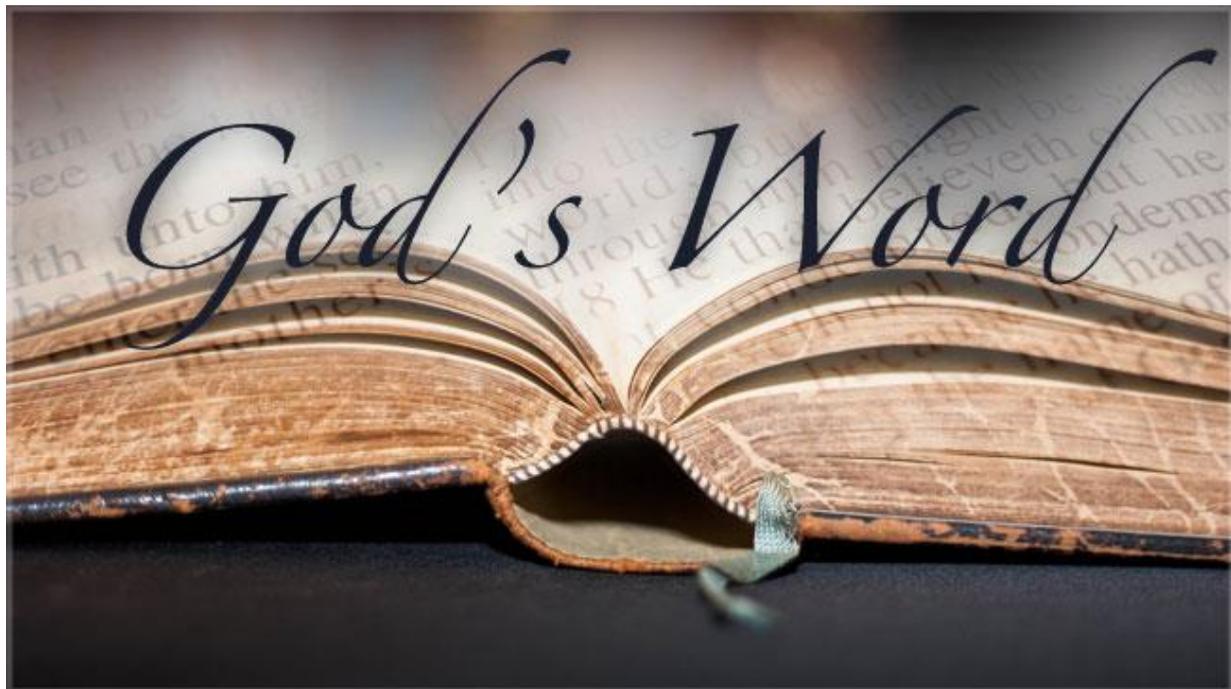


TRUST THE POWER OF



July 25-26, 2020



Cross of Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool

(208) 375-3992 + cocidaho.org

Rev. John Steinbrenner, District President: (208) 921-4748, john.steinbrenner@cocidaho.org

Rev. Matt Zimpelmann, Christian Life Pastor: (208) 861-3623, matt.zimpelmann@cocidaho.org

Rev. Brad Snyder, Christian Education Pastor: (208) 996-0862, brad.snyder@cocidaho.org

Rev. Kurt Wetzel, Mission Pastor: (208) 996-2202, kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 25-26, 2020

Welcome to Cross of Christ

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 often includes a children's message with little ones in mind (though these are currently on hold for health considerations). That's why children who act up are never viewed as a bother to our worship service. However, parents who want to calm a restless child may do so by walking them in the lobby. Worship screens, speakers and seating areas can be found in the lobby to assist families with their worship.

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're 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 to the left and right 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. You will also find a summary statement of our beliefs on the lobby counter. More information is available online at cocidaho.org.



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Cross of Christ

Opening Response

P: Dear friends, we begin our worship in the name of the God who has given us faith through his gift of Baptism – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: We thank you for this wondrous gift, Triune God, and we give you our love today!

P: But we must also confess that we have not always loved you as we ought...

Our Praise, Confession, and Thanksgiving

**(♩) I confess to you, O Lord, that I have sinned.
I confess to you, O Lord, all my sin within.
I have failed to live for you in the things I say and do,
And have fallen short of living in your love.
Lord, have mercy on me. Lord, have mercy, set me free.
Oh, forgive me, Lord, I pray, and take my sin away,
By the cross and empty grave for my soul.**

O God, we come to refusing to hide who we truly are from ourselves or you. We know we are not perfect as you demand. And we know we deserve your just and eternal judgment. But we also desperately cling to this truth: You are gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in love and compassion. And so we appeal to your mercy, Lord, confessing our sins and asking you, in the name of our Lord Jesus to forgive us...

Almighty God, I have blindly wandered from your right paths. I think, say, and do evil each day, AND I fail to think, say, and do the good you expect from me – I do not deserve to be called your child.

Yet, Jesus accomplished for me what I could never achieve – he lived my perfect life! And he paid what I could never afford – an agonizing death.

**And so I ask, because of your undeserved love for me, dear Father –
cleanse me and I will be clean – wash me and I will be whiter than snow!**

(♩) I confess to you, O Lord, that I have sinned.

I confess to you, O Lord, all my sin within.

I have placed myself above, and have hurt the ones I love,

And I know that only you can set me free.

Lord, have mercy on me. Lord, have mercy, set me free.

Oh, forgive me, Lord, I pray, and take my sin away,

By the cross and empty grave for my soul.

Take us back to the water. Wash away our sins.

Welcome us, O Father, back to your home again.

Bless your sons and daughters,

And let the feast begin, let it begin!

Lord, have mercy on me. Lord, have mercy, set me free.

Oh, forgive me, Lord, I pray, and take my sin away,

By the cross and empty grave for my soul.

Dear friends in Jesus, God has forgiven all your sin. That's WHY he sent Jesus to live and be baptized for you, to die and to rise for you. That's HOW he has declared you 'not guilty' forever. It's by his amazing grace that you ARE his dear sons and daughters. Let's live to thank him and sing to praise him!

(♩) You take us back to the water. You wash away our sins.

You welcome us, O Father, back to your home again.

You bless your sons and daughters,

Now let the feast begin, let it begin!

Lord, your mercy covers me. Lord, your mercy has set me free.

You've forgiven me today, and my sins are washed away,

By the cross and empty grave for my soul.

God's Word

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. ¹² You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow. This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever.

Our Confession of Faith from the Promises of God

A leader of God's people named Joshua once said, "You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed." (*Joshua 23:14*) And so...

Jesus once said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." (*Luke 18:27*)

I believe that God can do the impossible.

Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. (*Joshua 1:9*)

I believe in the promise that God is always with me.

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (*1 Peter 5:7*)

I believe in the promise that God deeply cares for me.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. (*John 15:7*)

I believe in the promise of answered prayers.

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (*Romans 8:1*)

I believe in this promise that there is redemption for me.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. (*Romans 8:26*)

I believe in the promise that the Holy Spirit intercedes on my behalf.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. (*Ezekiel 36:26*)

I believe that God can soften stone cold hearts.

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. (*1 Corinthians 10:13*)

I believe this promise: God will not allow me to be tempted beyond my strength, and he will provide the means for me to endure it.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (*John 14:27*)

I believe in the promise that only God can give me peace.

This is what he promised us—eternal life. (*1 John 2:25*)

I believe in the promise of eternal life. Amen.

Song of Praise

“Speak, O Lord”

stanzas 1-2

Message from God’s Word

Matthew 13:3–9, 18–23

³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they

had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

¹⁸ “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

Lord, Make Me Good Soil!

Song of Praise

“Speak, O Lord”

stanza 3

Prayer of the Church & The Lord’s Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer follows 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.

God's Word

Acts 18:1-11

¹ Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ² There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³ and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. ⁴ Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks. ⁵ When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. ⁶ But when they opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."

⁷ Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. ⁸ Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized. ⁹ One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. ¹⁰ For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city." ¹¹ So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.

God's Blessing

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 his peace.

Amen!

Closing Song

"Almighty God, Your Word is Cast"

Our Mission

Cross of Christ congregation exists to joyously proclaim the gospel of free salvation locally and worldwide. Through God's Word and Sacraments, we strive to win lost souls for Christ and nurture believers for lives of Christian service.

Boise Campus
11655 W McMillan Rd
Boise, ID 83713

Nampa Midweek Ministry Center
5680 E Franklin Rd, Suite 120
Nampa, ID 83687

Thank-Offerings

Giving an offering is one of the many ways we worship our Savior-God. You may give an offering online at cocardaho.org/give or drop it off in the office. As always, you are not obligated. We are glad you are with us to hear God's Word.

Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

July 26, 2020

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool (WELS)
Church & Preschool Office - 208.375.3992 - cocidaho.org

Worship Options

Online worship resources (sermon video, worship folder, music, and Bible study) continue to be available for any who would be home but desire a connection to God's Word.

The latest online worship options are: on our website, in weekly emails and posted to social media by late Saturday night or early Sunday morning. Resources for previous worship services are always available at cocidaho.org/worship-resources.

In-person worship continues on:

- Saturday, 6:30 pm, Boise
- Sunday, 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 am, Boise
- Sunday, 9:30 am, JaK*s Place in Nampa, with Bible study at 8:45 am

Our carefully detailed plan for meeting safely and in compliance with CDC, local, and federal guidelines can be found at cocidaho.org/resuming-in-person-worship.

Offerings of thanks to Jesus may always be given at cocidaho.org/give or may be dropped off at the church office (see hours below).

Virtual Soccer Camp 2020

Our Summer Soccer Camp is online this year: skills & drills, funny skits, and awesome Bible stories, delivered via video. Completely free, completely fun!

We are really excited to enjoy this week with you, "together" at home. Videos will be dropped daily July 27-31. They will be accessible on our Facebook and Instagram – but if you register, they'll be delivered directly to your email inbox so you don't miss a single one!

Register at cocidaho.org/connect/soccercamp2020 and SHARE, SHARE, SHARE!

DivorceCare - GriefShare

Both DivorceCare and GriefShare support groups are *now meeting online*. If you or anyone you know would benefit from Christ-centered, practical encouragement after the loss of a loved one to death or the loss of a spouse to separation or divorce, please consider using this tremendous resource. You will be given videos to watch on your own, a workbook to use at home, and have the opportunity to meet online for 45 minutes with your group. Follow these links for more information ([GriefShare](#) // [DivorceCare](#)) or call/email/text Pastor Zimpelmann (208-861-3623 / matt.zimpelmann@cocidaho.org).

Yes, Preschool Is Open!

We intend to be back in the classroom at the beginning of September! There are openings in all classes (Mon/Wed/Fri mornings or afternoons, Tues/Thurs mornings or afternoons)!

We are paying close attention to state, county, and local district guidance, and we will keep all parents informed of whatever adjustments or protocols are needed to comply with local guidelines. Safety and health are our priority!

You can easily enroll online: cocidaho.org/preschool. Get a \$100 tuition discount when you register before August 31!

Office Hours

The office on the Boise campus is currently staffed Mon/Wed/Fri 9am-12pm, and Tues/Thurs 12pm-3pm. You can also get in touch with us via phone (208-375-3992) or email (secretary@cocidaho.org).

General Fund Offerings Planned FY 20-21	\$708,200
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$40,858
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$36,601
Total Offerings Last Week (All Funds)	\$25,198

To place an announcement in *CrossWords/CrossLinks*, please email secretary@cocidaho.org. Weekly submission deadline is Wednesday at noon. Thanks!

*“I am the Vine, you are the branches.
If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit!”*

Serving	July 25-26		August 1-2	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	Dodd	Koepsell	Wetzel, K. Olsoe & J. Olsoe	Lange
AV Tech	J. Malnes, S. Tews	E. Christianson, A. Becker, M. Hartman, C. Mitten	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	E. Christianson, A. Becker, J. Geary, V. Watkins
Altar Care	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	Yaka, Tweedy	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	McLain, Adams
Set-Up	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a
Ushers	n/a	Benedick, Berrier, Broyles, TBA	J. Harris	Lange, Berrier, TBA
Post-worship Cleaners	D. Tews, J. Light, T. Light	Benedick, Berrier, Evans	D. Tews, J. Light, T. Light	Berrier, Zimpelmann, McLain
Coffee	Guthmiller, Wetzel, O'Doherty	n/a	Guthmiller, Wetzel, O'Doherty	n/a
Flowers	n/a	Tweedy	n/a	Ellis
Lawn Crew	n/a	J. Meier, T. Masters	n/a	Perna
Tellers	Turley, Morgan, Cadwell		Harris, Morford, Morgan	