

A
Better
Way to Live

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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July 9, 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 Fifth Commandment

Opening Song

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Hymn #234:1,3-5

Welcomed into the Family of God

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!

We have come to worship God who is our maker—the one who gives us life. Even as we belong to him, he leads us to love and care for those around us. However, we know of far too many ways in which we have not loved God and those in our lives like we should. It is so easy for us to hurt one another and fail to live as God’s children. Let’s openly acknowledge this together as we look to the cross and trust in Jesus for forgiveness and acceptance in God’s family.

Holy and gracious Lord, I confess my sinfulness. In the ways I have failed to love you as I should, and in the ways I have hurt others, I have fallen so far short of what it means to be your child. I am sorry for my sins. I have no excuse. Thank you for never leaving me to face what I deserved. Thank you for Jesus and the cross. Trusting in him, I ask you to help me love my neighbor as myself.

All of your sins are forgiven: in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Jesus’ perfect life in your place, death on the cross, and resurrection have removed your guilt forever. You still are God’s child—his holy, precious, forgiven child! He will give you strength to love others as he first loved you.

Amen!

Prayer

God in heaven, give us hearts like yours. Lead us to see the needs of those around us and respond with mercy, for you have shown us the deepest mercy of all in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶ "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

²⁷ He answered, " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' "

²⁸ "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.

³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

³⁷ The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

God’s Word

1 John 3:11-16

¹¹ For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. ¹² Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother’s were righteous. ¹³ Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵ Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

Children’s Message

Song

“Jesus, Your Boundless Love to Me”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

Message from God’s Word

Exodus 20:13

¹³ “You shall not murder.”

On Hurting Each Other

Song

“Oh, How Good It Is”

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

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

Hymn #332:1-3

Silent Prayer

Open my eyes, Lord, to the needs of the people around me. As I reflect on your amazing love for me, send me out to share that love with others. Make me a channel of your mercy so that in my life, others will see you. Amen.

Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

July 9, 2023

Jul 9-July 16	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Ministry Discussion (Chapel) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship 12:15pm – VBS set-up & decorating	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Family Bible Study (all ages)
Mon-Thurs	9:00am – Vacation Bible School	
Friday		
Sunday	8:30am – Worship w/Communion 9:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship w/Communion	9:30am – Worship w/Communion 10:45am – Family Bible Study (all ages)

THIS WEEK

Ministry Planning & Discussion Today

We’ll use today’s adult/teen Bible class hour (9:45am-10:45am) for our monthly discussion of ministry culture and opportunities. Today we’ll specifically look at goals for the coming year for our Boise campus and preschool ministries. All are invited and encouraged to participate with your questions, input, and ideas.

Pastor Wetzel – Call Received

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church in Peoria, AZ has asked Pastor Wetzel to consider serving as their next pastor. Please pray for him and his family as he prayerfully considers this call. Feel free to reach out to him with your encouragement and thoughts: kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org.

Summer Worship Series: “A Better Way to Live”

Our worship series on the 10 Commandments continues! 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.

We’re Hiring!

Part-time preschool aide/support teacher on the Boise campus. For further info about this position, applying, and scheduling an interview with members of the church Council, contact Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org / 208-996-0862).

Pray for Vacation Bible School!

This week on the Boise campus we embark on a stellar adventure into God’s power and love – through some pretty cool Bible stories that will teach and encourage us to SEE Jesus’ light and SHINE Jesus’ light! Would you pray for the kids attending and the teens & adults serving? Ask God to bless each activity with effectiveness, fun, and a clear message of the gospel, and each individual with a great week and strengthened trust in him!

UPCOMING

National Night Out with Cross of Christ!

Save the date: Tuesday, August 1. So much cool stuff in the works! Make plans to come on out for this community event and to invite everyone you know to come along with you.

- 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Orah Brandt Park in Nampa
- 5:30-7:30 pm on the Boise campus

Sounds like something you’d like to help out with? (Planning, set-up, acquiring supplies, hosting the church “booth,” supervising kid activities, greeting guests, take-down & clean-up, etc.) Talk to Chloe Whitaker for the Nampa event (nampa.admin@cocidaho.org) and Pastor Hein for the Boise event (greg.hein@cocidaho.org).

Camp Christos Volunteer Staff Needs

Adults & teens age 17-19 are invited to volunteer as staff for Camp Christos, July 30-August 4 near La Grande, OR. **We're particularly looking for a couple more male cabin counselors.** You can register as staff at tinyurl.com/campchristos, or get in touch with Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org).

General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$15,261
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$4,348
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$5,498

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	34	45	79
Kids' Sunday School	20	n/a	20
Last Weekend's Worship	89+86	91	266
Livestream Views	6		
Cross Connections	n/a	3	3

Serving	July 9		July 16	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	L. Becker, B. Snyder	K. Koepsell	L. Becker, B. Snyder	K. Koepsell
AV Tech	G. Light, TBA	A. Becker, E. Christianson	TBA	A. Becker, B. Berrier, J. Meier, M. Hartman
Altar Care	n/a	T. Yaka, L. Russow	Guthmiller	T. Yaka, L. Russow
Ushers	n/a	R. Hibbs, B. Turley, R. Seely	n/a	R. Hibbs, R. Seely
Open & Close	n/a	M. Johnson, R. Lange	n/a	KC Broyles, M. Brown
Coffee	Guthmiller	B. Robbins, N. Herberger	TBA	B. Robbins, N. Herberger
Flowers	n/a	McLain	n/a	available
Lawn Crew	n/a	L. Dold, M. Boltz	n/a	Team Burke
Cleaning	Wetzel	D. McLain	TBA	n/a
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller	n/a	Prigge, Tweedy
Tellers	Rule, Walden, Turley		Turley, Davidson, Butterfield	

**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.
