



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

August 13, 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.

Opening Responses

with “Speak, O Lord”

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

Congregation: Amen.

**All: (♩) Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
To receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes for your glory.**

Even we who love God so often despise God’s Word and choose to ignore what it says for our lives. We fail to gladly hear and learn it, and we fail to adequately apply that which we have heard and learned. For this and all our sins, we stand before God and humbly ask for forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserved your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

**All: (♩) Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow’r that can never fail,
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. God gave you his Word and planted it in your heart, so that you may trust that Jesus is your Savior, Jesus loves you most, you are forgiven, you have life!

Amen.

**All: (♩) Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your Church is built
And the earth is filled with your glory!**

God's Word

Isaiah 55:6-11

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.

⁷Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

⁸"For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,"
declares the LORD.

⁹"As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰As the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it
without watering the earth

and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,
¹¹so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

God's Word

1 Corinthians 3:5-11

⁵What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. ⁶I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. ⁹For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

¹⁰By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. ¹¹For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Children's Message

Song

“Seed You Sow”

Sung by Camp Christos campers & staff

Message from God's Word

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ²Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹Whoever has ears, let them hear."...

¹⁸"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²²The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

Faith Is a Good Listener

Song of Response

“Create in Me”

On screens

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.

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

“Jesus, Thank You”

On screens, stanzas 1 -2

Silent Prayer

God, thank you for planting in me the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit help me receive it with joy and bring forth fruits in faith and hope and love. 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

August 13, 2023

Aug 13-20	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	9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Monthly Ministry Discussion
Monday	6:00pm - Council Meeting	
Tues-Sat		
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

New Adult/Teen Bible Study Starts Today

Today, August 13, we'll begin a seven-week End Times Bible study, meeting in the chapel 9:45-10:45 am. This study will provide a thorough examination of what Scripture teaches about the topic of eschatology, which means "the end times". The study covers the following seven topics:

- **God's Word on the Future: Jesus Is Coming!**
- The Unknown Day and Hour of Jesus' Return
- While We Wait for Jesus' Return
- The Events of Judgment Day
- The Judgment
- Millennialism and Dispensationalism
- The Present Life in Light of Jesus' Future Coming

Loving our Neighbors at McMillan Elementary

Three weeks left to contribute! McMillan Elementary School, just down the road, serves many low-income families who live right around us. The school reached out to us with a list of needs many families have, so *we'd love to meet the following needs as this quarter's Boise campus community partner:*

- *Items for hygiene kits:* full sized shampoo and conditioner, body wash or bar soap, full size deodorant, toothbrush, and full-size toothpaste
- *Household items:* full sized laundry detergent, all-purpose cleaner, hand soap, dish soap, toilet paper, paper towels, and small boxes of garbage bags

Place your gifts in the bin in the Boise lobby no later than the Sunday of Labor Day Weekend, September 3. Cross of Christ teens will assemble these items into kits for the school to hand out. Thank you for showing God's love in this concrete way!

UPCOMING

Congregational Open Forum: Aug 27

Sunday, August 27, 1:00 pm on the Boise campus (virtual access will be available to members). Everyone is encouraged to attend, ask questions, and offer input as we give thanks for the ministry opportunities God has already given us and what hope to see in the future. This ministry is your ministry -- see you there! Voting members of the congregation are particularly encouraged to attend to participate in the official business decisions needed. (If onsite childcare would make it possible for you to attend, please let Stefanie know: admin@cocidaho.org.)

GriefShare Offered in Boise: Begins Sept 5

GriefShare is a support group for those who've lost a loved one to death, regardless of how long it's been since the loss. This 13-week program uses teaching videos, a workbook, and group discussion to help you move toward healing. *If this doesn't apply to you right now, it may apply to someone you know. Share the opportunity with them!* **Register online at cocidaho.org.** More program info at griefshare.org.

- Tuesdays, 7:00pm
- at Cross of Christ's Boise campus
- Begins September 5 (participants may join at any time during the 13 weeks)
- \$20 registration fee provides your own GriefShare workbook.

Week of September 10

How can you grow with God and others this Fall at Cross of Christ? Start thinking about all the great opportunities you'll have!

- New worship series: Identity in Christ (the book of Ephesians)
- Teen class restarts (Sundays, 9:45 am, Boise)
- Confirmation class begins (more info below)
- Sunday school students move "up" a grade! (ages 2 – 6th grade)
- Growth groups begin (sign-up coming soon)

Youth Confirmation Class: Begins Sept 10

Confirmation class is designed to help parents of our congregation educate their adolescent children in basic doctrinal truths and prepare them for God-pleasing reception of the Lord's Supper. This class begins Sunday, Sept 10 and will consist of weekly classes at both campuses, homework that allows for parent involvement, online quizzes when classes are missed, and some long-term assignments. *If you have a child 7th grade or older and would like to begin Confirmation class, contact Pastor Snyder to arrange a meeting at church or at your home to get started (208-996-0862, brad.snyder@cocboise.org).*

Cross Connections – Coming Soon This Fall

Cross Connections (our Bible Information Class) is the perfect course to connect to God, purpose, and community at the cross of Christ. In a simple, easy-to-follow format, we lay out the message of Jesus and the Bible to give you certainty about your relationship with God and answer life's biggest questions.

Cross Connections can serve as a great spiritual refresher to grow in your faith or as an introduction to Christianity and what we're all about at Cross of Christ, which presents an especially great opportunity for you to participate and to bring a friend!

Dodgeball at Cross of Christ Boise Campus

Hit us with your best shot! Come on over the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, 5 pm in the Boise campus gym, for some casual dodgeball fun and friendly competition. **First game is September 1.** Please RSVP to Connor Mathis (mathisconnor97@gmail.com) so he knows you're coming – and bring friends!

Cross of Christ Preschool: Fall Openings

The first day of Preschool is September 5 – a little over three weeks away – but there are still some openings for the upcoming school year! At this time Monday-Thursday mornings are full, so morning and full-day options are no longer available; however, afternoon options are still available Monday-Friday, as well as full days on Fridays. SHARE this info with friends & acquaintances, REGISTER online at cocidaho.org/preschool or get a packet from the office, or CONTACT Andrea Becker (registrar@cocboise.org) with questions.

Sisters in Christ Ladies' Retreat: Oct 13-15, 2023

Registration & further info at cocidaho.org/retreat. Cost is \$100, for two nights' lodging, four meals, activities & materials. **Payment deadline is September 25.** Join us for a peaceful and joyful opportunity for fellowship, relaxation (both physical and spiritual), and study of God's Word as we gather for our two-day ladies' retreat in beautiful Donnelly, ID. Direct questions to Mandy Watkins (210-425-3270, amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com).

Cross of Christ Church Council		
Brent Masters	Chairman	mastersb678@gmail.com
Greg Light	Secretary, IT	lightgreg57@gmail.com
Cameron Sullivan	Treasurer	cameron.c.sullivan@gmail.com
Ty Stavenau	Worship	tystavenau@gmail.com
Justin Malnes	Evangelism	jdmalnes110@gmail.com
Hans Geary	Education	hans.t.geary@gmail.com
Ray Dodd	Stewardship	raymondjaydodd@gmail.com
Seth Tews	Youth	sethtews@gmail.com
Gene Whitlach	Facilities	gwhitlach@gmail.com

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	38	41	79
Kids' Sunday School	21	n/a	21
Last Weekend's Worship	71+89	98	258
Livestream Views	9		
Cross Connections	n/a	3	3

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i>	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$91,567
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$67,902
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$14,157

Serving	Aug 13		Aug 20	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	K. Koepsell, Camp Christos kids/staff	J. Hein, R. Dodd, Camp Christos kids/staff	J. Lowry	K. Koepsell, T. Russow
AV Tech	G. Light, J. Malnes	E. Christianson, B. Berrier, J. Meier, M. Hartman	TBA	C. Klink, J. Meier
Altar Care	n/a	C. Biggs	Guthmiller	D. McLain, C. Biggs
Ushers	n/a	B. Adams, J. Harris	TBA	Team Berrier, Team Geary
Open & Close	n/a	TBA	n/a	TBA
Coffee	Guthmiller	C. Berrier, D. McLain	TBA	C. Berrier, D. McLain
Flowers	n/a	Watkins	n/a	Thompson
Lawn Crew	n/a	D. Rule, J&M Welch	n/a	Team Burke
Cleaning	S. Wetzal	n/a	TBA	Banner/Ehlke
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Prigge, Tweedy	n/a	Kimmel, Whitlach
Tellers	Rule, Christianson, Butterfield		Harris, Walden, Davidson	