

A
Better
Way to Live

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

June 11, 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 in the lobby or the parents' room (in the alcove to the left as you exit the chapel). Worship screens and seating are available in those areas for your convenience.

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 at cocidaho.org.

A Better Way to Live: The First Commandment

Opening Song

“Here I Am to Worship”

On screens

Opening Responses

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!

The one true God is the Lord of heaven and earth. He lives in glory and majesty, far above us in holiness and splendor. And yet, he wanted us to be close to him. He came to save us. He rescued us so we could have a place in his family.

Therefore, we can come before our holy God with honesty and humility. As we confess our sins, we lay them all at the cross, trusting in Jesus alone for pardon and forgiveness.

Holy and gracious Father in heaven, you know my many faults. In countless ways, I have sinned against you and failed to live as your child. Though my sins deserved your just punishment, you never gave up on me. Thank you for Jesus and his cross!

Jesus has done it all for you to be forgiven. All your sins were placed on him so that, by believing in him, God now sees you as perfect, just like Jesus. His death and resurrection have set you free! You are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now, live as a free and holy child of God!

Amen.

Prayer

Almighty and merciful Lord, there is no other god but you. Lead us to make you first in our lives and hold you as our hearts' greatest treasure. We are your creatures, and we worship you through faith in your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Mark 12:28-34

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

²⁹ "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

³² "Well said, teacher," the man replied. "You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. ³³ To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

³⁴ When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

God's Word

Revelation 2:1-7

¹ “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. ² I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. ³ You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

⁴ Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first.

⁵ Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. ⁶ But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.”

Children's Message

Song

“The Lord Is My Salvation”

On screens

Message from God's Word

Exodus 20:3-6

³ “You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.”

Do We Really Have Idols?

Song

“Lord, You I Love with All My Heart”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

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 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

“Forth in Your Name”

On screens, stanzas 1-3,5

Silent Prayer

God almighty, you alone are Lord. You alone fill my needs and make me complete. Help me to love you first so that I view all the other relationships and blessings in my life as they should be: gifts of grace from you. Amen.

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

June 11, 2023

Jun 11-18	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship 1:00pm – All-Congregation Open Forum	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Monthly Ministry Planning Meeting
Mon-Sat		
Sunday	8:30am – Worship w/Communion 9:45am – Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conf Rm) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship w/Communion	9:30am – Worship w/Communion 10:45am – Family Bible Study (all ages)

THIS WEEK

Sunday Morning Bible Study

9:45-10:45 am, in the chapel. All adults and teens are welcome as we start a study on prayer this morning, particularly focusing on the Lord’s Prayer.

All-Congregation Open Forum: Today

Sunday, June 11, 1:00 pm on the Boise campus. All members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and offer input. *Important agenda items include the ministry plan & budget for the coming fiscal year, a constitution & bylaws revision update, and elections for open Council positions.* (Virtual access has been made available to members; onsite childcare available for ages 2 & up.)

Church Council Nominations

Today, at the June 11 Open Forum / Congregational Meeting, we will hold annual elections for open church Council positions. Eric Christianson, Matt Brown, and Roy Lange are all ending their terms on the Council. That means three “at large” Council positions are up for election this year.

Our Nominating Committee (Brent Masters, John Harris, Dave Malnes, Jon Breckon, and Pastor Hein) met to study God’s Word on “leaders in the church” before prayerfully drafting this year’s list of current nominees. The following men have prayerfully considered and accepted their nominations for the “at large” positions: Travis Butterfield, Ray Dodd, Chris Klink, Lee Neujahr, Jake Ready, Cameron Sullivan, Gene Whitlach.

Questions may be directed to Pastor Hein (greg.hein@cocidaho.org) or any member of the Nominating Committee.

Summer Worship Series: “A Better Way to Live”

Last Sunday, we kicked off our worship series on the 10 Commandments. These top ten rules of the Old Testament are a summary and springboard to focus on God’s will for our lives still today. God knows how life works best. “A Better Way to Live” will explore the wisdom of God’s design for our lives to give us freedom, laying out a path of real purpose that leads to real connection with God and others.

Summer Bible Reading Plan

We’re just 11 days into this 90-day reading schedule that walks with Jesus through the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), not too late to jump in! See your most recent Friday news email to join the group plan in the YouVersion Bible app, contact admin@cocidaho.org, or pick up a printed schedule from the lobby tables.

We’re Hiring!

For further information about these positions, applying, and scheduling an interview with members of the church Council, contact the individuals listed below.

- Part-time admin assistant for the Nampa campus: six hours/week with opportunity for additional hours if desired. Preferably someone who regularly attends the Nampa campus, though not required. Contact: Pastor Wetzel (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org / 208-996-2202)

- Part-time admin assistant for the Boise campus: 20 hours/week, Mon-Fri afternoons. Contact: Kristen Koepsell (kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org / 208-922-8422)
- Part-time preschool aide/support teacher on the Boise campus. Contact: Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org / 208-996-0862).
- Part-time custodian, Boise campus, 8-12 hours/week. Contact: Stefanie DeWall (admin@cocidaho.org).

Meditations Devotional

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

UPCOMING

“Backyard” Independence Day BBQ July 2

Sunday, July 2, 4-6pm on the Boise campus. All are welcome, details to come!

Vacation Bible School: July 10-13

Registration: tinyurl.com/2023COCVBS

Vacation Bible School provides our kids with a fun and exciting opportunity for spiritual growth during the summer. Kids will have a **STELLAR** experience of seeing & shining Jesus’ light! Invite your friends who don’t know Jesus! For kids age 3 – entering 6th grade.



VBS = Volunteers Being (Super) Servants!

VBS is July 10-13, 9am-12pm on the Boise campus. Here are some ways you could support this ministry and help kids connect to Jesus:

Go grocery shopping! Pick a food item to donate at tinyurl.com/CoCvbssnacks23.

Volunteer! Sign up for any of the following options (or find a little more info) at tinyurl.com/CoCVBSVols2023. Talk to Kristen Koepsell with ANY questions about volunteering (kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org).

- check-in (Monday only)
- kid-crew, games, or science assistant

- childcare (for volunteers' kids younger than 3)
- set-up/decorating (Sun July 9, 12-3ish)
- take-down/clean-up (Thurs July 13, 11-1)

Camp Christos: July 30-Aug 4

At Camp Elkanah, near La Grande, OR. **Registration deadline is June 30** – but the sooner you sign up, the better we can plan and prepare!

- For kids age 9 through 16 (entering 4th thru 10th grade).
- Adults & teens age 17-19 are invited to volunteer.
- **Register campers and volunteer staff** at [tinyurl.com/campchristos!](http://tinyurl.com/campchristos)

Registration questions: Deb Arstein (deb.arstein@cocidaho.org). Volunteering & general camp questions: Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org)

Pastor Steinbrenner – Call Received

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

General Fund Offerings Planned FY 22-23	\$781,660
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$736,564
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$709,499
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$15,976

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	32	34	66
Kids' Sunday School	21	n/a	21
Last Weekend's Worship	98+82	112	292
Livestream Views	2		
Cross Connections	5	3	8

Serving	June 11		June 18	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	S. Wetzel, D. Tews	K. Koepsell, L. Neujahr	R. Dodd	K. Koepsell, T. Russow
AV Tech	J. Malnes, TBA	G. Light, D. Hibbs	TBA	C. Klink, C. Kennedy, J. Meier
Altar Care	n/a	K. Struthers	Guthmiller	K. Struthers
Ushers	n/a	B. Turley, TBA	D. Malnes, I. Garza	J. Harris, TBA
Open & Close	n/a	TBA	n/a	B. Masters, M. Brown
Coffee	Hopkins	Ritger, Struthers	Guthmiller	Ritger, Struthers
Flowers	n/a	Rule	n/a	Arstein
Lawn Crew	n/a	B. Turley, B. Zimmerman	n/a	R. Ochoa, J&M Grant
Cleaning	Olsoe	DeWall	Wetzel	n/a
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller	n/a	Prigges, Tweedy
Tellers	Harris, Walden, Turley		Turley, Harris, Butterfield	

**Our Mission:
Impacting Lives for Eternity**

cocidaho.org