



CROSS OF CHRIST
BOISE

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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Third Sunday in Advent

December 11-12, 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

Welcomed into the Family of God

with “My Soul in Stillness Waits”

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

Congregation: Amen.

(♪) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits,
Truly my hope is in you.

O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory,
Your radiance shines in all who look to you.
Come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.

**(♪) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits,
Truly my hope is in you.**

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Lord of life, I confess that apart from you I was dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

I deserved to be cast away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

(♪) O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits.
Our thirsty hearts are yearning for your Word.
Come make us whole, be comfort to our hearts.

**(♪) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits,
Truly my hope is in you.**

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, you are at home in his family. God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen!

(♩) O Key of Knowledge, guide us in our pilgrimage,
We ever seek, yet unfulfilled remain.
Open to us the pathway of your peace.

(♩) **For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits,
Truly my hope is in you.**

Prayer

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Isaiah 7:10-14

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."

God's Word

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Children's Message

Song

"Once in Royal David's City"

Hymn #50:1-3

Message from God's Word

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Confidence in the Impossible

Song

“Song of Mary”

On the screens

Statement of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

Second Article, with Martin Luther’s Explanation

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

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.

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

“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”

Hymn #23:1,3,4

Silent Prayer

Almighty God, I give you thanks for revealing your will to me through your Word.
You give me the good news of both promises already fulfilled and promises of things yet to come. Fill me with confidence in your faithfulness to those promises so that I always remember that all things are possible by your power.

Offerings

If you would like to give an offering to support gospel ministry at Cross of Christ, offering plates are available in the lobby. You can also give online at cocidaho.org/give or contact the church office (secretary@cocidaho.org or 208-375-3992) to schedule a time to drop your offering off during the week.

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.

Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

December 12, 2021

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

Dec 12-Dec 19	Boise	Nampa
Sunday	8:30am - Early Worship (also livestreamed at cocidaho.org/livestream) 9:45am - Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conf Rm) Kids' Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) Confirmation Class 11:00am - Children's Christmas Service 5:00pm - Ladies' Christmas Party	8:45am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship (JaK*s Place)
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	6:30pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - CrossTrainers	
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday	6:30pm - Evening Worship w/Communion	
Sunday	8:30am - Early Worship w/Communion 9:45am - Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conf Rm) Kids' Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) Confirmation Class 11:00am - Late Worship w/Communion	8:45am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship (JaK*s Place) w/Communion

Saturday Evening Services Mask Update

The mask requirement for our Saturday evening services has been removed. Instead, there is simply a mask recommendation. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to navigate the best ways to serve our community!

Current Worship Series: Hidden Christmas

Even after you've filled your Christmas season with decorations, presents, and parties, is something still missing? Often the true joy of Christmas is hidden behind the very things we use to celebrate it. Christ was born into this world to give you a joy that goes beyond simple decorations and gifts. Let's spend this Advent season leading up to Christmas, beginning this weekend, uncovering the wonder of who Christ is and the power of what he's done. Be sure to grab some invite cards from the church lobby and help your friends, family, and neighbors uncover the wonder of Christ this season, too!

Daily Devotions & Advent Devotions

If you were unable to pick up a print version of our limited supply of the Advent devotional booklets provided by Martin Luther College titled "We Have Seen His Glory", this is still available to you in PDF format and can be downloaded [HERE](#). The December-February Meditations are still also available and located on the ushers' cart by the lobby mailboxes.

Christmas Worship

The darkness is real in this world. It can surround us even during the season that's supposed to be the most wonderful time of the year. But there's a light that can scatter the darkness. We'd love to share the good news of this light with your family, friends, and neighbors this Christmas. Please be sure to grab invite cards in the church lobby and use them to help others see the light of Christ this year!

in Boise

Christmas Eve:

2:00, 4:00, & 6:00 pm

all services livestreamed

at coidaho.org/livestream

Christmas Day:

10:00 am (+ livestream)

no Saturday evening service

Sunday, December 26:

8:30 (+ livestream) & 11:00 am

no Bible studies or Sunday School

in Nampa (at JaK*s Place)

Christmas Eve:

3:00 pm

Sunday, December 26:

9:30 am

Family Bible study at 8:45 am

Ladies' Christmas Party – “A Savior is Born!”

The annual Sisters in Christ Christmas Party is this **Sunday, December 12, 5:00-7:00 pm**, on the Boise campus. All ladies middle school (6th grade) and older are invited to gather for this special evening focusing on Jesus the Son of God, who came to be the Savior of the world. Bring your daughter, sister, grandmother, neighbor, friend!

Please RSVP online at tinyurl.com/SIC-Christmas2021 or on the lobby bulletin board in Boise, and indicate whether you'd like to bring something sweet or savory or a beverage to share (coffee and water provided). Questions can be directed to Tuesday Yaka (208-866-3817) (as she is graciously leading this event).

The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is a countdown to Jesus, the Light of the World. Each week we're one week closer to the coming of Christ. The wreath is a circle made of evergreen boughs to symbolize eternal life. The blue of the Advent candles is the color of the sky, to which we look for Christ's return. The symbolism and meaning of the Advent wreath is one of beauty in simplicity: The Light of the World has come and will come again. This wreath helps us focus on that as we celebrate our Savior and our eternal life.

We Extend Our Thanks

Throughout each year, so many men, women, and kids use their gifts to glorify God as they serve our Savior and his Church in different ways, and we are blessed by their gifts of love! We extend our thanks particularly to...

- Everyone involved with Sisters in Christ, serving at and coordinating events and ministry work throughout the year;
- Bible study leaders who study and facilitate so we can grow closer to Jesus;
- So many who contribute to hosting events large and small at Cross of Christ all year: setting up, cooking, donating, and serving food, and cleaning up afterward;
- Those who decorate God's house in every season, including all who sponsor our weekly altar flowers;
- Our Preschool Staff who love and teach so many of God's littlest lambs, particularly for getting 27 three- and four-year-olds to say, "We love you, Baby Jesus," in an organized fashion (and all who provided cookies for close to 130 parents and family members who attended our Preschool Christmas

services!), as well as those that so generously helped in donating 87 pairs of pajamas for our community;

- Our parents who take seriously the truth that it's their primary responsibility to teach their children God's Word, and our Sunday School Staff who assist in sharing God's saving gospel with our sons and daughters;
- The volunteers and leaders for every single youth event and activity;
- Our musicians and AV techs who help us worship our Savior every week;
- Our Altar Care volunteers and ushers who serve on our behalf;
- Our Councilmen who work behind the scenes and stay late to lead us;
- Our cleaners, lawn mowers, snow removers, and maintenance helpers who work in off-hours to make God's house a functional, welcoming home;
- Those with technical know-how who keep our IT infrastructure & digital communication up and running;
- The core & launch teams committed to making outreach & worship happen in Nampa: managing the trailer & equipment; setting up, serving at, & taking down after worship; spreading the word at community events and door-to-door;
- All who regularly tabulate and update, count and contribute, fold, copy and cut, and keep the coffee hot and the refreshments cold...

We deeply appreciate what you do, and give God the glory for his willing servants!

Altar Flowers for 2022

To purchase the flowers on our Savior's altar at Boise in 2022, record your name on the flower calendar posted on the Service bulletin board in the lobby, on your desired Sunday. Cost is \$33 per Sunday; designate your payment by marking it on your offering envelope. 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. Questions can be directed to Kay Guthmiller (208-850-8806).

***“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 21-22	\$739,167
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$326,939
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$297,717
Total Offerings Last Week (All Funds)	\$21,653

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	56/9	15	80
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	28/12		40
CrossTrainers			
Cross Connections (online & individual)	3		
Last Weekend's Worship	232	62	294

Serving	Dec 11-12		Dec 18-19	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	J. Lowry	K. Koepsell / A. Lange	K. Koepsell	A. Lange
AV Tech	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	A. Becker, M. Hartman, E. Christianson	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	E. Christianson, M. Hartman, J. Meier, TBD
Altar Care	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	K. Guthmiller, K. Struthers	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	K. Guthmiller, K. Struthers
Set-Up	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a
Ushers	n/a	G. Bafus, B. Turley, TBD	J. Harris	B. Walters, R. Seely, T. Stavenau,
Open & Close	Olsoe	W. Ehlke, J. Kennedy, H. Geary	Malnes	M. Johnson, E. Christianson, KC Broyles
Coffee	Guthmiller, Wetzel	R. Ritger, K. Struthers	Guthmiller, Wetzel	R. Ritger, K. Struthers
Flowers	n/a	DeWall	n/a	Seely
Church Cleaners	n/a	Admin, M. Walters	n/a	Watkins, Struthers
Bulletin Folders	Kimmel, Whitlach		Ritger, Ford, Ashley	
Tellers	Rule, Walden, Morgan		Turley, Morford, Cadwell	