

9/01/2024

Shadow of the Cross
Lutheran Church

Rev. Brian C Dupre
Pastor

THE CROSS CHRONICLES



Readings for the week of September 1, 2024

First Reading Deut.4: 1-2 ,6-9

Epistle – Eph.6: 10-20

Holy Gospel –Mark.7:14-23

**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>

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

Fellowship hour with refreshments will follow the service.

Prayer Journey: 2nd and 4th Saturdays 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 1-425-436-6395 dial 341-364 #

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

Tuesday Bible Study is 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 – Thurs. 9:45 am – 2:00 pm. Thank you.

“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.” (Romans 13:1-2 ESV)

Saints of SOTC, fall is upon us, and another presidential election is not far off. It is never my intention to make politics the focus of my sermons, Bible studies, or messages to you through the newsletter. However, as we approach this presidential election, I cannot believe what I am hearing and seeing regarding the candidates. The TV ads are all negative as they usually are, and instead of focusing on the issues our country is struggling with, they prefer to attack both candidates' character, physique, looks, intellect, finances, spouse, religion, and personal life. Having been influenced by these ads or hearsay by media figures and/or celebrities, many people make hateful jokes, hurtful comments and laugh about the characteristics of the candidates. Many have come close to or have actually broken the eighth commandment, slandering or giving false testimony against these candidates. I even overheard someone say that we should rather have a non-Christian in the White House than a fool.

To those of us that say and do these things with callous hearts and malicious intent, may I remind you, “But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong” (1 Corinthians 1:27). I also caution you with the words in the text above. It is God who places those in authority over us; not your vote, not my vote, not the electoral college. God does. The truth is this: one of these men, Mr. Biden (or another democrat) or Mr. Trump will be our next president. And whether we personally like the next president or not, let us respect the fact that God put that man or possibly woman there and submit ourselves to his/her authority; for there is no authority except that which has been instituted by God. To oppose the new president because he/she wasn't our choice or simply because we don't like him/her, is to oppose God. And those who resist who God has appointed will incur judgment.

We all have our preferences and opinions; I recognize and respect that. But from the hearts and mouths of we, who have the love of Christ Jesus in us, should express that same Christian love for our neighbors, including Mr. Biden and Mr. Trump. We don't have to agree with or even like someone to respect the authority they have over us. And who are we that we should despise what God has done? To do so makes us hypocrites; praising God with our lips but not our

hearts; *“For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person”* (Mark 7:21-23).

Now if either candidate is clearly opposing God, abusing their power and authority, taking advantage of the disadvantaged, expressing hatred rather than love and compassion, purposely oppressing people for whatever reason and disrespecting the rule of law and mocking the constitution, then that candidate doesn't deserve the office they are elected to. Our respect is for the office they hold, not necessarily the person in it. God will handle that issue either directly or through those He chooses to act for Him. Therefore, let us guard our hearts so that they are filled with faith, love, respect and obedience to the authority that God places over us; trusting that God knows what He is doing, even if we don't agree with those He has chosen; and firmly believing that God always has our best interest in His heart. 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.



JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL Online

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, 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



HONEY GARLIC CHICKEN BREAST

Ingredients

- 1 lb. chicken breast, *boneless and skinless (2 pieces)*
- Salt and pepper
- 1/4 cup flour
- 3 1/2 tbsp unsalted butter (*or 2 1/2 tbsp olive oil*)
- 2 garlic cloves, *minced*
- 1 1/2 tbsp apple cider vinegar (*or white or other clear vinegar*)
- 1 tbsp soy sauce, *light or all purpose*
- 1/3 cup honey (*or maple syrup*)

Instructions:

1. Cut the breasts in half horizontally to create 4 steaks in total. Sprinkle each side with salt and pepper.
2. Place flour in a shallow dish. Coat chicken in flour and shake off excess.
3. Melt most of the butter in a large skillet over high heat – hold back about 1 tsp for later.
4. Place chicken in skillet and cook for 2 – 3 minutes until golden. Turn and cook the other side for 1 minute.
5. Turn heat down slightly to medium high.

6. Make a bit of room in the pan and add garlic and top with the remaining dab of butter. Stir garlic briefly once butter melts.
7. Add vinegar, soy sauce and honey. Stir / shake pan to combine. Bring sauce to simmer, then simmer for 1 minute or until slightly thickened.
8. Turn chicken to coat in sauce. If the sauce gets too thick, add a touch of water and stir.
9. Remove from stove immediately. Place chicken on plates and drizzle over remaining sauce.

Prep time 4 mins Cook Time 8 mins Total time 12 mins.

HOLY HUMOR

A little boy wants a bike for Christmas really badly, but the kid is a real bad seed, and he knows it. He writes a letter to Jesus. "Dear Jesus, if I get a bike for Christmas, I'll be good for a whole week." He thinks about it, crosses out what he wrote, and says, "I can't be good for a whole week, I'll be good for five days." He crosses that out and writes, "I'll be good for four days." Then he thinks again and says, "Can't do that." He gets down to one day and says, "I can't even be good for a day." Then in frustration, goes in his mother's room and get the statue of the Virgin Mary, wraps it up in a blanket, puts it in a paper bag, throws it in the closet and says, "Dear Jesus, if I don't get a bike for Christmas, you'll never see your mother again!"

In surgery for a heart attack, a middle-aged woman has a vision of God by her bedside. "Will I die?" she asks. God says, "No. You have 30 more years to live." With 30 years to look forward to, she decides to make the best of it. So since she's in the hospital, she gets breast implants, liposuction, a tummy tuck, hair transplants, and collagen injections in her lips. She looks great! The day she's discharged, she exits the hospital with a swagger, crosses the street, and is immediately hit by an ambulance and killed. Up in heaven, she sees God. "You said I had 30 more years to live," she complains. "That's true," says God. "So what happened?" she asks. God shrugs, "I didn't recognize you."

A Bible group study leader says to his group, "What would you do if you knew you only had four weeks left before the great Judgment Day?" A gentleman says, "I would go out into my community and minister the Gospel to those that have not yet accepted the Lord into their lives." "Very good!" says the group leader. One lady speaks up and says enthusiastically, "I would dedicate all of my remaining time to serving God, my family, my church, and my fellow man with a greater conviction." "That's wonderful!" the group leader comments. One gentleman in the back finally speaks up loudly and says, "I would go to my mother-in-laws house for the four weeks." The group leader asks, "Why your mother-in-law's home?" "Because that will make it the longest four weeks of my life!"

A man is angry because he has it in his head that someone stole his wallet. He walks into a church to steal someone else's wallet, but he has a change of heart during the service. He confesses to the priest afterwards about what his intentions had initially been. The priest asks, "What made you change your mind?" The man says, "In your sermon on the Ten Commandments when you got to 'Thou shall not commit adultery,' I remembered where I left my wallet!"

Three religious' leaders (a rabbi, a priest, and a minister) were all discussing how they divide up tithing income between themselves and God. The minister said, "I draw a line in the sand, throw the money up in the air, and what lands on the left side of the line goes to the good Lord and what lands on the right side goes to me." Then the priest said, "I draw a circle on the ground, throw the money up in the air, and what lands inside the circle goes to the good Lord and what lands outside goes to me." Then the rabbi said, "You got it all wrong! I throw the money up in the air and what the good Lord catches is his and what lands on the ground is mine."

Late one night, a preacher was driving on a country road and had a wreck. A farmer stopped and said, "Sir, are you okay?" The preacher said,

"Yes, I had the Lord riding with me." The farmer said, "Well, you better let him ride with me, because you're gonna kill him."

Bible Trivia Questions

Question: Who wrestles with an angel?

Answer: Jacob

Question: What are the five categories found in the New Testament?

Answer: the Gospels, the single book of Acts, Paul's letters to churches, Paul's letters to church leaders, as well as the collection of letters sent to groups of people.

Question: In which New Testament Book does Jesus say "I and my Father are one."

Answer: Book of John.

Question: In the Gospel according to John, which of the apostles had doubts about Jesus' resurrection until he saw him with his own eyes?

Answer: Thomas.

Question: Who did Jesus call the "Comforter"?

Answer: The Holy Spirit.

Question: Which New Testament book covers the story of Jesus's ascension into heaven?

Answer: Acts.

Question: How did Paul make his way out of Damascus?

Answer: He escaped in a basket.

Question: Who came to Jesus by night?

Answer: Nicodemus

“The Christian Challenges of 2020”

By Nathan Taylor

My name is Nathan Taylor, and I am eight years old. Even though I am very young I still face challenges in my life as a Christian. One of the challenges that I face is the challenge of race. I am a black boy, and I have seen on the news how George Floyd was treated by the police because he is a black man, and it makes me feel sad and mad because I am nervous about how I will be treated by police. I know that is a sin to hate people because of their skin tone and the bible talks about sin in Genesis 3 and how Adam and Eve disobedience made them get kicked out of the garden of Eden. So, this makes me think about people and how we disobey God and treat others the wrong way. I don't think God likes it when people being mean to others for any reason, and he is very unhappy with those people. It also makes me feel like I should hate those who treat black people bad but then I remember that God wouldn't want me to hate others, and I have to pray for them to be better people. That is a big challenge for Christians in 2020 because it is hard not to hate people who are bad. God says in Genesis 4:7 (“If you had done the right thing, you would be smiling; but because you have done evil, sin is crouching at your door. It wants to rule you, but you must overcome it”) So with the help of God and my family I am learning that God gives me the power to not follow bad things and choose his way and good things. One way my mom and dad has taught me to fight against the bad people that treat black people wrong is to protest. My dad and mom took me to protest and make sure my voice is heard about all the bad stuff that is happening. I am not going to let people who are not kind make me be mean to them or others. I pray that the world would be better one day, and all the protest will make it to heaven so God can hear us and things will change in the world.

Unique

Because I know who I am,
I'm at ease and free.
I can't be like others,
And they can't be me.

I've got fading scars,
An unusual physique,
But it all works together
To make me unique.

I've got hidden strengths,
Some obvious flaws.
Still I am who I am,
For better, for worse.

I don't have to blend in;
I won't live a lie.
I can't please everyone;
I won't even try.

Some call me proud;
Others stare at me in alarm.
But I'm not one to bother,
Because I know who I am

By Abimbola T. Alabi

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

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

Please do not remove any of the books from the pulpit shelf. Pastor uses them.

Financial Information as 06/30/24 Budget Revenue \$277,584 under Budget (\$11,779) as of 07/31/24 Actual Revenue \$17,229.00

******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. It's super easy! If you have questions, contact the office.

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.

SEPT 1, 2024 missionary Ben Tino will be presenting during Bible Study.

Ladies, interested in an online small group Bible study?

Register to study and order: Be Thou My Guide: A Bible Study on Trusting God through my website.

Two ways available:

1. **Join me September 5th Thursday at 8 pm est.** Zoom Bible study group for Be Thou My Guide. Please share with those who you think may be interested and encourage them to sign up through my website: www.margodupre.com **ASAP to get a zoom invite.**

2. Invite me to join your established group.

More information is provided via group email once you register.

Connect with me at: www.margodupre.com

BodySoulSpirit Blood Pressure is taken the last Sunday of the month.

VIOC Is meeting this month on the 4th Thursday at 10:30am bible study.

City of Farmington Hills Cultural Arts

Margo Dupre has two artworks on loan to the City of Farmington Hills through 2025, at the city hall (located at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake) on the main floor.

Family and Friends Sunday please join us September 15, 9:45 a.m. with a potluck after the service.

2024 Lutheran Adult Gathering registration is now open, for October 11-13, 2024, at the Grand Hotel. The theme for 2024 is "New Beginnings IN HIS PRESENCE", based on Revelation 21:5. Nationally renowned speakers will inspire and encourage us to connect with the next generation of believers with the hope-filled and unchanging message of the Gospel. Registration is \$50.00 per person and includes ferry to the island. Register at <https://michigandistrict.org/Lutheran-adult-gathering-registration/>. Lodging reservations are made separately and include Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and dinner, Sunday breakfast, and tips.

Fall Rummage Sale Oct. 31, Nov. 1st, 9am to 4pm and Nov 2nd 9am to 12pm, with clean-up 12pm-3pm setup Oct. 30 9 am. Women's League wants you to start saving items for the Sale.

Cathleen Flinchum and Gloria Marchand are still collecting bottles and cans this time for audio upgrade for the church we need your support thanking in advance.

PRAISE CHOIR: Meet on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday, in September at 5:30 pm! All are welcome!!!

SOTC CHOIR Meet Tuesday at 7:00 pm. will resume 2nd week All are welcome!!!

MEN'S CHOIR Sunday right after church will resume 2nd week.

The Food Pantry. Please us help to fill up the food pantry. Place food donations in 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.

Money Donated during coffee hour at the desert table is being using to buy kitchen supply.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study	Labor Day	Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 5:30 pm Praise Choir				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	Bd of properties 6p meeting Elders 7pm meeting Trustee Meeting.	Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 5:30 pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir	7pm. Finance meeting			LWML MEETING 10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom 12 to 1pm Prayer Journey Noon properties cleanup.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Family & Friends Sunday		Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 7pm SOTC Choir		7:00pm Leadership Mtg		10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom Noon properties cleanup.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Autumn Begins		Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 7pm SOTC Choir		10:30AM Visually Impaired B Study		10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom 12 to 1pm Prayer Journey. Noon properties cleanup.
29	30					
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study						