

Divine | Relational | Skillful | Charitable | Hospitable

How to be Generous

Week 2:
Relational Generosity



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool

(208) 375-3992 + cocidaho.org

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Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 3-4, 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

Opening Song

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

Hymn 221:1,3

Responses & Prayer

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

Congregation: Amen.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!

I rejoiced with those who said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty God, your generosity restored our relationship with you and continually upholds us in your love. Make us confident in our status as your children and lead us to reach out to others with your generous love; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God’s Word

Ephesians 4:29-32

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

God's Word

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Song

"Oh, How Good It Is"

Message from God's Word

Genesis 13:1-12

¹ So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. ² Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.

³ From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier ⁴ and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the LORD.

⁵ Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. ⁶ But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. ⁷ And quarreling arose between Abram's herders and Lot's. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time.

⁸ So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives. ⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

¹⁰ Lot looked around and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan toward Zoar was well watered, like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) ¹¹ So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company: ¹² Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom.

Relational Generosity

Statement of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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.

The Lord's Supper

God's Word speaks of the spiritual blessings of this Sacrament (Mt. 26:28) and warns against the spiritual dangers of being unprepared for this holy meal (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Because we deeply care about you and don't want to see anyone's faith harmed, we ask that if you have not studied with us or spoken with our pastors first, that you refrain from joining in the Sacrament today. We are not judging your love for Jesus but rather displaying loving caution for all involved. Please feel free to ask one of our pastors if you have questions. We are eager to listen and share over an open Bible.

Preparing Our Hearts

with Words of Institution

Dear friends, if God had not reached out to us, we would never have been able to reach him or achieve his acceptance. But his desire has always been for our relationship with him to be restored. Let us acknowledge our brokenness, which separated us from him, and trust in Christ for forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess my sins. They are many, they separated me from you, and they deserved unending punishment. I thank you for your generosity in sending your Son. Show me your love displayed at his cross.

Jesus was forsaken on the cross so you can be accepted by God. He faced the punishment our sins deserved and came to life again so you can be forgiven. Put your trust in him. God loves you, and he welcomes you home as his child.

Amen!

To personally deliver this forgiveness as he welcomes us to his table:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, and grant us your peace. Amen.

Communion Distribution

“Make Me a Servant”

Blessing

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen!

Closing Song

“To God Be the Glory”

Hymn 399:1,3

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 & Preschool

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

October 4, 2020

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

Oct 4-Oct 11	Boise	Nampa
Sunday (today)	8:30am - Early Worship w/Communion 9:45am - Family Bible Study 11:00am - Late Worship w/Communion	8:45 am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship with Communion (JaK*s Place)
Monday		
Tuesday	6:30 pm - Cross Connections Class	
Wednesday	6:30am - Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm - CrossTrainers	
Thursday		6:30 pm - Cross Connections Class
Friday		
Saturday	6:30 pm - Evening Worship	
Next Sunday	8:30am - Early Worship 9:45am - Family Bible Study 11:00am - Late Worship	8:45 am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship (JaK*s Place)

Call for New Pastor

We have extended a Call to Pastor Greg Hein to serve Cross of Christ as our Christian Life Pastor. He now has two Calls to consider: one to Cross of Christ and one to Peace Lutheran Church in Chandler, AZ, where he is currently serving. Please keep him and his family (wife Julie, children Evelyn & Leo) in your prayers as he considers where best to serve God's kingdom. You may reach out to him with your encouragement and prayers at heingw@gmail.com.

North Nampa Ministry Meeting & Lunch

Saturday, October 10, 10:30 am at the North Nampa Ministry Center (5680 E Franklin Road, Nampa). All are invited, whether you've been involved with second site ministry so far or not. We meet to discuss, evaluate, and plan how we continue to reach our community with the good news of Jesus. We eat lunch together to have fun and be family! Let Pastor Wetzel know (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org) if you'll be there for lunch, to help us plan.

Make a Difference for Our Neighbors

A "love in action" project that <everyone> can participate in: delivering free groceries to members of our community who could use a bit of help and encouragement! Saturday, October 10, 1:30 pm, starting at the Boise campus.

Will you participate?

Donate groceries: Bring a set of groceries on the 10th to be packed into a nifty Cross of Christ bag. One set includes a number of basics, listed at the link below.

Deliver groceries: Safely deliver groceries to families identified by their neighbors as those who could use additional help. It's very easy, and we'll go through all the details before hitting the streets.

We are especially in need of volunteers to assist with the delivery day-of, and kids are welcome to join in! It's an absolute joy to see faces of gratitude and know you're helping make a difference.

Please sign up online here, both to *donate* and to *deliver*: tinyurl.com/GrocGive. You can also contact Pastor Wetzel to volunteer or ask questions (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org).

Fall Festival 2020

Get those costumes and candy ready; it's almost time for Fall Festival! As with almost everything right now, Fall Festival will look a bit different this year. We will not have the annual chili cookoff, or serve food of any kind, but there will still be fun! Join us at the Boise campus Sunday, October 25, 1:00-3:00 pm, for games, a costume parade, and (most importantly?) Trunk-or-Treat. Please take a look at the sign-ups in the Boise lobby or online here (tinyurl.com/cocfallfest2020), to help us plan. Thanks! Contact Mandy Watkins for more information (210-425-3270 / amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com).

Sisters in Christ Fall Kickoff

Ladies, please join us on the Boise campus, November 6, 6:00-8:00 pm, to celebrate the Fall season with Sisters in Christ! Dinner will be provided (safely); more details coming soon.

Serve Those in Hospice Care

Cross of Christ has the opportunity to partner with St. Alphonsus' Hospice program and serve people in Canyon County who are in hospice care, and their families, simply by making social visits! If you have a heart for those who are ill or elderly, consider participating. Talk to Pastor Wetzel (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org / 208-996-2202) for more details and/or to let him know you're interested!

Worship Options

Online worship resources (sermon video, worship folder, music, and Bible study) continue to be available so you can connect to God and his Word from home.

The latest online worship options are available 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:

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

Our 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 (Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 3:30 pm or by appointment).

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 20-21</i>	\$708,200
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$177,050
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$151,748
Total Offerings Last Week (All Funds)	\$12,679

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Family Bible Study	53	15	68
Cross Connections Class	7	6	13
Men's Bible Study	7		7
Growth Groups			27+
Worship	39 (Sat) + 77 + 95 = 211	29	240

Serving	October 3-4		October 10-11	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	Lange	Koepsell	J. Lowry	M. Walters
AV Tech	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	E. Christianson, A. Becker, J. Kennedy, J. Hofstetter	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	E. Christianson, A. Becker, C. Voll, M. Hartman
Altar Care	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	Yaka, Tweedy	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	Yaka, Tweedy
Set-Up	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a
Ushers	J. Harris	Bafus, Brown, A. Broyles, KC Broyles, Seely	n/a	Benedick, R. Hibbs, Manglos
Post-worship Cleaners	D. Tews, J. Light	O'Mallon, Hibbs	D. Tews, J. Light	Benedick, Rule, Manglos
Coffee	Guthmiller, O'Doherty	Ritger, Struthers	Guthmiller, O'Doherty	Ritger, Struthers
Flowers	n/a	Healey	n/a	Kauspedas
Lawn Crew	n/a	M. Johnson, N. Tessmer	n/a	J. Meier, T. Masters
Church Cleaners	n/a	K&M Adams, B&K Adams	n/a	Admin, B&M Allen
Tellers	Turley, Rule, Cadwell		Harris, Walden, Morgan	
Bulletin Folders	Bafus, Guthmiller		Prigge, Tweedy, Foreman	