

10/01/2023

Shadow of the Cross
Lutheran Church

Rev. Brian C Dupre
Pastor

THE CROSS CHRONICLES



Readings for the week of October 1, 2023

First Reading Ezek. 18: 1-4, 25-32

Epistle – Phil. 2: 1-4, 14-18

Holy Gospel – Matt. 21: 23-27

**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.

Fellowship hour with refreshments will follow service.

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

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 11:00 am. You can also join us via Zoom, contact the office for the information.

“Law AND Gospel; not OR”

“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

-1 John 1:8-9 ESV

You have heard it said that confession is good for the soul. Whoever coined that phrase spoke prophetically and may not have understood how much of an understatement it is. The truth is, the only thing better for the soul than sincere confession is faith in Jesus Christ as Lord, Savior, and Redeemer. But there are those who believe that confession is unnecessary. They teach, believe and profess that the Law has been made void because of the salvific work of Jesus Christ. They will tell you that the Old Testament is no longer relevant. They will tell you that the Law has no bearing on our lives anymore. They will tell you that ONLY the Gospel matters. In short, they have deceived themselves into believing they are no longer sinners. This type of belief system is wrong in so many ways, it's hard to know where to begin refuting it. But here it goes; first, who are we to say that any part God's Word is no longer relevant? Scripture certainly doesn't say that. However it does say this: *“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”* – Matthew 5:17-19. And this, “I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.” – Revelation 22:18-19

Here is where abolishing the relevance of the Law leads to: If we have no need for the Law, we are saying we do not need to be shown our sin because we have no sin. If we have no sin, we are equal to Jesus, and do not need to be forgiven. If we have become equal to Jesus, then we have no need for a Savior. If we have no need for a Savior, then we ultimately deny the significance of Jesus' death and resurrection and ascension. If we don't believe we need to be forgiven, we won't be forgiven but will be accountable for our arrogance on the Last Day. This path is inescapable for those that believe the Law has no relevance.

On the other hand, there are those who deny the Gospel. They uphold the Law, but deny that Jesus is the Son of God. Some in this group, believe the Gospel, but think it is an exaggeration of God's love and grace; that Christ could not have risen from the dead. They understand that the Law is good to live by; but the Gospel is nothing more than a pretty story for the weak in spirit or those who have lost hope. What they don't understand is that without the grace of God that comes to us through the Gospel, there is no hope at all. Without the Gospel we cannot be saved, because we can not know who our savior is. Therefore, faith, the key to salvation, becomes irrelevant.

This is the beauty of the Lutheran doctrine; we understand that you cannot separate Law and Gospel. Both must be preached, taught, confessed and inwardly digested to enable us to have a proper relationship with our God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is not Law OR Gospel. It is Law AND Gospel. We must be shown our sin through the Law so that we see that we have offended God, and feel the weight of guilt, so that we can approach Him with contrition to confess our sins and be forgiven. We must be shown our Savior through the Gospel so that we know that He loves us, forgives us, and died for us so that we might live. It is through the Gospel that the Holy Spirit calls us and enlightens us in the one true faith. Without the Gospel, there can be no faith in Jesus. Without faith, there is no salvation or life everlasting. The faithless will be condemned to hell on the Last Day. This path is inescapable for those who refuse the gift of faith. But let me remind you that those of us who remain faithful unto the end, will receive the crown of life. That is the sure and certain promise of God! 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=Rzdpd09PU05CWZCU1NROEI4bll5dz09>

Meeting ID:83332323924 Passcode: 525750



CHICKEN WITH BLOOD ORANGE AND OLIVES

Roast Chicken with Blood Orange and Olives ~ you're going to roast chicken anyway, so why not make it special? Peel a couple of blood oranges (substitute regular oranges or tangerines) and throw in some green olives to bake along with it, you'll be so happy you did!

INGREDIENTS

one fryer chicken, cut into 8 parts.

2 Tbsp olive oil plus more for brushing

- salt and fresh cracked black pepper
- 1 medium red onion, peeled, halved, and cut into thin wedges
- 3 cloves garlic, peeled and minced
- 1/2 cup Marsala
- juice of 1 blood orange
- 1 cup green olives
- 2 blood oranges, peeled and sliced

INSTRUCTIONS

- Set oven to 375F.
- Heat a heavy skillet that is big enough to fit all the chicken in a single layer on medium high and lightly coat the bottom with olive oil. Brush the chicken pieces with oil and season with salt and pepper on all

sides. Brown the chicken on both sides, starting with the skin side down, and working in batches so you don't crowd the pan. Add more oil if necessary.

- Remove the chicken to a plate and reduce the heat. Add the onions to the pan and saute for a few minutes, just to soften them a bit. Add the garlic and saute for a minute or two more.
- Pour the Marsala into the pan and stir to get any browned bits off the bottom, then add the orange juice. Arrange the chicken pieces back into the pan, skin side up. Add several sprigs of thyme, bring to a boil, and then put the pan in the oven for 20 minutes.
- Take the chicken out of the oven and add the olives and orange slices. Put back in the oven for a further 20 minutes, or until the chicken is done through. If you'd like more caramelization, slide the pan under the broiler for a few minutes, but watch it carefully.
- Serve right away, garnished with fresh thyme leaves. Be sure to spoon all that good sauce over the chicken, too!

Prep Time:20minutes minutes Cook Time:40minutes minutes Servings: 4 -6 servings

RELIGIOUS JOKES

Laughter in Heaven

Q. How can you make God laugh?

A. Tell him your plans.

Matzah Braille

A blind guy goes to the Passover Seder and someone passes him a piece of matzah. He runs his fingers over it and loudly exclaims, "Who wrote this garbage!?!?"

Praying For Food

As my five-year-old son and I were heading to McDonald's one day, we passed a car accident. Usually when we see something terrible like that, we say a prayer for whoever might be hurt, so I pointed and said to my son, "We should pray."

From the back seat I heard his earnest voice: "Dear God, please don't let those cars block the entrance to McDonald's."

Dead or Live

"If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale, and gave all my money to the church, would I get into heaven?" a teacher asked the children in her Sunday school class.

"No!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into heaven?"

Again the answer was, "No!"

"Well," she continued, "then how can I get to heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead!"

New Driver

During a Sunday service, the pastor asked the congregation for their intentions. We heard the usual requests to pray for sick people and the acknowledgments for those who helped when a parishioner died. The somber mood was broken when the last intention was heard.

A woman stood up and said, "My granddaughter turned 16 this week and received her driver's license. Let us pray for us all."

Bible Trivia Questions

Q. What was the final plague that convinced Pharaoh to let the slaves go?

A. The firstborn son of all Egyptian families died.

Q. In which Gospel did Jesus say and quote " Everything is possible for one who believes"?

A. Mark

Q. What did the Holy Spirit look like when the disciples received it?

A. Tongues of fire

Q. Which minor prophet is well-known thanks to [cookies](#)?

A. Famous Amos.

Q. What did Zachariah do when he and Elizabeth had disagreements?

A. He gave the silent treatment.

Life Is Short

Live the life you love
Love the life you live
For it is very short
And can never be bought
Life can be good
Or it can be bad
You've gotten many things

You wish you never had
A really nice house
Even a very fine car
Those fancy things in life
Won't get you very far
Life is for enjoyment
Live yours to the fullest
For it is very short
And can never be bought
Striving for big riches
Maybe a waste of time
Make the best of what you have
While you're still in your prime
You've gotten many things
You wish you never had
Life is made for living
Whether it's happy or sad

By Patricia Grantham

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!

Future and Hope By Chase Bomar

The future holds endless possibilities, and hope is the driving force that propels us forward in the face of uncertainty. It is a fundamental human emotion that nourishes our spirits, encourages perseverance, and instills optimism. Hope, an astounding force, illuminates the path to an extraordinary future. It invigorates our spirits, empowers resilience, and nurtures optimism in the face of uncertainties.

Hope is a central theme in the Bible, offering solace and guidance to individuals throughout history. In Jeremiah 29:11, the prophet states, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." This verse reassures us that God has a purpose and a future full of hope for each one of us. It reminds us that no matter our challenges, we are not alone; divine plans are at work.

Additionally, the New Testament emphasizes the importance of hope. Romans 15:13 states, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." This verse highlights the transformative power of hope when rooted in faith. It assures us that our hearts can be filled with unending hope, joy, and peace through trust in God.

The future and hope are intertwined, nourishing our spirits and providing strength during challenging times. With faith and a belief in a divine plan, we can face the unknown with unwavering hope and anticipation as God is on our side.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Financial Information as of August 31,2023

Actual Revenue \$41,202 Budget Revenue \$ 45,146 under Budget (\$3,944,)

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

You can use a credit card, or saving account to make donations just go to our home page @ www.shadowofthecrosslc.org and click on donate in the upper right corner. Please write checks to church in black or blue ink. Do not make cross-outs on checks. These are not acceptable to the credit union. Have any questions, contact the office.

LWML Sunday is October 1,2023 wear purple. Wanted!!! Mite Boxes Please Donate

LWML Zone Rally, Oct. 21, Sat., Salem Lutheran Church 32430 Ann Arbor Road, Westland, Btwn Merriman & Farmington Rd, 9:30 am, All women are encouraged to attend.

CELEBRATE October 22, Sunday, Pastor Appreciation Month

Shadow of the Cross is now live streaming the Church Services again please join us.

The Board of Elders invite guests to fill in the welcome cards on the back of the pews. Please place them in the plate during the collection of offerings. Thank You.

SOTC International Friendship Center Social activities and support services. Weekly Thursdays 10AM -12NOON Support us by getting a Friendship Coin bottle from the narthex and return.

SOTC Family: We have great things going on in our Church kitchen; whenever you need cups, napkins, plates etc., they are in our kitchen for everyone to use, The Church does not have Kitchen Supplies in the budget, so we depend on donations. Ruth Palmer and the Women's League buy the supplies with your contributions. So, when you see a basket on the dessert table asking for donations or attending a meeting during the week and enjoying a warm cup of coffee, **Please THINK about the kitchen supplies basket and give monetary gift.**

Thank You, SOTC Women's League

SOTC COFFEE HOUR

Some like their coffee black.

Some like it sweet.

Some like cream with flavor to make their day complete.

Some like their favorite treats.

Some need cups, stirrers, creamer, + sweeteners to enjoy their coffee.

Some need napkins to wipe their mouths and hands.

Some need a plate for their favorite treats.

Some need foil or carry-out containers to take extras home.

Now we know what we like and need, so **Please consider a free-will donation for coffee and other kitchen supplies.**

Trunk or Treat Oct 21 Saturday at SOTC from 3pm to 5pm.

PRAISE CHOIR Meet on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of October at 5:30 pm. All are welcome!

SOTC CHOIR Meet on Tuesday at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!

The Food Pantry Please shop from our pantry grocery list on the bulletin board or see Dawn for the list.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
LWML Sunday 9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.		Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 5:30 pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir		ESL Program meet. 10am to 12:00pm		10:00am Adult Sunday School ZOOM NOON properties cleanup
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.	Bd of properties 6p meeting Elders 7pm meeting 6:00pm Trustee es Meeting.	Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 5:30 pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir	7pm. Finance meeting	ESL Program meet. 10am to 12:00pm		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.		Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 7pm SOTC Choir		ESL Program meet 10am to 12:00pm 7:00pm Leadership Mtg		LWML Rally 9:30 am 10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom Noon properties cleanup. Truck Treat 3 to 5 pm
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Pastor appreciation month 9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study		Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 7pm SOTC Choir		ESL Program meet. 10am to 12:00pm 10:30 Visually impaired BStudy		10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom 11:15am Prayer Journey zoom. Noon properties cleanup.
29	30	31				
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.		Halloween Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 7pm SOTC Choir				