

10/04/2026

Shadow of the Cross
Lutheran Church

Rev. Brian C Dupre
Pastor

THE CROSS CHRONICLES



Readings for the week of October 4, 2026

First Reading Is. 5:1-7

Epistle –Phil. 3:4b-14

Holy Gospel –Matt. 21: 33-46

**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 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 1-425-436-6395 dial 341-364 #

Pastor Dupre's Sunday Bible study begins 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 Wed Thurs. 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. And Tues. 9:00am – 12:00 pm Thank you.

“And While We Are Sleeping...

“...Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints” – Revelation 13:10 ESV

Dear SOTC family, this article is not intended to frighten you. It is intended to be a “wake-up” call to all Christians, especially those who are entrusted with the spiritual well-being of God’s people. Satan never rests and he knows his time is growing short. Each day that goes by brings him closer to his doom. Therefore he will attack the church harder and harder, trying to destroy it. When that doesn’t work, he will attack each of us individually harder and harder, especially those of us in the ministry of God’s Word, trying to separate as many of us from God as he can before the End. So I bring you this message that we might stay strong in faith and committed to bringing the Gospel to the lost and for all Christians to step up our efforts in doing so. Because while we are sleeping, playing, or not taking God’s salvation seriously, look at what Satan is doing....

- Satan calls forth a beast from the sea, a sea monster which will plague the people of God on earth. This first beast has 10 horns and 7 heads, exactly like the dragon in 12:3. This beast has diadems on his horns, not on his heads. The horns of the beast symbolize earthly power which it exercises in and over human affairs through individual authorities. The fact that the beast has 10 horns like the dragon, means that it will be the dominant earthly power before whom no other worldly authority can stand. The beast is a vessel of Satan.
- The diadems on the horns of the beast suggest that once its heads are inspired by the dragon, the individual authorities whom the horns represent will act on their own power. The heads of the beast—that is the minds of the rulers controlled by the dragon—are directed for the purpose of blaspheming God and his saints. The dragon is Satan. The powerful and fearsome tyranny exhibited by the beast engages the attention of much of the human race, so much so that people in awe marvel at the beast in admiration. They worshiped the dragon and the beast.
- Wherever people actually engage in formal worship of the state and its leaders, or when they place their trust in human institutions and affairs and resort to them in place of God, they are worshiping the dragon because he encourages such idolatry. So strong is the beast’s stranglehold on people that they are helpless in opposing it, even if they would desire to do so, for no one can “go to war with it.”
- Because the focus of the beast’s warfare is the saints of God on earth, the beast is given a mouth by which it speaks “great things”—arrogance, hybris—and blasphemes God’s name, his holy habitation and all who dwell there. In its warfare, it sets out to conquer, to destroy God’s holy people by subverting their faith and outlawing their witness to the Lamb who was slain.

While all these things will happen, God has promised that His church will not be destroyed. Therefore, our life, safety and salvation comes through the church by remaining faithful to Christ through this coming tribulation. And so our work is not done, because many of our brothers and sisters remain unaware of what is coming and of their need for salvation. So let us be awake, vigilant and persistent in our efforts to share the Gospel, enduring all for Christ in the blessed assurance of everlasting life. 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 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, 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/83332323924?pwd=Rzdpd09PU05CWXXZCU1NROEI4blI5dz09>

Meeting ID:83332323924 Passcode: 525750



Garlic Butter Lamb Chops Recipe

Equipment

- 1 Cast iron skillet

Ingredients

- 5 lamb loin chops
- Salt and black pepper
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 cloves garlic *minced*
- 1 teaspoon fresh thyme *chopped*

Directions

1. Remove loin chops from the fridge 20-30 minutes before cooking. Place them on a paper towel-lined cutting board and pat them dry with paper towels. Season well with salt and pepper
- 2.
3. Heat a dry 12-inch cast iron skillet* over a medium high heat. In the skillet, place the chops narrow fat side down. You probably will need to use tongs to keep them balanced and to press the chops down so that the fat renders and turns crisp and brown. It's about 5 minutes.
4. Once the fat has melted into the pan, lay the chops flat on one of their sides. Cook for another 3 minutes, until browned, then turn and cook on the other side.

4. Turn the heat to medium-low. Using a spoon, pour off most of the lamb fat. Then add 2 tablespoons of butter (or ghee), garlic and thyme. Stir well until the butter is foaming and spoon the butter over the lamb for a minute or so. Cook the chops until they reach an internal temperature of 145°F*.

5. Place lamb chops in a serving dish and pour butter sauce on top. Enjoy

Religious Jokes

Jonah and the whale

One day, a teacher was talking to her first-grade class about whales when a little girl had a question.

Little Girl: "Do whales swallow people?"

Teacher: "No, even though they are much bigger than a person, they have throat pleats that filter their food of krill and plankton.

Little Girl: "But Mrs. Thurston says Jonah was swallowed by a whale."

Teacher getting angry: "Blue whales cannot swallow people."

Little Girl: "Well, when I get to heaven, I'll just ask Jonah if he was really swallowed by a whale."

Teacher, still red with anger: "What if Jonah went to hell?"

Girl: "Well, then you can ask him."

Drawing a picture of Jesus

A kindergarten teacher was walking around her classroom while her students drew pictures. One little girl was scribbling so intently that the teacher asked what she was drawing. The little girl replied, "I'm drawing a picture of Jesus." The teacher said, "Oh honey, nobody really knows for sure what Jesus looked like." The little girl, without missing a beat, responded, "They will in a minute."

Standing at the gates of heaven

At the end of the age when all the believers were standing in line waiting to get into heaven, the angel Gabriel appeared and said, "I want all the men to form two lines. One line will be for the men who were the true heads of their households. The other will be for the men who were dominated by their wives."

Gabriel continued, "And now we need all of the women to report to Mary and Martha on the other side of the gate."

The women left while the men hurriedly formed two lines. The line of men who were dominated by their wives was seemingly unending. The line of men who were the true head of their household had just one man standing in it.

Gabriel said to the first line, "You men ought to be ashamed of yourselves. You were appointed to be the head of your households, and you have not fulfilled your purpose. Of all of you, there is only one man who obeyed."

Then Gabriel turned to the lone man and asked, "How did you come to be in this line?"

The man sheepishly replied, "My wife told me to stand here."

When God Answers Prayer

After starting a new diet, I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favorite bakery. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and as I approached, there in the window were a host of chocolates, donuts, and cheesecakes.

I felt this was no accident, so I prayed ... "Lord, it's up to You. If You want me to have any of those delicious goodies, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery."

And sure enough, on the eighth time around the block, there it was! God is so good!

Unusual Bible Facts & Trivia

- **Longest Name:** The longest word in the Bible is *Maher-shalal-hash-baz* (Isaiah 8:1).
- **Animal Talk:** A snake talks to Eve, and a donkey argues with its owner, Balaam.
- **Forgotten Wife:** Only one of Solomon's 700 wives is named in the Bible: Naamah, an Ammonitess.
- **Weird Warfare:** In 1 Samuel 5, God strikes the Philistines with hemorrhoids as a punishment.
- **Odd Prophecy:** Saul prophesied his own death by stripping off his clothes and laying naked for a day and night.
- **Sun Standing Still:** Joshua requested that the sun and moon stand still for a day to win a battle.
- **King's Bed:** The giant Og had a bedstead made of iron that was 9 cubits long (approx. 13.5 feet).
- **Hair Strength:** Samson's strength was linked solely to his hair not being cut, a secret revealed by Delilah.
- **Tax Fish:** Jesus had Peter pay a tax with a coin found in a fish's mouth.
- **Age Record:** Methuselah is the oldest man, dying at 969 years old.
- **Prophet's Diet:** Elijah was fed bread and meat by ravens while hiding by the Brook Cherith (1 Kings 17:6).

Rustic Church in The Wood

In the forest amongst the trees
A rustic church you will see
It provides all you need to Praise God.
Wooden pews, stained glass windows
Wooden Pulpit with a Cross
and a piano a little out of tune.
God won't care as long as you
Praise him with your songs.
Hear the birds singing along
with our songs Praising him.
Hear Gods whisper in the trees
While cooling us with a breeze.
Jesus died to save us all.
Calling you and me to his
Rustic house in the forest amongst the trees.

G.O.A.T. (Greatest of All Time)

When people hear the term G.O.A.T., meaning "Greatest of All Time," everybody usually has a different answer. People might say Michael Jordan, LeBron James, or another athlete. For me, the first person that comes to mind is Drake. As a teenager, I grew up listening to his music, lot of his songs are relatable. Whether he is talking about friendships, relationships, success, mistakes, or life in general, his music connects with people, including me. Because of the influence he has had on music and culture, I can understand why people consider him one of the greatest artists of all time.

But when I really sat down and thought about what being the "Greatest of All Time" means, I realized that greatness is about more than talent, fame, money, or awards. Those things can make someone successful, but they do not necessarily make them great. To me, true greatness is about what you do for others, the sacrifices you make, and the impact you leave behind. That is when my answer changed from Drake to Jesus Christ.

Jesus did something that nobody else could do. He died for our sins so that we could have eternal life. Nobody made Him do it, and nobody could have forced Him to. He chose to do it because of His love for us. When I think about that, it makes me realize that there is no comparison between Jesus and any celebrity, athlete, or musician. Drake can make a great song that helps someone get through a difficult day, but Jesus can change a person's entire life. More than two thousand years later, people are still reading His words, following His teachings, and finding hope through Him.

Growing up, my grandma took me to church every Sunday. Back then, I honestly did not realize how those Sundays would stay with me. Looking back now, I can see that they helped shape the way I think and the way I manage challenges. As I have gotten older, I find myself reflecting on those lessons more often, especially during stressful times.

As a teenager, I overthink. I worry about school, my future, my goals, and whether things will work out the way I want them to. Sometimes it feels like I must figure everything out at once. During moments like that, I think about Matthew 11:28, which says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." That verse reminds me that I do not have to carry every worry by myself. It reminds me that I can pray, give my concerns to God, and trust Him instead of stressing over everything.

Another verse that has helped me is Romans 8:31: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" I like this verse because it reminds me that no matter what challenges come my Way, I do not have to face them alone. Things may not always go according to my plans but knowing that God is with me gives me confidence and peace.

When about who deserves the title of G.O.A.T., my answer is Jesus Christ. Not because He was famous, but because He gave His life for people He loved. His influence has lasted for generations, and His teachings continue to help people every day. To me, that is what true greatness looks like.

By Kourtney Gooden

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

"When you are unable to attend a Sunday worship service in person, please join us on the Shadow of the Cross YouTube channel to watch the live-stream."

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

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

"For your convenience, you can use the "Online Giving" button on the SOTC website to submit your regular tithe offering or to make a special donation, using a credit card or checking or savings account."

Church Financial Summary Expected Revenue per Budget \$64,199.

Actual Revenue through September 8, 2026, \$72,189. Better than expected \$7,990

Office Hours Changes Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Tuesday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

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

BodySoulSpirit Blood Pressure will be taken every 4th Sunday of the month strictly confidential.

LWML OCT 4,2026 Wear purple and bring your mite boxes.

Women League meeting October 10,2026 9:30am coffee hr., 10am meeting.

The Gifts for All God's Children 2026 campaign is underway. Registration forms are located in the Narthex. New families are welcome. Please contact Villada Brown or Lainia Burk. Family wishlists (gift requests) are due by Oct 6. Donations or volunteer info can be made at giftsforallgodschildren.org or by any Unity Ministry member.

THE SECOND ANNUAL "SOTC'S GOT TALENT SHOW" Saturday

Oct.17,2026 at 1:00PM. Dancers, Singer, Comedians and featured guests. Applications will be on the counter in the Narthex. Contact Unity Ministry Barbara

Pastor Appreciation Sunday October 25,2026 please feel free to bring cards of appreciation to be presented in church.

Dearborn Fundraiser LET'S DO IT AGAIN for Thanksgiving Nov.15

money due and Nov.24 delivery date after 11:00 am signup sheet on table in Narthex Contact Linda or Veronica.

I'm the coordinator for the acolyte program children 5th-8th grade, please sign up. Any questions contact Lori Smith. Thank You.

Donate gently used coats/Jackets any size for the unfortunate. Contact Lori Smith.

Clean up around the church will meet the first Saturday and the third Saturday of each month from 9:00am to 1:00pm please help keep church clean and beautify.

Commitment and Giving are reminders of our thankfulness to God. We ask that you consider the commitment and giving forms on the table entitled: "TRUST IN THE LORD." The table is located across from the Sanctuary. Forms may be placed in the Prayer box for blessings.

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

PRAISE CHOIR: Meet on the 1st and 2nd Tuesdays in October at 5:30 pm! Sing 3rd Sunday.

SOTC Choir meets 7:00 pm Wednesday and **MEN'S Choir** meets on 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.

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.

Please shop for our pantry grocery Need cans w/pull tabs, or easy open packages. Etc.

Please take advantage of the green recycling bin for paper items

Please make sure the office has your correct email address and phone number.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
Oct. 25— Pastor Appreciation Day						10:00am Adult Sunday School ZOOM 9AM TO 1PM cleanup.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
LWML Sunday wear purple 9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study	Bd of properties 5:45pm Trustee Elders 7pm meeting	Pastor 11:00am Bible Study 5:30 pm Praise Choir	SOTC Choir 7 p.m.			LWML 9:30am MEETING 10:00am Sunday Adult Sunday School Zoom 12 to 1pm Prayer Journey
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study	Columbus Day	Pastor 11:00am Bible Study Praise Choir 5:30 pm	SOTC Choir 7 p.m.	7:00pm Leadership Mtg National Boss Day		10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom 9AM TO 1PM cleanup. TALENT SHOW 1 PM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Dearborn Fundraiser	Dearborn Fundraiser	Pastor 11:00am Bible Study Dearborn Fundraiser	SOTC Choir 7 p.m. Dearborn Fundraiser	Dearborn Fundraiser	Dearborn Fundraiser	10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom 12 to 1pm Prayer Journey. / Noon 10:30 VIOC BStudy
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Dearborn Fundraiser Oct. 25— Pastor Appreciation Day	Dearborn Fundraiser	Pastor 11:00am Bible Study Dearborn Fundraiser	SOTC Choir 7 p.m. Dearborn Fundraiser	Dearborn Fundraiser	Dearborn Fundraiser	