



identity

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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October 22, 2023

Relax. At Cross of Christ, our worship is designed to praise God and enrich faith. We aim to make the service clear and appropriately reverent. For your convenience, the service is printed as well as projected on the screens.

Bring the kids. Our congregation enjoys the worshiping family. In fact, our worship includes a children's message with little ones in mind. That's why children who act up are never viewed as a bother to the worship service. However, parents who want to calm a restless child may do so in the lobby or the parents' room (in the alcove to the left as you exit the chapel). Worship screens and seating are available in the lobby for your convenience.

Don't feel obligated. Our members give offerings to the Lord as an expression of our thanks and praise for his amazing love. Visitors, please know that you are our guests. We're happy you came today to hear about Jesus and his Word. You are not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

Make yourself at home. After our services, we join together in the lobby for coffee and conversation. We'd be honored if you would join us!

Restrooms are located on either side of the water fountain in the lobby.

Questions? If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, feel free to speak with one of our pastors after the service. More information is also available at cocidaho.org.



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Opening Song

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Hymn #234:1,2,4

Opening Responses

with “All I Have Is Christ” & “Surely It Is God Who Saves Me”

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

Please join to sing as you are comfortable

(♩) I once was lost in darkest night, yet thought I knew the way.

The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave.

I had no hope that you would own a rebel to your will,

And if you had not loved me first, I would refuse you still.

But as I ran my hell-bound race indiff'rent to the cost,

You looked upon my helpless state and led me to the cross.

And I beheld God's love displayed – you suffered in my place.

You bore the wrath reserved for me; now all I know is grace.

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.

Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.

Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature, and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserved your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

**(♪) Now, Lord, I would be yours alone and live so all might see
The strength to follow your commands could never come from me.
O Father, use my ransomed life in any way you choose,
And let my song forever be: My only boast is you.**

**Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.**

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever!

Amen!

**(♪) Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid,
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior!**

God's Word

Judges 7:1-8a

¹Early in the morning, Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) and all his men camped at the spring of Harod. The camp of Midian was north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh. ²The LORD said to Gideon, "You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, 'My own strength has saved me.' ³Now announce to the army, 'Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.' " So twenty-two thousand men left, while ten thousand remained.

⁴But the LORD said to Gideon, "There are still too many men. Take them down to the water, and I will thin them out for you there. If I say, 'This one shall go with you,' he shall go; but if I say, 'This one shall not go with you,' he shall not go."

⁵So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the LORD told him, “Separate those who lap the water with their tongues as a dog laps from those who kneel down to drink.” ⁶Three hundred of them drank from cupped hands, lapping like dogs. All the rest got down on their knees to drink.

⁷The LORD said to Gideon, “With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hands. Let all the others go home.” ⁸So Gideon sent the rest of the Israelites home but kept the three hundred, who took over the provisions and trumpets of the others.

God’s Word

Luke 18:9-14

⁹To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

¹³“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

¹⁴“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Song

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Hymn #538:1,3,5

Children’s Message

Message from God's Word

Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Equipped for Spiritual Warfare

Statement of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is sung, following the prayer spoken by the pastor:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen!

Closing Song

“O Church, Arise”

On screens, stanzas 1-4

Silent Prayer

Father, help us prepare for any battle we may face. Help us keep our eyes focused on Jesus. As we go through today, help us stand strong and not live in fear of the enemy. We praise you for equipping us with the armor of God. Lead us to trust in the power of that with which you have equipped us. Amen.

Our Mission: Impacting Lives for Eternity

Offerings

If you would like to give an offering to support gospel ministry at and through Cross of Christ, offering plates are available in the lobby. You can also give your gift online at cocidaho.org/give.

Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

October 22, 2023

Oct 22-29	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School
Monday	10:00am – Women’s Bible Study 6:00pm – Council Meeting	6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study
Tuesday	6:30am – Men’s Bible Study 7:00pm – GriefShare	6:30pm – Cross Connections
Wednesday	6:15pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm – CrossTrainers (HS)	
Thursday	6:30pm – Cross Connections	
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship 3:00pm – Fall Festival	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School 3:00pm – Fall Festival

THIS WEEK

Current Sunday Adult/Teen Bible Study: 9:45 am in Chapel

Why a Bible study on sex? Because the world talks about it, and the Bible talks about it, but Christians and parents often don't. And when we do talk about it, there's a lot of assumptions and a lot of judgment. And it all easily leaves us with a lot of confusion. Let's seek to learn what sex *is not* from the ways we've been victimized or by what we might witness online. Let's seek to know what sex *is* from the one who came up with the idea in the first place: We'll learn from God's Word, the ultimate authority, and gain a biblical perspective of what is true.

Fall Festival: October 29

Here's a way to be others-focused and contribute to building connections with our community and in our church family:

Participate in Fall Festival! **Next Sunday, October 29, 3:00 to 6:00pm on the Boise campus:** chili cook-off, picnic meal (brats & hot-dogs), crafts (not just for kids!), face-painting, games, and trunk-or-treat (3:30-4:30pm).

How to participate?

- Simply attend! (Costume optional. 😊)
- Invite a friend or neighbor family to come with you!
- Volunteer your time & assistance day-of (set-up, grilling, hospitality team, games, clean-up, etc): tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer.
- Decorate your vehicle's trunk and hand out candy. (Trunk-or-treat will run 3:30-4:30pm.) Please sign up: tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer.
- Donate candy so our trunk-decorators don't have to buy it all! tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations
- Compete in the chili cook-off: tinyurl.com/FFchilicookoff
- Contribute a dessert or side for the meal: tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations

Info & sign-ups also available on the lobby bulletin board. Direct questions to Mandy Watkins (amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com / 210-425-3270).

October Sunday School Offering

Sunday school offerings during October will be non-perishable food items for the Idaho Foodbank. If you'd like to donate, bring your food items with you to Sunday school and place them in the receptacle in the hallway.

Volunteer Opportunity: Worship AV

Technology is a blessing for worship: easy-to-read screens, sound amplification, live stream & sermon recordings. These take people to make them work, though!

Would you consider helping us all worship by volunteering on the AV team? The tasks involved are so important, yet (surprisingly?) simple and straightforward! All instruction & training provided; you could even sit in on a service to see what it's like before committing to anything. Sound interesting, want more info? Contact Kristen Koepsell (kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org).

UPCOMING

November Young Adult Meet-Up: Nov. 1, 7pm, Boise Campus

For folks roughly 18 (post-high-school) to early 30s – come hang out, make some connections, consider a discussion topic pertinent to your life. Note the slight change in time – now 7pm – and this month's location, here on the Boise campus. Friends very welcome!

Mommy & Me: Woodland Creatures

Friday, November 3, 10:00 am at the North Nampa campus (6134 Birch Ln): This activity is perfect for caregivers and their children under the age of 6. If it's your first time attending, please register at cocidaho.org/connect/mommy-and-me/.

Congregational Open Forum: November 12

Boise campus, Sunday, November 12, 1:00 pm

All members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and offer input as we take a look at updates on various other areas of ministry.

Community Awareness Night, Nampa Campus: November 13, 6:30pm

You're invited to the Nampa campus (6134 Birch Lane) for an evening with Fostering Idaho, to learn about the needs for foster care in the valley, ways we can support, and stories of impact and hope!

Next Sermon Series: Generosity – Transformed by Grace

What does generosity mean to you? During the upcoming holiday season, we tend to emphasize feelings of thankfulness, good will, and joyful generosity. However, for a child of God, these are so much more than seasonal sentiments. Being generous with who we are and what we have flows directly from the immense generosity first shown to us by our God. So let's go into the holidays this year with a firm grasp on God's powerful generosity and how that generosity transforms our life into something new.

	Nampa Campus	Boise Campus
November 5	Generosity & Grace	Generosity & Grace
November 12	Generosity & Gifts	Generosity & Money
November 19	Generosity & Money	Generosity & Gifts
Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 22, 6:30 pm at both campuses	Generosity & Gratitude	Generosity & Gratitude

Rake Up Boise! November 18

Meet at the Boise campus 9:30am, Saturday, November 18; bring gloves and a rake if you can. We'll gather around God's Word and then put our faith into action by serving others. Lunch is provided; **anyone can participate!** Please RSVP on the Boise bulletin board or to Pastor Brad (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org / 208-996-0862).

In need of raking for your yard? Please contact the office (admin@cocidaho.org / 208-375-3992) and get on the list!

Prayer Ministry

Prayer is a gift from God, and he invites us to come before him with all requests, including prayers for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Cross of Christ uses a prayer chain to share prayer requests with those committed to lifting up members at our church in prayer during times of difficulty as well as times of joy. If you would like to receive email updates on specific ways to pray for your church family, please contact Pastor Hein (greg.hein@cocidaho.org) with that request.

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	35	36	71
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	27 / 7	16 / n/a	43 / 7
Last Weekend's Worship Sisters in Christ Ladies' Retreat	77+74 +22	98	271
Men's Bible Study/Women's Bible Study	8 / 6	n/a / 10	8 / 16
CrossTrainers	11	n/a	11
Livestream Views	8		
Growth Groups	13+7+8		
Cross Connections	n/a	9	9

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i>	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$244,178
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$190,043
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$16,057

Serving	Oct 22		Oct 29	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	K. Koepsell, C. Trull, Small Group	J. Hein, K. Christianson	J. Hein, M. Biondi	A. Lange, Adult Choir, B. Breckon
AV Tech	G. Light, C. Spackman	E. Christianson, J. Geary	TBA	C. Klink, J. Meier
Altar Care	n/a	T. Yaka, L. Russow	n/a	T. Yaka, L. Russow
Ushers	n/a	C. Berrier, J. Harris	n/a	C. Berrier
Greeters	n/a	TBD	n/a	TBD
Open & Close	n/a	B. Masters, M. Brown	n/a	J. Breckon, H. Geary
Coffee	Guthmiller	B. Robbins, N. Herberger	TBA	B. Robbins, N. Herberger
Flowers	n/a	Loring	n/a	Banner/Ehlke
Cleaning	Fuller	n/a	TBA	C. Masters, J. Masters
Bulletins	n/a	Ritger, Ford, Ashley	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller
Tellers	Harris, Walden, Christianson		Rule, Walden, Davidson	

