



**CROSS OF CHRIST**  
BOISE

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# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool

(208) 375-3992 + cocidaho.org

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**Second Sunday after Christmas**

**January 2-3, 2021**

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## 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 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 fellowship 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. More information is also available online at [cocidaho.org](http://cocidaho.org).



**CROSS OF CHRIST**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Opening Song

**“Speak, O Lord”**

*On the screens*

## Welcomed into the Family of God

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

**Congregation: Amen.**

We have come into the presence of God. He made us wonderfully so we can live with him in his family. However, our sin ruined God’s perfect design, separating us from him. Yet he invites us to come before him today. Trusting in Jesus alone to bridge the gap between us and God, let’s confess our sins and, once again, find God’s gracious forgiveness.

**Holy and merciful God, I acknowledge all my sins. In numerous ways, I have disobeyed you and have not lived as your child. My sins deserved punishment—now and forever. I am sorry for my failures, and I thank you for sending your Son to rescue me. Lift me up and restore me in your unfailing love.**

In Bethlehem a Savior was born so you can live forever. Jesus took all your sins upon himself on the cross. He lived a perfect life and rose from the dead for you. Your sins are paid for. By believing in him, there is no charge against you. God says you are not guilty, and he gladly welcomes you home into his holy family!

**Amen!**

## Prayer

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do and walk with us this new year; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## God's Word

**John 7:40-43**

<sup>40</sup> On hearing his words, some of the people said, "Surely this man is the Prophet."

<sup>41</sup> Others said, "He is the Messiah."

Still others asked, "How can the Messiah come from Galilee?" <sup>42</sup> Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David's descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?" <sup>43</sup> Thus the people were divided because of Jesus.

## God's Word

**1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written:

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;  
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

<sup>20</sup> Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

<sup>21</sup> For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

## Song

**"O Little Town of Bethlehem"**

*Hymn #65:1,3,4*

## **Message from God's Word**

## **Micah 5:2-5a**

<sup>2</sup> “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
though you are small among the clans of Judah,  
out of you will come for me  
one who will be ruler over Israel,  
whose origins are from of old,  
from ancient times.”

<sup>3</sup> Therefore Israel will be abandoned  
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,  
and the rest of his brothers return  
to join the Israelites.

<sup>4</sup> He will stand and shepherd his flock  
in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they will live securely, for then his greatness  
will reach to the ends of the earth.

<sup>5</sup> And he will be our peace.

### **Glory for the Lowly**

## **Statement of Faith**

## **“We Praise You, O God”**

**We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you, Father everlasting. To you all angels, all powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim sing in endless praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory. The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim you: Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

**You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father. When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin. You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that you will come to be our judge.**

**Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting! 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.

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

### Communion Song

### "To Shepherds as They Watched"

*Hymn 53*

### Blessing

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

**Amen!**

### Closing Song

### "Jesus, Thank You"

*On the screens*

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## Offerings

*If you would like to give an offering to support our ministry, an offering plate is by the door before you exit. You can also give online at [cocidaho.org/give](http://cocidaho.org/give) or contact the church office ([secretary@cocidaho.org](mailto:secretary@cocidaho.org) or 208-375-3992) to schedule a time to bring your offering to church.*

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### **Boise Campus & Preschool**

11655 W McMillan Rd  
Boise, ID 83713

### **Nampa Midweek Ministry Center**

5680 E Franklin Rd, Suite 120  
Nampa, ID 83687

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## 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.*

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# Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

## January 3, 2021

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

Jan 3-Jan 10	Boise	Nampa
Sunday	8:30am - Early Worship w/Communion 11:00am - Late Worship w/Communion	8:45am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship w/ Communion (JaK*s Place)
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday	6:30pm - Evening Worship	
Next Sunday	8:30am - Early Worship 11:00am - Late Worship	8:45am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship (JaK*s Place)

### Private Communion Available

We want to serve and spiritually nurture our members as best as possible. Part of this effort is making sure you have access to the Means of Grace. Offering virtual worship is easy enough, but virtual sacraments is more challenging. If you have been worshipping from home for months and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the church office ([secretary@cocidaho.org](mailto:secretary@cocidaho.org) / 208-375-3992) to schedule an appointment with a pastor to receive private communion. Careful masking, sanitizing, and distancing precautions will be observed.

### Second Site Building Purchase Update

As reported previously, the Church Extension Fund (CEF) loan to acquire the Birch Lane property has been approved. We're awaiting site appraisals for both the Nampa and Boise sites, as well as a property survey of the Nampa site. We do expect CEF loan adjustments once the appraisal and survey are complete and the CEF land/building grants are finalized. Also as previously reported, the addition to our mortgage fits well within the subsidy offered for the Nampa Mission

by the WELS Board for Home Missions (BHM). After several meetings and multiple inputs, we have finalized a floor plan and construction drawings are in progress. We look forward to completing the appraisal and survey requirements and receiving construction bids in the next few weeks.

To God's glory, the Cross of Christ Church family has shown strong financial support for our Nampa Mission. As of December 24, we've grown the building fund to \$177K available with an additional \$122K in outstanding pledges, for a total of \$299K! As you may recall, our minimum goal was to raise \$210K to accommodate both the minimum down payment and the costs to furnish and equip the new Nampa campus.

Over-and-above gifts are still very welcome and encouraged, up until right before we close on the building (late January). Initially we planned to add all gifts above the minimum required to close and equip/furnish the Nampa site to the down payment. However, it has become clear that the larger down payment would not substantially impact our monthly mortgage on the new loan. Rather, your Council has agreed that all gifts above what will be needed at closing will remain in the building fund and be designated specifically for future Nampa Mission development.

You can give directly to the building fund at any time, by check or at [cocidaho.org/give](http://cocidaho.org/give).

### **Family Bible Study Resumes January 10**

You're invited once again to our Family Bible Study at Boise, 9:45 am Sunday mornings starting back up on January 10. Circumstances don't allow for separate kids' classes just yet, but that won't stop us from studying God's Word together! ALL are invited to meet in the chapel, with family groups appropriately distanced, for lessons & discussions for all ages.

### **North Nampa Ministry Meeting & Lunch**

Saturday, January 16, 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](mailto:kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org)) if you'll be there for lunch, to help us plan.

### **Grocery Outreach in Nampa this Month**

Saturday, January 16, 12:00 pm. Deliver free groceries to members of our community who could use a bit of support and encouragement! We'll meet at the North Nampa Ministry Center (5680 E Franklin Road, Nampa) and go from there.

RSVP to Pastor Wetzel ([kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org](mailto:kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org)) if you would like to *donate* and/or *deliver* groceries. All ages can participate! It's safe, everybody goes with a partner, instructions are provided, and you might be surprised by the joy you find in giving.

## Altar Flowers for 2021

To purchase the flowers on our Savior's altar at Boise in 2021, record your name on the flower calendar in the lobby on your desired Sunday, or email the church office ([secretary@cocidaho.org](mailto:secretary@cocidaho.org)). Cost is \$33 per Sunday; designate your payment by marking it on your offering envelope, check, or online gift. If two families share the Sunday, two arrangements each costing \$33 will be made. After the 11:00 am service you can then take your flowers home to enjoy, returning the vase when the flowers are spent. Direct questions to Kay Guthmiller (208-850-8806).



## One Way to Serve: Meal Coordinator

Helping Hands is a branch of Sisters in Christ that (among other things) provides meals for church members in situations like surgery, illness, or welcoming a new baby. We thank outgoing coordinator Sara Manglos for her service and open the opportunity for your consideration.

The Meal Coordinator participates in the email prayer chain and stays in contact with the pastors to be aware of families who could use meals; contacts families to offer meals; contacts Helping Hands volunteers to provide meals when needed; and coordinates the schedule & delivery of the meals (as needed).

This volunteer position would be ideal for someone who enjoys connecting with individuals, has a heart for providing encouragement & support, and can provide some level of organization of people & schedules.

If that sounds like you, or you'd like a little more detail, contact Andrea Becker ([becker\\_family\\_3546@msn.com](mailto:becker_family_3546@msn.com)).

## Thank You!

The Steinbrenners, Wetzels, Snyders, and Kristen Koepsell offer sincere thanks for your expressions of love and generosity during this Christmas season. Many thanks for your financial gift on Christmas Day! Your pastors, staff minister, and preschool teacher consider it a joy and an honor to serve their Savior as they continue to serve you. Your many prayers, cards, encouragements, and love have been a blessing throughout the past year. May our Lord Jesus continue to bless this church family with his generosity and grace in 2021!

**Pastor Steinbrenner** is taking part in Conference of Presidents meetings this week. We pray for blessings on the Conference's work.

## Offering Envelopes 2021

For anyone who prefers paper donations to online donations, there are boxes of offering envelopes available to you in the lobby to pick up at your convenience. We will also happily take distanced requests by email/phone ([secretary@cocidaho.org](mailto:secretary@cocidaho.org)/208-375-3992) to leave an offering box in individual mailboxes.

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

<b>People in God's Word this past week</b>		<b>Boise</b>	<b>Nampa</b>	<b>Total</b>
Sunday Family Bible Study		n/a	18	18
Cross Connections Class			2	2
Last Week's Worship		131 (Christmas Eve) + 87 (Christmas Day) = 218  22 (Sat) + 62 + 56 = 140 (Sunday)	30 (Christmas Eve) 31 (Sunday)	419
<b>Serving</b>	<b>January 2-January 3</b>		<b>January 9-January 10</b>	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	TBA	K. Koepsell	TBA	K. Koepsell
AV Tech	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	J. Kennedy, C. Kennedy	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	E. Christianson, A. Becker
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	J. Breckon, A. Broyles	J. Harris	TBA
Sanitizing	D. Tews, J. Light	TBA	D. Tews, J. Light	TBA
Flowers	Kennedy	TBA	n/a	TBA
Church Cleaners	n/a	Admin	n/a	Cogswell, A. Chadwick
Tellers	Turley, Rule, Morgan		Harris, Walden, Cadwell	
Bulletin Folders	Ritger, A. Tweedy, M. Foreman		Kimmel, Patrick, Whitlach	

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 20-21</i>	<b>\$708,200</b>
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	<b>\$354,100</b>
General Fund Offerings FYTD	<b>\$310,674</b>
Total Offerings Last Week (All Funds)	<b>\$22,460</b>