

6/01/2025

Shadow of the Cross
Lutheran Church

Rev. Brian C Dupre
Pastor

THE CROSS CHRONICLES



Readings for the week of June 1, 2025

First Reading Act. 1:12-26

Epistle –Rev.22:1-6 (7-11) 12-20

Holy Gospel –John 17:20-26

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.

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

Fellowship hour with refreshments will follow the service.

Pastor Dupre's Sunday Bible study begins 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.

“Two Precious Gifts”

“In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.” John 16:23 ESV

How many of us, if given a brand-new Mercedes Benz by our parents, would lock it up and drive it only to church on Sundays? How many of us, if our inheritance included a sprawling estate on an island paradise, would reject it or use it sparingly as if we didn't really appreciate the gift or out of fear of somehow losing it? If I had to guess, probably not many of us, including myself, would treat these things given to us out of love or through inheritance by our parents in such a manner.

The truth is, we believers in Christ as our resurrected Lord and Savior have been given a gift far more valuable than a Mercedes Benz and will inherit mansions greater than all the earthly estates combined. We have been given the gift of prayer and we stand to inherit everlasting life with Christ in the true paradise. Yet how do we treat these precious gifts? Do we use them and treat them as if they are irreplaceable? Or do we put them on the shelf or in the filing cabinet, hiding them from the world, using them sparingly, because we don't hold them in our hearts as precious and irreplaceable? Or are we simply afraid of losing those too?

I bring this up so that each of us may examine ourselves. As I said in a recent sermon, God has given every believer in Christ an “Open Invitation” to come and talk with Him through prayer, anytime, anywhere about anything. Do we really take advantage of that great opportunity? God has promised to hear the prayers of those who love and trust in Him and to respond. The verse above tells us that whatever we ask of the Father in Jesus' name, will be given to us. Now if we are foolish enough to waste our prayers asking God for mansions and Mercedes, when forgiveness, healing, salvation and fellowship with our Savior are still on the table and have not been requested, then we truly have a misguided concept of who God is and what His promise of fulfilling our prayers means. If a car or a house mean more to us than a loving relationship with the Father and the Son and more than our eternal salvation, I hope you are happy with those temporary things; because they will not last. If you think I'm wrong, see you on the last day...uh no, I won't!

The precious gift of prayer should not be locked up in our garages with a sign saying “Sundays Only”. What a shallow, cavalier, disrespectful and spiteful way to treat something that God has given out of love for our own benefit. God loves us and wants to have a Father-child relationship with us. He is not obligated to love us, He certainly does not owe it to us, and we certainly did nothing to deserve His love. He gives this gift because HE desires to be our Father and our God. The promise of the precious gift of everlasting life should not be packed away, where it cannot be shared with others, so that they may come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior and share in the gift themselves. But if you are foolish enough to believe that the promise of everlasting is replaceable; then tell me, with what?

Prayer and Everlasting life. My friends, God through Christ Jesus, has provided us with everything we need for now and for the world to come in these two precious gifts. Pray always and tell everyone of the promise of life everlasting that Jesus won for all believers. This is how we use these two precious gifts and how we show God that we truly appreciate the grace, love, mercy and blessings that comes to us through them. Houses and cars will crumble and rust away and will lose their value. But these two precious gifts of God will never perish and will never be less than precious. God bless you all as we head into summertime!

-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, 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.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83332323924525750?pwd=Rzdpd09PU05CWYZCU1NR0E14bll5dz09>

Meeting ID: 83332323924, **Passcode:** 525750



Punch Bowl Cake

Ingredients:

- **Baking spray**
- 1 (15 1/4-oz.) pkg. yellow cake mix (such as Pillsbury)
- 5 cups whole milk
- 2 (5.1-oz.) pkg. vanilla instant pudding and pie filling (such as Jell-O)
- 4 cups sliced bananas (from 7 medium [6 oz.] bananas), divided, plus more for garnish
- 2 (20-oz.) cans crushed pineapple, drained and divided
- 2 (21-oz.) cans cherry pie filling, divided
- 1 1/2 cups sweetened coconut flakes (from 1 [14-oz.] bag), divided, plus more for garnish
- 1 1/2 cups roughly chopped fresh pecans, divided, plus more for garnish
- 1 (16-oz.) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
- Whole red maraschino cherries with stems

Instructions:

Cook cake:

- Preheat oven to 350°F. Prepare cake in a 13- x 9-inch baking pan according to package directions. Let cool completely in baking pan on a wire rack, for about 30 minutes.

- **Make pudding:**

- Meanwhile, vigorously whisk together milk and pudding mix in a large bowl until slightly thickened, about 2 minutes. Let stand until soft set, about 5 minutes.

- **Cut cake:**

- Cut cooled cake into 1-inch cubes (about 14 cups total).

- **Start cake layers:**

- Place half of cake cubes (about 7 cups) in an even layer on bottom of a large (2 gallon) punch bowl.
- Scoop half of pudding mixture (about 2 1/2 cups) over cake cubes, spreading pudding to edge of bowl.

Arrange 2 cups of the banana slices in an even layer over pudding layer in punch bowl.

- Top banana slices with 1 can of the pineapple followed by 1 can of the pie filling.
- Sprinkle pie filling evenly with 3/4 cup each of the coconut and pecans.

- **Chill cake:**

- Repeat layers once, beginning with cake cubes and ending with whipped topping. Cover and chill for at least 8 hours or up to 24 hours.

- **Garnish and serve:**

- Just before serving, garnish with cherries and additional bananas, coconut, and pecans. Serve cold.

Religious Jokes

Where do we come from?

A little girl asked her mother, "Where did people come from?" Her mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve, and they had children and that's how all mankind was made."

A couple of days later she asked her father the same question. A couple of days later she asked her father the same question. The father answered, "Many years ago there

were monkeys, which the human race evolved from." The confused little girl returned to her mother and said, "Mommy, how is it possible that you told me that you told me that we were created by God, and Daddy said we came from monkey?" The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."

When I grow up.

After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided to become a minister When I grow up." That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?" " Well, said the little boy, " I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen."

The Prayer Request

A businessman needed a million dollars to close an important business transaction. He went to church to pray for the money. He knelt and started praying next to a man who was praying for a hundred dollars he needed to pay an urgent debt. The businessman took out his wallet and pressed the hundred dollars into the other man's hand. Overjoyed, the man got up and left the church. The businessman the closed his eyes and prayed, "And now, Lord, that I have your undivided attention..."

The Pastor's title

A local Pastor joined a community Service Club, and the members thought they would have a little fun with him. Under his name badge they printed. "Hog Caller" as his occupation. Everyone made a big fanfare as the badge was presented. The Pastor responded by saying, "I usually am called the "Shepherd of the sheep" ... but I guess you know your people better than I do."

Symbols of our faith

While teaching children about world religions, a teacher asked her students to bring a symbol of their family's faith to class. The next day, she asked each student to come forward and share the symbol with the class. The 1st child said, "I'm Muslim, and this is my prayer rug." The 2nd child said, "I'M Jewish, and this is my family's menorah." The 3rd child said, " I'm Roman Catholic, and this is my Mom's rosary." The 4th child said, "I'm Greek Orthodox and this is an icon of my patron saint." The 5th child said, " I'm a Baptist and this is my casserole dish."

Bible Trivia Questions

1. Question: Who was the judge who took a Nazarite vow from birth and fought against the Philistines?

Answer: Samson

2. Question: When the people demanded Saul make a sacrifice to God, what did he do?

Answer: Made the sacrifice.

3. Question: When the Philistines came to attack the Israelites, who mocked God and challenged them?

Answer: Goliath the Giant.

4. Question: What did Jonathan do to save David's life from Saul?

Answer: Warned him that Saul would try to kill him.

5. Question: How did Saul die?

Answer: Fell on his own sword.

6. Question: Who was David's son that started a rebellion against him?

Answer: Absalom.

7. Question: When David and Absalom's armies battled, what happened to Absalom's hair?

Answer: It got caught in a tree.

8. Question: What was David's second sin recorded in the Bible?

Answer: He took a census of the people in his nation.

The Little Things In Life

Too often we don't realize
What we have until it's gone
Too often we wait too late to say
"I'm sorry, I was wrong."
Sometimes it seems we hurt the ones
We hold dearest in our hearts
And we allow the silly things
To tear our lives apart
Far too many times we let
Unimportant things get in our mind
And by then, it's usually too late
To see what made us blind
So, be sure that you let people know
How much they mean to you
Take the time to say the words
Before your time is through
Be sure that you appreciate
Everything that you've got
And be thankful for the little things
In life that mean a lot.

Jolene Daniels

Publisher's note: If you have information, prayer requests, 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 shadowofthecrosslc.org

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

Financial Information as Financial Information as 04/30/25 YTD Actual Revenues Received \$285,628.00 and YTD Budgeted Expenses \$311,402.00 under Budget (\$25,774.00).

******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.

BodySoulSpirit Blood Pressure is taken the 4th Sunday of the month strictly confidential.

JUNE 7, 2025, is Spring Cleaning Day at SOTC. From 9 am to 1 pm all the help is needed.

Pictorial Directory signup sheet on table in Narthex picture taken Saturday June 7, 14, 2025, contact person Nancy Faith.

THE ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WILL BE HELD **SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025**, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MORNING SERVICE
THE TOPIC FOR THE ESSAY COMPETITION WILL BE: "BEING A CHRISTIAN IN A CHAOTIC WORLD"

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ESSAYS

COLLEGE GRADS 300 words or more with 2 Bible verses – AWARDS \$200-\$400 DOLLARS

Continuing college students 300 words or more with 2 bible verses – AWARDS - \$200-\$300

High School Grads – 250 words or more with 2 Bible verses – AWARDS \$100-\$200

High School Students – 150 words or more with 2 Bible verses – AWARDS - \$100-\$150

Elementary/Middle School Students – 100 words or more with 1 Bible verse - AWARDS \$25-\$50 Sponsors: Board of Parish Education

Vacation Bible School July 21 - 25, 5 - 8 p.m. Meal 5-5:45 p.m., class 6 p.m.

City of Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Margo Dupre has two artworks on loan to the City of Farmington Hills for two years: 2024 -2025. Please visit the city hall main floor on Eleven Mile and Orchard Lake anytime over the next two years. Additionally, Margo's artwork on was selected by a writer to create a literary work as part of the Farmington Hills Public Art Program - Literary Arts Challenge Writing in response to Public Art Program Exploring Visual and Written Expression, from June 16 - July 25. Please mark your calendar to attend the reading and reception on Wednesday, June 26, from 6 - 8 p.m.

The Unity Ministry is asking all members to resume their monthly gift-giving towards the SOTC Fundraiser. We are thankful for the many Spirit-filled gifts we have already received, as we continue to grow and share God's Word.

"SAFE FOR ALL" LINE DANCE CLASS, Tuesday 12:45pm to 1:45pm. Cost \$2.00.

Taught by Sydney Rose Burwell, Semi-retired Registered Nurse (RN)

Sewing Circle meet every Thursday 10:00am to 12:00pm please come join us. We are making pillowcase dressing for little girls in Africa. Please join us. (Donations of new or gently used pillowcases are welcome.) Contact MaryAnn Otsuji

Andrea Ballantine plays in two orchestras and invites you to attend! Symphony concerts are FREE! Mark your calendars outdoor concert on June 24 at St James Presbyterian Church, 25350 West Six Mile, www.redfordsymphony.org
Royal Oak Symphony Orchestra is the winner of the Detroit Music Award for Best Outstanding Community Orchestra in 2020 and 2022!

Best Practices Conference in Frankenmuth August 10-12. Also, SOTC is organizing a one-day (August 11) bus trip to the conference for SOTC.

Kroger Quarterly Statement QA495 - Shadow of the Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church \$ 30.68, 01-Feb-2025 to 30-Apr-2025

Church Picnic August 24, 2025.

RUMMAGE SALE by the women of SOTC. Please start to save your donations and the date, October 16-18.

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

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

SOTC CHOIR Meet every Tuesday 7:00 pm and **MEN'S CHOIR** Sunday after service.

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

BD. OF PROPERTIES is in need of help with the work around the building. They meet on the first Monday of each month at 5:45 p.m.



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	Bd of properties 5:45pm Trustee meeting Elders 7pm meeting	Pastor11:00am Bible Study Line dance 12:45-1:45 5:30 pm Praise Choir 7 pm SOTC Choir		Sewing Center. 10am to 12:00pm		10:00am Adult Sunday School ZOOM Spring cleaning 9am-1p
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Confirmation class		Pastor11:00am Bible Study Line dance 12:45-1:45 5:30 pm Praise Choir 7 pm SOTC	7pm. Finance	Sewing Center. 10am to 12:00pm		10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultsZoom 12 to 1 pm Prayer Journey Noon properties cleanup.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
FATHER DAY 9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study		Pastor11:00am Bible Study Line dance 12:45-1:45 7 pm SOTC Choir		Juneteenth National Independence Day Sewing Center. 10am to 12:00pm 7:00pm Leadership Mtg	Summer Begins	10:00am Sunday S choolAdultsZoom Noon properties cleanup.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Congregation meeting Blood pressure check		Pastor11:00am Bible Study Line dance 12:45-1:45 7 pm SOTC Choir				10:00am Sunday SchoolAdultsZoom 10:30 Visually impaired BStudy 12 to 1pm: Prayer Journey Noon properties cleanup.
29	30					
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study						