

A
Better
Way to Live

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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June 4, 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. 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

A Better Way to Live: Set Free to Live Free

Opening Song

“His Mercy Is More”

On screens, st. 1-3

Welcomed into the Family of God

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

Congregation: Amen!

The Lord is the God who saves. In his great love, he came to us when we were held in slavery to sin and the devil. And by his mighty power, he set us free! When we confess our sins together, we're led to approach God with humility. Confessing our sins will also lead to greater joy and gratitude for God's saving love that rescued us.

Just and merciful God, I acknowledge my brokenness and sins. From birth, I have frequently disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. My sins deserved your just punishment—a weight I could never carry. But you sent Jesus as my substitute. Thank you for still loving me! Thank you for forgiving me! Thank you for making me your child!

By the perfect life, innocent death, and resurrection of Jesus in your place, your sins are forgiven, and your guilt is removed forever! The Son has set you free. By trusting in Jesus, God calls you his holy child, and he sends you his Spirit to empower you to live as his child.

Amen!

Prayer

Almighty God and Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, filling and renewing all creation by your eternal Spirit, and manifesting your saving grace through our Lord Jesus Christ, in mercy cleanse our hearts and lips that, free from doubt and fear, we may ever worship you, one true, immortal God, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, living and reigning, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Romans 8:1-17

¹Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ²because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

¹²Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

God’s Word

John 8:31-36

³¹To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³²Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

³³They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?”

³⁴Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.

³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

Children’s Message

Song

“Lord, I Must Praise You” (Psalm 111)

On screens, st. 1-3

Message from God's Word

Exodus 20:1-2

¹And God spoke all these words:

²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery."

First Things First

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.

New Member Welcome

Mike & Debbie Connolly

11:00 am service

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 Songs **"In This Holy, Blest Communion"**
sung by the Adult Choir

"My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness"
On screens, st. 1-3

Blessing

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Amen!

Closing Song

“To God Be the Glory”

Hymn #399:1,3

Silent Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for this time in your house. Let your Spirit fill my heart by your Word and sacrament, that I may live in freedom and love. Guide me in your ways, for your will is always best. 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

June 4, 2023

Jun 4-11	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship w/Communion 9:45am – Ministry Discussion (Chapel) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship w/Communion	9:30am – Worship w/Communion 10:45am – Family Bible Study (all ages)
Monday	11:00 – Cross Connections	6:30pm – Community Awareness Night (Breaking Chains Academy)
Tuesday	12:00pm – Dick Mari Visitation 1:00pm – Dick Mari Victory Celebration	
Wednesday		10:30am – Donuts with Students at Breaking Chains
Thurs-Sat		
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

THIS WEEK

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

Today we kick off a new 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 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.

Ministry Planning and Discussion Today!

Today, Sunday, June 4, we’ll use the adult Bible class hour (9:45am-10:45am) to discuss ministry opportunities, plans, and guiding principles at the Boise campus. We’d love for you to participate in these discussions with your questions, input, and ideas.

Community Awareness Night: This Monday

Monday, June 5, 6:30 pm at the Nampa campus. You’re invited to learn more about Nampa’s Quarterly Community Partner, Breaking Chains Academy, at this community awareness night with executive director Luis Granados. Or check out their mission and work at breakingchainsacademy.com.

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. (*Incorrectly published last week as full-time position.*) 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).

Summer Bible Reading Plan

This 90-day reading schedule that walks with Jesus through the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) began just a few days ago, 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.

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.

UPCOMING

All-Congregation Open Forum: June 11

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 will be made available to members; onsite childcare available for ages 2 & up.)

Church Council Nominations

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: Mark Arstein, Ray Dodd, Chris Klink, Lee Neujahr, Jake Ready, Cameron Sullivan, Gene Whitlach.

Per Cross of Christ Bylaws, if a voting member would like to suggest another name for nomination, they must do so by submitting that name to the Nominating Committee prior to the set deadline: Wednesday, June 7. “Nominations shall not be open to the floor at the election meeting.” (ByLaws Art. IX, Sec. 4)

Additional names for nomination and/or questions may be directed to Pastor Hein (greg.hein@cocidaho.org) or any member of the Nominating Committee.

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. *Could you be one of the helpful many to make it a success?* 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 options listed below (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)
- group leader or group assistant
- games/snack/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!

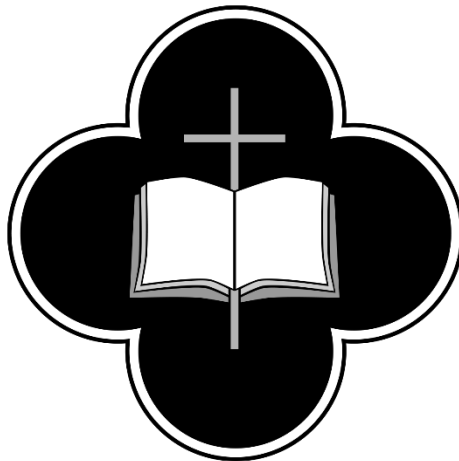
Registration questions: Deb Arstein (deb.arstein@cocidaho.org). Volunteering & general camp questions: Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org)

Sisters in Christ Ladies' Retreat 2023: Save the Date!

All ladies confirmation age and older are invited to enjoy a weekend of fellowship and relaxation, Oct 13-15 at Faith Heights Camp, Cascade, ID. Details to come!

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.



People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	36 /8	31	75
Kids' Sunday School	23	9	32
Last Weekend's Worship	73+95	93	261
Livestream Views	12		
Cross Connections	4	3	7
Growth Groups (previous week)	8+10+7+5+7+8+5+7		

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 22-23</i>	\$781,660
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$721,532
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$693,598
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$35,602

Serving	June 4		June 11	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	J. Lowry, C. Trull	A. Lange, Adult Choir	S. Wetzel, D. Tews	K. Koepsell, L. Neujahr
AV Tech	S. Tews	E. Christianson, T. Russow	TBA	G. Light, D. Hibbs
Altar Care	Guthmiller	C. Biggs, K. Struthers	n/a	C. Biggs, K. Struthers
Ushers	D. Malnes, B. Whitaker	B. Walters, J. Harris, Manglos	n/a	B. Turley, TBA
Open & Close	n/a	M. Johnson L. Manglos	n/a	KC Broyles, R. Lange
Coffee	Whitaker	Ritger, Struthers	Guthmiller	Ritger, Struthers
Flowers	n/a	available	n/a	Rule
Lawn Crew	n/a	N. Tessmer, P. Becker	n/a	B. Turley, B. Zimmerman
Cleaning	Hopkins	n/a	Olsoe	M&J Johnson
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Ritger, Ford, Ashley	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller
Tellers	Turley, Rule, Hudson		Harris, Walden, Turley	