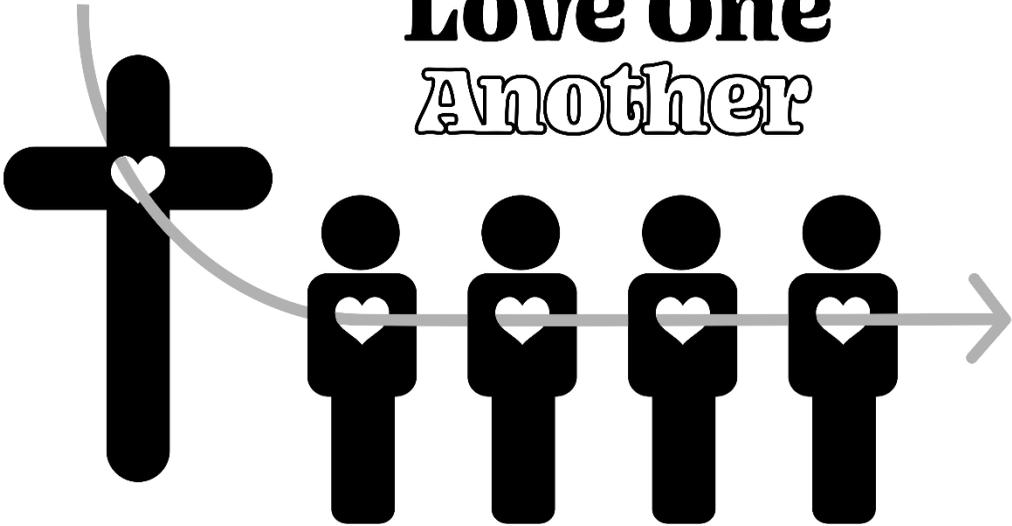


**Love One
Another**



NOW THIS IS LOVE

CROSS OF **CHRIST**
BOISE

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

(208) 375-3992 + cocidaho.org

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Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 1-2, 2021

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 includes a children's message with little ones in mind. 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 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. More information is also available online at cocidaho.org.



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Opening Song

“Oh, How Good It Is”
on the screens

Welcomed into the Family of God

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

Congregation: And also with you.

Dear friends, as we come before God to worship him week after week, let's never lose our amazement and appreciation for the fact that we can come into his presence. Our sins had separated us from God. So as we confess our sins, we remember just how much our Lord overcame to remove the separation so we can be welcomed home in his family.

Merciful Father in heaven, I have sinned against you in countless ways. My failures offend you and deserved unending punishment. Lord, I am sorry for my sins, and I thank you for your amazing love. You gave your Son for me so I can be your child. I trust in Jesus alone for forgiveness as I come before you today.

The almighty God, your Father in heaven, has forgiven all your sins. Jesus' perfect life, innocent death, and resurrection from the dead have done all that is needed for you to be right with God. Your guilt is removed. God is delighted to call you his holy child. Come, settle in with Jesus and his family. And may God send his Spirit so we may live in unity and love as the family of God.

Amen!

Prayer

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; 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 15:1-8

¹ “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”

God's Word

Acts 16:11-15

¹¹ From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. ¹² From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.

¹³ On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. ¹⁵ When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. “If you consider me a believer in the Lord,” she said, “come and stay at my house.” And she persuaded us.

Children's Message

Song

“Love Is the Gracious Gift”

Hymn #505:1,2,3,5

Message from God’s Word

1 John 3:16–24

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

¹⁹ This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰ If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²² and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps God’s commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

Now This Is Love

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.

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 Song

**"Though I May Speak
with Bravest Fire"**

sung by vocalist

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 peace.

Amen!

Closing Song

"Amazing Grace"

Hymn #379:1,2,4

Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

May 2, 2021

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

May 2-May 9	Boise	Nampa
Today	8:30am - Early Worship w/Communion 9:45am - Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids' Sunday School (Gym) 11:00am - Late Worship w/Communion	8:45am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship w/Communion (JaK*s Place)
Monday	10:00am - Women's Bible Study	
Tuesday		
Wednesday	6:30am - Men's Bible Study 7:00pm - CrossTrainers (High School Students)	
Thursday	5:00pm - Family Night Out! 7:00pm - GriefShare	
Friday		
Saturday	6:30pm - Evening Worship	9:00am - Second Site Ministry Meeting 10:30am - Grocery Outreach
Sunday	8:30am - Early Worship 9:45am - Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids' Sunday School (Gym) 11:00am - Late Worship	8:45am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship (JaK*s Place)

Family Night Out Thursday, May 6

On the Boise campus, 5:00-7:00(ish) pm. Mainly outdoors on the back field.

- Live music (chrisdriesbach.com)
- Taco truck ([Tacos Y Tortas El Paco](#) isn't charging us a reservation fee or minimum -- how generous is that?!)
- Kona Shaved Ice (You buy your tacos; we'll buy your shaved ice treat!)
- Bounce house & corn hole

Come eat food, enjoy cool music, hang out with your church family! Bring lawn chairs and/or picnic blanket for lawn seating at the concert.

(The City of Boise's mask mandate no longer requires masking outdoors; at this event we ask attendees to mask up when indoors and to observe distancing between households as much as possible, whether indoors or outdoors. Masks & sanitizer will be provided. The event has been approved for more than 50 attendees by Central District Health.)

Second Site Ministry Meeting

Saturday, May 8, 9:00 am at the North Nampa [Ministry Center](#). All are welcome to discuss, evaluate, and implement ministry to reach more and more souls in North Nampa! Come a bit early for a light breakfast. Contact Pastor Wetzel with questions (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org).

May Grocery Outreach: Nampa

Grocery Outreach is an ongoing Cross of Christ ministry, delivering free groceries to members in our communities who could use a bit of extra help and support.

Next month we're serving in Nampa: Saturday, May 8, 10:30 am starting from the [Ministry Center](#). Sign up at tinyurl.com/CoCGOMay21 to donate or deliver groceries, or both! Details on what groceries to donate can be found at that link. Contact Pastor Wetzel with questions (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org).

Are You Prepared to Proclaim?

Our spirit may be willing when it comes to speaking about Jesus, but we tend to be distracted, busy, or even disillusioned. It doesn't have to be that way!

Register at praiseandproclaim.com/evangelism-bible-study-webinar for this four-week online Bible study on evangelism. You will receive biblical and practical instruction, be encouraged, and feel equipped to be God's messenger. The Bible study is live on Thursday evenings, but you can also watch it later on-demand.

Teen Gaming Night, May 8

Saturday, May 8, 7:30pm (after worship) at Boise -- classic video gaming systems & pizza! Please RSVP on the Boise bulletin or online here: tinyurl.com/TeenGameMay21. Talk to Jaime Geary if you have questions.

Confirmation Showcase

Friday, May 14, 6:30 pm, in the gym at Boise, with light refreshments. The Showcase is this year's youth confirmands' opportunity to show what they believe and have learned over the last several years, and YOUR opportunity to show your support and encouragement for them as new members of our congregation. All are welcome to attend and participate, by listening to what these young adults have to say on biblical & spiritual topics!

Congregational Voters' Meeting

Sunday, May 16, 1:00 pm on the Boise campus. All members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and offer input as we take a look at ministry planning and the upcoming budget year.

Calling All Comic Book Fans!

ComicCon is coming to Cross of Christ! Saturday, May 22, 9am-12pm -- a fun-filled event for all the comic book, superhero, fandom-loving folks out there!

- Games & trivia contests
- Make-a-mask station
- Draw Your Own Superhero art workshop (pre-registration required)
- Meet & Greet with Captain America (*not Chris Evans*)
- Costume contest; costumes are highly encouraged but not necessary.
- Snack bar (using tickets)
- Swap meet table. Win tickets throughout the event to trade for cool stuff! Looking to trade out some of your own toys or collectibles? Bring a gently used item or two to the table and trade it in for more tickets!

This event is designed for kids & teens but adults are welcome, too. (Younger children should be accompanied by an adult.) **Please RSVP online here:** tinyurl.com/CrossOfChristComicCon21. You'll be asked to note the ages of folks attending; this simply helps us plan & adapt the activities the best we can!

A few adults & teens are also needed to volunteer! You can volunteer via the registration form or contact Amanda directly. Questions can be directed to Amanda Watkins (amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com).

Are You Up for The Challenge?

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18). We want each of us to be closer to God and we want each of us to be closer to each other. How do we do that? With the Word!

The NT90 Challenge – reading through the New Testament in 90 days – will connect us to God and to each other. *Everyone at Cross of Christ is challenged to commit to this endeavor!* It takes only about 12-20 minutes of reading the Bible each day to complete the entire New Testament in one summer, June-August.

Worship services during that time will highlight sections from the upcoming week’s readings; weekly Bible studies will dig a little deeper into what you've already read that week and answer questions you may have encountered.

The challenge begins with worship on Saturday, June 5 and Sunday, June 6, and the first day of reading on Monday, June 7.

Step 1: **Register** on the Boise bulletin board or online at tinyurl.com/NT90CrossOfChrist21 and **commit** to completing the challenge this summer with your church family!

Step 2: **Download** the YouVersion Bible app to be ready for June 7. Using the app for the reading plan will allow you to access our pastors’ daily comments, share your own comments or questions, and read/respond to the comments & questions of others. The reading plan will be available in booklet form as well.

Step 3: **Watch** for further details on how to access and participate in the plan!

Summer Save-the-Dates

Vacation Bible School: Boise campus, July 12-15, 9am-12pm.

Camp Christos: August 1-6, at Camp Elkanah near La Grande, OR, for kids age 9-16. While the state of Oregon is currently not allowing overnight camps, our hosts at Elkanah expect this to change in the next few months. If it does not, we expect to offer something in Idaho rather than cancelling, so *save the dates regardless!*

“I am the Vine, you are the branches.

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit!”

General Fund Offerings Planned FY 20-21	\$708,200
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$585,627
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$572,258
Total Offerings Last Week (All Funds)	\$14,788

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study	39	17	56
Teen Class	6		6
Kids' Sunday School	25		25
Men's Bible Study			6
Cross Connections Class	2	5	7
Growth Groups			32
CrossTrainers			5
Last Weekend's Worship	221	37	258

Serving	May 1-2		May 8-9	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	S. Wetzel	K. Koepsell	A. Lange	M. Walters
AV Tech	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	A. Becker, J. Kennedy, M. Hartman, TBA	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	TBA
Altar Care	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	McLain, Adams	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	McLain, Adams
Set-Up	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a
Ushers	J. Harris	G. Bafus G. Thompson, R. Hibbs, B. Turley, A. Broyles	n/a	R. Hibbs, B. Turley, TBA
Coffee	Guthmiller, Wetzel	Robbins, McLain	Guthmiller, Wetzel	Robbins, McLain
Sanitizing	D. Tews, J. Light	Struthers, TBA	D. Tews, J. Light	O'Mallon, Struthers
Flowers	n/a	Watkins	n/a	G. Thompson
Church Cleaners	n/a	Hibbs, Holzwarth	n/a	Inman, Geary
Tellers	Harris, Morford, Turley		Rule, Morgan, Cadwell	
Bulletin Folders	Kimmel, Patrick, Whitlach		Ritger, Ford, Ashley	
Lawn Crew	E. Uhlenhoff		Ochoa, M. Burke	