome **Come often or when you can**

Friendship Social Group

Meets Thursdays 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

For more information contact:

Shadow of the Cross Lutheran Church International Friendship Center

20805 Middlebelt Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

248-474-0675

Gifts for All God's Children has begun its 2022 Holiday Campaign. Please see Barbara Hatcher or Lainia Burk if you know of a family in need with children up to age 16.

The Gracias Christmas Cantata "Good Tidings for All" is returning to the Fox Theater on September 20, part of their 2022 U.S. tour. Please See Lainia Burk or Barbara Hatcher for free tickets for this spectacular show or scan the QR code on the flyer in the Narthex. VIP tickets are also available @ \$20 and \$30. More information is available @ [www. Christmascantata.us](http://www.Christmascantata.us)



September 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
Donations still accepted for A/C & Roof Repairs.				2:00pm Finance.	NO SCHOOL.	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.	HAPPY 					9:30am Womans League. 10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultsZoom 11:15am Prayer Journey.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom. Patriot Day.	6:00pm Trustees Meeting. 7:00pm Elders' Meeting.	11:30am-12:30pm Pastors Bible Study. 6pm Praise Choir. 7pm SOTC Choir. 7:00pm School Bd Elementary School	7:00pm. Finance Meeting.	2:00pm. Finance. 7:00p Leadership Council meeting.	5-7pm.IceCream get acquaintedfor students&parents	10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultZoom. Noon properties cleanup.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.		11:30am-12:30pm Pastors Bible Study. 7pm SOTC Choir. Peace Day		10:30-1 Visually Impaired BStudy		10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultZoom. 11:15am Prayer Journey. Noon properties cleanup.
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.	CLW Fall general meeting.	11:30am-12:30pm Pastors Bible Study. 6pm Praise Choir. 7pm SOTC Choir.		2:00pm. Finance.		