



CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

(208) 375-3992 + cocidaho.org

Rev. Greg Hein, Christian Life Pastor: (480) 433-3084, greg.hein@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

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

March 19, 2023

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 the 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

“Let All Things Now Living”

Hymn #260:1-2

Opening Responses

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

Congregation: Amen!

Even as the days have been getting longer, our world still sits in so much darkness. It’s a darkness none of us could overcome. But Jesus can. He is the Light of the world—the one who allows us to see what is true and what is good. He shows us how serious our sins are. And he shows us how much greater his love is so we can be forgiven.

God of power and grace, I was blind to the truth. I loved sin and ignored what is good. In so many ways I have disobeyed you in my life. I have sinned against others and against you. I am sorry. Thank you for helping me see what is true. Thank you for showing me Jesus. Thank you for making me your child.

See with grateful hearts the cross! It was Jesus who was perfect in your place, suffered and died for you, and came back to life. By believing in him, you are forgiven. You are loved by God. All guilt is removed. Taste and see that the Lord is good! You are welcomed home in his family!

Amen!

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, by your almighty power you opened the eyes of the blind and showed yourself to them. Turn our eyes away from worthless things, and lead us to love you sincerely; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

John 9:1-7,13-17,34-39

¹ As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³ "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.

⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶ After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷ "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

. . .

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴ Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵ Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided.

¹⁷ Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

The man replied, "He is a prophet." . . .

³⁴ To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

³⁶ "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

³⁷ Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

³⁸ Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

God's Word

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³ But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. ¹⁴ This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Children's Message

Song

“Shine into Our Night”

On screens

Message from God's Word

Isaiah 42:14-21

¹⁴ “For a long time I have kept silent,
I have been quiet and held myself back.
But now, like a woman in childbirth,
I cry out, I gasp and pant.
¹⁵ I will lay waste the mountains and hills
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn rivers into islands
and dry up the pools.
¹⁶ I will lead the blind by ways they have not known,
along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;
I will turn the darkness into light before them
and make the rough places smooth.
These are the things I will do;
I will not forsake them.
¹⁷ But those who trust in idols,
who say to images, ‘You are our gods,’
will be turned back in utter shame.

¹⁸ “Hear, you deaf;
look, you blind, and see!
¹⁹ Who is blind but my servant,
and deaf like the messenger I send?
Who is blind like the one in covenant with me,
blind like the servant of the LORD?
²⁰ You have seen many things, but you pay no attention;
your ears are open, but you do not listen.”
²¹ It pleased the LORD
for the sake of his righteousness
to make his law great and glorious.

Sight for the Blind

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 truly 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 Distribution

"What Is This Bread"

On screens, st. 1-5

Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another and 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

“Amazing Grace”

Hymn #379:1-4

Silent Prayer

Almighty God, thank you for the eyes of faith you’ve given me. Continue to shine your light of grace in my life that I may never feel trapped in darkness. Grant me the strength to never take my eyes off what matters most. Amen.

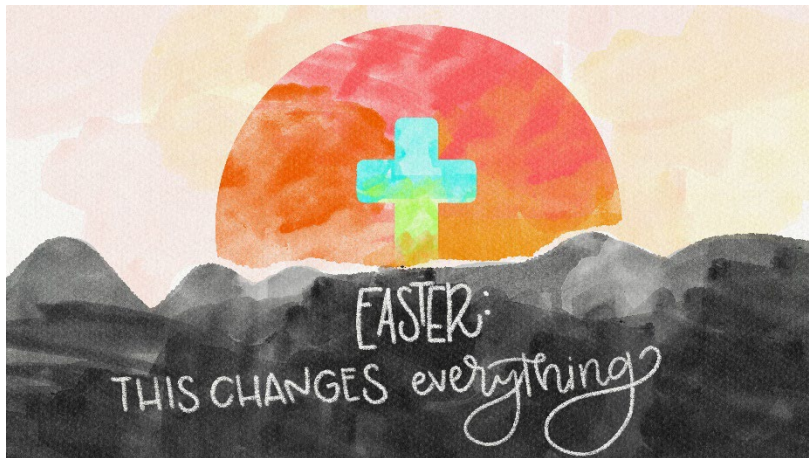
**Our Mission:
Impacting Lives for Eternity**

Offerings

If you would like to give an offering to support gospel ministry at and through Cross of Christ, offering plates are available in the lobby. You can also give your gift online at cocidaho.org/give.

Holy Week Worship

	<i>Nampa Campus</i>	<i>Boise Campus</i>
Palm Sunday	April 2, 9:30 am	April 2, 8:30 & 11:00 am
		Easter for Kids, 9:45-10:45 (ages 2 - 6th grade)
Maundy Thursday <i>with Holy Communion</i>		April 6, 6:30 pm
Good Friday	April 7, 6:30 pm	April 7, 6:30 pm
Easter Sunday	April 9, 9:30 & 11:30 am	April 9, 8:30 & 11:00 am
	Easter Brunch Between services	Easter Breakfast 9:30-10:45 am



Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

March 19, 2023

Mar 19-26	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship w/Communion 9:45am – Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship w/Communion 12:30pm – Youth Activity: Balloons	9:30am – Worship w/Communion 10:45am – Family Bible Study & Kids’ Sunday School 4:00pm – Confirmation Class
Monday	<i>Preschool on Spring Break this week no Women’s Bible Study today</i>	
Tuesday	7:00pm – GriefShare	6:30pm – Cross Connections
Wednesday	<i>no Cross Connections class today</i> 5:00pm – Lent Soup Supper 6:30pm – Lent Midweek Worship 7:15pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal	
Thursday	<i>no Cross Connections class today</i>	
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Family Bible Study & Kids’ Sunday School 4:00pm – Confirmation Class

THIS WEEK

Youth Event Today – Balloon Challenge

Today (Sun, Mar 19) at 12:30 pm, kids ages 2 and up are invited to participate in a balloon challenge in the gym. Pizza lunch provided! Please RSVP at tinyurl.com/COCBALLOONCHALLENGE or on the lobby bulletin board for pizza planning purposes!

Refreshing Our Boise Campus Greeting Process and Teams

If you're friendly, enjoy making people feel welcome, and want to serve your Savior, we may just have the perfect service opportunity for you!

First, we're recruiting a team of five to ten people who would like to revisit our past worship greeting process and brainstorm ideas for an exciting "welcome to Cross of Christ" process. Additionally, we're seeking friendly folks to welcome our guests and members as they arrive for worship.

If you're interested in enhancing the Cross of Christ worship experience and/or the opportunity to meet and greet worshipers, please contact Brent Masters (mastersb678@gmail.com), Pastor Hein (greg.hein@cocidaho.org) or our office staff (208-375-3992, admin@cocidaho.org) to communicate your willingness to serve. We'll then follow up with you to share more details! Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Midweek Worship for Lent, at Boise

Two more weeks for midweek worship, walking with our Savior on his final steps to the cross. Jesus knew what lay ahead yet still took those steps for us – what love!

Wednesdays on the Boise Campus

also livestreamed at cocidaho.org/livestream

February 22 – March 29

Worship at 6:30 pm

(Soup supper in the gym 5:00-6:15 pm)



Soup Suppers During the Season of Lent

Opportunities to serve or provide part of a Wednesday meal are available for upcoming weeks; take a look at tinyurl.com/LENTSOUPSUPPERS2023 or on the lobby bulletin board. Contact Becky Sobolewski (208-963-0474) with questions.

Current Worship Series: Our Greatest Needs

What do you really need right now? God makes clear that humanity's greatest needs are universal, and so our greatest problems are also universal. Our current Sunday series wrestles with what those needs and problems are and will help us explore together what it means to have our greatest needs already met in Christ.

THIS MONTH

Food Drive for Boise Rescue Mission

During the month of March we're collecting non-perishable food items for the Boise Rescue Mission; drop donations in the barrels in the lobby! Boise Rescue Mission serves those dealing with homelessness and addiction in Ada and Canyon counties. Learn about their mission at boiserm.org.

High School Lock-In: Boise Campus

- Friday, March 31, 8:00 pm. to Saturday, April 1, 8:00 am. RSVP on the lobby bulletin board or online at tinyurl.com/COCHIGHSCHOOLLOCKIN if you plan to attend!
- We'll also need brave adults who are willing to chaperone in 3-hour shifts (but you're welcome to take more than one shift!) Sign up on the lobby bulletin board or at tinyurl.com/COCLOCKINCHAPERONE.
- Contact Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidahoh.org) with questions!

Ladies' Bunco Night at Nampa

Friday evening, March 31, 6:30-8:30 pm, come on over to the Nampa campus to connect with Cross of Christ friends old and new, relax a little, and have some fun! Friends very welcome. Ladies, watch your email for further details!

Knife Sharpening

Cross of Christ member Bill Adams is offering his skills for free in service to his church family: If you have knives that need sharpening, bring them to the church kitchen during soup suppers on Wednesdays (5:00-6:15 pm, through Mar 29).

Cross of Christ Preschool Enrolling for Fall 2023

Full-day and half-day options for next fall are open to all families! Registration info and forms can be found online at cocidaho.org/preschool or picked up in the church office. Submit your registration as soon as possible to assure a spot in your preferred class! Direct questions to Andrea Becker (208-830-7763 / registrar@cocboise.org)

NEXT MONTH

Easter Invitations: Saturday, April 1

Easter changes everything! We want our neighbors to know that truth and that they can find out more about it at Cross of Christ on Easter Sunday.

So we'll **meet at the Boise campus, 10am on Saturday, April 1**, and from there head out into local neighborhoods to hang Easter invitations on our neighbors' doors. If you'd like to meet more people by knocking on doors, we'll also have Cross of Christ mugs available to hand out. We will not be out later than noon.

Please contact Pastor Hein (greg.hein@cocidaho.org) to participate!

Easter for Kids: Sunday, April 2

We want every child to know that Easter is exciting and a big deal! Easter for Kids will take place on Palm Sunday, April 2, during the education hour (9:45-10:45) on the Boise campus. At Easter for Kids, children will explore surprising details about Jesus' resurrection on that glorious Sunday morning 2,000 years ago. They'll journey through stations that drive home one uplifting truth: Jesus is alive today!

Easter Candy

Easter Sunday at Boise will include a kids' egg hunt! Would you consider donating candy? Place wrapped candy in the kitchen at Boise by **Sunday, April 2** (in the labeled box on the back counter, across from the refrigerators). Gluten-, dairy-, and/or nut-free options always welcome for kiddos with allergies or sensitivities (please label). Small basket stuffer prizes welcome, too! Contact Amanda Watkins (amanda.watkins99@gmail.com) with questions.

Line Dancing at Cross of Christ

Put on your dancing shoes and come on out to this fun evening of line dancing at Cross of Christ Boise campus, Wednesday, April 12, 6:30-8:30 pm! It's dancing for all ages – the young, the old, and the young-at-heart; no dance experience needed. Cost is \$10 per family and there is no charge for any friends you bring along! Bring a snack to share; water and coffee provided. Please RSVP on the lobby bulletin board or at tinyurl.com/COCLINEDANCING.

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School!

Monday-Thursday, July 10-13, 9am-12pm on the Boise campus.

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Adult Bible Study/Teen Bible Study	46	27	73
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	26 / 6	14 / 4	40 / 10
Last Weekend's Worship	74+91	74	289
Lent Wednesday Worship	133	n/a	133
Women's Bible Study	10	n/a	10
Cross Connections	7+3	3+6	19
Livestream Views	(Sun) 9 + 6 (Wed) = 15		

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 22-23</i>	\$781,660
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$556,181
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$546,348
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$24,399

Serving	March 19		March 26	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	S. Wetzel, C. Masters	K. Koepsell, C. & H. Reilly	R. Dodd	K. Koepsell
AV Tech	TBA	G. Light, D. Hibbs	TBA	G. Light, J. Meier, M. Hartman
Altar Care	A. Fuentes	K. Struthers	A. Fuentes	K. Struthers
Ushers	I. Garza, S. O'Doherty	D. Hibbs	n/a	TBA
Open & Close	n/a	J. Breckon, R. Lange	n/a	M. Johnson, M. Brown
Coffee	A. Fuentes, K. Guthmiller	R. Ritger, K. Struthers		R. Ritger, K. Struthers
Flowers	n/a	Banner	n/a	Loring
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller	n/a	Prigge, Tweedy, Foreman
Tellers	Harris, Turley, Hudson		Turley, Walden, Rule	