



THE
ASCENSION

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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May 21, 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 worshipping 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. Video & audio of the worship service are available in the lobby to assist families with their worship. A private parents' room is located in the alcove to your left as you exit the chapel.

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 “Jesus Calls Us
O’er the Tumult”

Hymn #463:1,3-5

**All: Jesus calls us o’er the tumult
Of our life’s wild, restless sea;
Day by day his voice invites us,
Saying, “Christian, follow me!”**

**Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world’s golden store,
From each idol that would keep us,
Saying, “Christian, love me more.”**

Pastor: None of us have loved God with our whole heart or loved others as we should. As we gather together, let us be open and honest, examine ourselves and confess our sins to the Lord.

Moment of silence for personal prayer

**Congregation: Almighty God, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed what we have devised and desired. We have sinned against others and we have sinned against you. We have done things that we should not have done and we have failed to do things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord. Spare us, forgive us, and restore us according to your promises in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
“Christian, love me more than these.”**

God has forgiven all your sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Jesus calls us! In your mercy,
Savior, help us hear your call;
Give our hearts to your obedience,
Serve and love you best of all!**

God's Word

Acts 1:1-11

¹ In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

God's Word

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious

inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Children's Message

Message from God's Word

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Complete, Not Done

Song

"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"

On screens

Youth Confirmation of Faith

11:00 am service

Joseph Dobi
Alexis Evans
Tyler Evans
Ailie Manglos
Bella Parsons
Devin Seely
Kiya Trentz

Statement of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Prayer & 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

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians, united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask only those who have made that public confession of faith by being a member of our congregation or another WELS or ELS congregation come forward to receive Communion. Guests, please ask one of our pastors if you have questions. We are eager to listen and visit with you about the blessings of this Supper and of that unity at a convenient time.

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.**

Distribution Song

"Go Preach the Living Gospel"

On screens, st. 1-3, 6

Song of Praise

"From the Rising of the Sun"

On screens

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

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

Hymn #332: 1-3

Silent Prayer

Jesus, King of glory, you ascended far above the heavens and intercede for us at God’s right hand. Leave us not alone, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world. 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.*

Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

May 21, 2023

May 21-28	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship w/Communion 9:45am – Confirmation Reception Teen Class (Conf Rm) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship w/Communion & Youth Confirmation	9:30am – Worship w/Communion & Youth Confirmation 10:45am – Confirmation Reception / Family Bible Study & Kids’ Sunday School
Monday	10:00am – Women’s Bible Study	6:30pm – Long-Range Plan Q & A Session
Tuesday	6:30am – Men’s Bible Study	
Wednesday	9:00 am - Preschool Graduation 4:00pm – Cross Connections 6:15pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm – CrossTrainers	
Thursday	<i>Last Day of Preschool!</i> 6:30pm – Cross Connections	
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conf Rm) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Family Bible Study & Kids’ Sunday School

THIS WEEK

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study (9:45-10:45am)

- **May 21: fellowship time & reception for youth confirmands**

All are welcome for refreshments in the lobby. Please welcome and congratulate the young people confirming their faith today!

- May 28: Job part 4 (final)

God's Blessings to Our Youth Confirmands

This weekend we joyfully welcome our youth confirmands as communing members of Cross of Christ. We're thrilled to see these seven young men and women confirm their faith in Jesus as they join us in gathering, growing, serving, and going, under the cross of Christ. Each student has chosen a passage from God's Word that is special to them as their confirmation verse.

Joseph Dobi: Philippians 4:11 ...for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.

Alexis Evans: 1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

Tyler Evans: Deuteronomy 31:8 "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Ailie Manglos: Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Bella Parsons: Psalm 143:3-5 ³The enemy pursues me, he crushes me to the ground; he makes me dwell in the darkness like those long dead. ⁴So my spirit grows faint within me; my heart within me is dismayed. ⁵I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done.

Devin Seely: 1 John 2:17 The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

Kiya Trentz: Psalm 28:1 To you, Lord, I call; you are my Rock, do not turn a deaf ear to me. For if you remain silent, I will be like those who go down to the pit.

Long-Range Plan Q&A: this Monday, May 22, 6:30 pm at the Nampa Campus
Pastor Hein will lead this “questions and answers” session so that you can voice your thoughts, ask questions, and discuss the six-year plan for Cross of Christ’s multi-site ministry. Please RSVP at tinyurl.com/COCLONGRANGE.

Meditations Devotional

The May-August Meditations is available for you on the tables in the lobby. This daily devotional provides food for your faith and encouragement for life. Feel free to take one for yourself and one for a friend!

THIS MONTH

Red Cross Blood Drive at Boise: May 30

Tuesday, May 30, 9am-3pm in the gym.

Summer is a challenging time to collect enough blood donations to meet patient needs. You can help! To make an appointment, go to redcrossblood.org and under “Find a Blood Drive” enter COCLUTHERAN. Walk-ins are welcome, too!

Not cool with needles? We also need a few **volunteers** to check donors in and monitor the hospitality (snacks) station. If you could help for an hour that day, please contact Kristen Koepsell this week (kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org).

We’re Hiring!

Cross of Christ is hiring a part-time admin assistant for our Nampa campus! The position is 6 hours/week, with opportunity for additional hours if desired. We’re looking to hire someone who regularly attends our Nampa campus if possible, though not required. Anyone interested can get in touch with Pastor Wetzel (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org; 208-996-2202) for more info about the position, how to apply, and to set up an interview with members of our church council.

Pastor Steinbrenner – Call Received

Please pray for Pastor Steinbrenner as he considers a call to Peace Lutheran Church in Trinity, FL. Feel free to reach out to him with your encouragement and thoughts: john.steinbrenner@cocidaho.org.

SUMMER STUFF!

Summer Bible Reading Plan: Begins June 1

Don't know where to start to read the Bible? Have trouble keeping the habit once you start? Join our summer Bible reading plan! Starting June 1, we'll spend 90 days walking with Jesus through the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John). See your most recent Cross of Christ Friday news email for instructions for joining the group plan in the YouVersion Bible app, or contact admin@cocidaho.org. Or a printed schedule of the plan is available on the tables in the lobby. We know God will bless it however you participate!

Summer Kick-Off: June 1

Thursday, June 1, on the Boise campus, 5:00-7:00(ish) pm. Come eat good food, enjoy the outdoors, and hang out with awesome people as we celebrate the start of summer. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for lawn seating and invite friends! Mainly outdoors on the back field. Outdoor music, taco food truck (Basilios Tacos), bounce houses & yard games.

Could you contribute one of the following to help make this party a success? Let us know at tinyurl.com/June1KickOff. Talk to Pastor Hein with questions (greg.hein@cocidaho.org)

- Set-up help (4-5pm, move tables & chairs outside, set up canopies)
- Loan of a pop-up canopy/shade tent
- Loan of yard games (bean bags, ladder toss, bocce ball, spike ball, giant Jenga, badminton, what else???)
- Take-down/clean-up help (7-8pm, put away tables & chairs, take down canopies, dump trash, etc.)

Summer Worship Series: “A Better Way to Live” Begins June 4

In June, we'll kick off a new worship series on the 10 Commandments. These top ten rules of the Old Testament are a great summary and springboard to focus on God's will for our lives still today. Life comes from God. He knows how life works best. “A Better Way to Live” will take a deep dive into the wisdom of God's perfect design for our lives to give us freedom, laying out a path of real purpose that leads to real connection with God and others.

All-Congregation Open Forum: Date Change: June 11

Sunday, June 11, 1:00 pm on the Boise campus (virtual access will be made available to members). All members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and offer input. Childcare available for ages 2 & up.

Vacation Bible School: Registration OPEN at tinyurl.com/2023COCVBS

Vacation Bible School at Cross of Christ provides our kids with a fun and exciting opportunity for spiritual growth during the summer. This year, kids will have a **STELLAR** experience *seeing & shining* Jesus' light!

- Monday-Thursday, July 10-13, 9am-12pm
- on the Boise campus
- for kids age three through entering 6th grade
- Adults & teens 7th grade & older, let Pastor Snyder know if you'd like to volunteer (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org).

Invite your friends who don't know Jesus! Direct registration questions to Stefanie (admin@cocidaho.org).

Camp Christos: July 30-Aug 4

For kids age 9 through 16 (entering 4th thru 10th grade), at Camp Elkanah, near La Grande, OR. Adults & teens age 17-19 are invited to volunteer. **Register campers and volunteer staff** at tinyurl.com/campchristos! Contact Deb Arstein with questions (deb.arstein@cocidaho.org).

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	35/8	29	64
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	21/7	16	44
Last Weekend's Worship	60+76	105	241
Livestream Views	8		
Men's/Women's Bible Study	6/8	n/a	14
Cross Connections	6	4	10
CrossTrainers	11		
Growth Groups (previous week)	5+6		

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 22-23</i>	\$781,660
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$691,468
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$672,894
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$7,601

Serving	May 21		May 28	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	R. Dodd, K. Wetzel	K. Koepsell, E. Hein, E. Berrier, E. Bollinger, A. Manglos	K. Koepsell	J. Hein, C. Harris, N. Turley
AV Tech	J. Malnes	E. Christianson, M. Hartman, J. Meier	TBA	TBA
Altar Care	Guthmiller	D. McLain, C. Biggs	n/a	D. McLain, C. Biggs
Ushers	D. Malnes, TBA	R. Seely, TBA	n/a	R. Seely, TBA
Open & Close	n/a	E. Christianson, M. Brown	n/a	J. Breckon, H. Geary
Coffee	Hopkins, Whitaker	C. Berrier, D. McLain	Hopkins, Whitaker	C. Berrier, D. McLain
Flowers	n/a	available	n/a	available
Lawn Crew	n/a	L. Dold, T. Russow	n/a	P. Jossis
Kitchen Cleaning	n/a	Lange	n/a	n/a
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Prigge, Tweedy	n/a	Kimmel, Ritger
Tellers	Turley, Harris, Hudson		Harris, Rule, Butterfield	