



CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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August 27, 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 Song

“God Himself Is Present”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

Opening Responses with “Surely It Is God Who Saves Me”

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.

**All: (♩) Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.**

Left to ourselves, we would have been lost, wandering from God and separated from his goodness forever. But God wouldn't give up on us. He came to rescue us from sinking into the depths and to make us part of his family. As we confess our sins together, we stand in awe of how much Jesus has done to save us and make us right with God.

Holy and gracious Lord, I have not lived as your child. Since birth, and in countless ways, I have sinned against you and the people in my life. Yet, even though I deserved to face the punishment for my sins, you sent Jesus to save me. Thank you for Jesus! I trust in him for my forgiveness.

**All: (♩) Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.**

It was by living a perfect life, dying on the cross, and coming back to life that Jesus rescued you. He took it all upon himself and removed your guilt forever. You are forgiven, loved, and accepted by God: in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit!

Amen.

**All: (♩) Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.**

God's Word

1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁰He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

¹¹The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹²After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

¹⁵The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. ¹⁶Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the

sword of Jehu. ¹⁸Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

God’s Word

Romans 8:28-39

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Children’s Message

Song

“Day by Day”
On screens, stanzas 1-3

Message from God's Word

Matthew 14:22-33

²²Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

²⁷But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

²⁸"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

²⁹"Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

³¹Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

³²And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Song of Response

"If God Himself Be for Me"

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

“Amazing Grace”

Hymn #379:1-4

Silent Prayer

Lord, my God, thank you for always walking with me. Despite my doubts and fears, you accept me in your grace. Strengthen me in your power that I may walk through any storm and give me the light of faith that I may always see you clearly. 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 20, 2023

Aug 27-Sept 3	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 - Congregational Open Forum	9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Family Bible Study (all ages)
Mon-Wed		
Thursday	6:30pm - Cross Connections	
Friday	5:00pm - Dodgeball	10:00am - Mommy & Me
Saturday		
Sunday	8:30am - Worship w/Communion 9:45am - Monthly 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)

THIS WEEK

Congregational Open Forum: TODAY

August 27, 1:00pm here on the Boise campus (virtual access has been emailed 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. Today's meeting will especially highlight the blessings we've seen this summer and what to be excited about and support in the fall.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Today we continue our 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 (8/27)**
- The Events of Judgment Day
- The Judgment
- Millennialism and Dispensationalism
- The Present Life in Light of Jesus' Future Coming

Cross Connections: starts Thursday in Boise

This 10-week class is the perfect course to connect to God, purpose, and community at the cross of Christ. It can serve as a spiritual refresher to grow in faith or as an introduction to Christianity and what we're all about at 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. This presents an especially great opportunity for you to participate and to bring a friend! **Pick a session and get signed up today** at cocidaho.org/connect/cross-connections.

- **Boise: Thursdays at 6:30pm (starting this week, Aug 31)**
- **Nampa: Tuesdays at 6:30pm (starting Sept. 19)**

Mommy & Me: this Friday in Nampa, 10:00 am

Mommy & Me is back with themed playdates for kids 5 and under and a caregiver. The first Friday of each month is a themed session at our Nampa campus; the third Friday of each month is a field trip to a fun Treasure Valley location. This is a great way to meet other moms and for your child to socialize.



This month: hot air balloons (9/1) and Zoo Boise (9/15)! More info and registration at cocidaho.org or the QR code. The September 1 session is free!

Dodgeball: this Friday in Boise, 5pm

Hit us with your best shot! Come on over the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, 5pm in the Boise campus gym, for some casual dodgeball fun and friendly competition. (Age 14 and up, please.) **First game is September 1.** Please RSVP to Connor Mathis (mathisconnor97@gmail.com) -- and bring friends!

Loving our Neighbors at McMillan Elementary

TWO 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 Sunday, 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!

Meditations Devotional

The Aug-Dec Meditations is available for you on the tables in the lobby. This daily devotion provides food for your faith and encouragement for life. Please feel free to take one for yourself and one to give away!

UPCOMING

Ministry Planning and Discussion Next Sunday

Next Sunday, September 3, we'll use the Bible class hour (9:45am-10:45am) to discuss ministry opportunities, plans, and guiding principles at the Boise campus. Specifically in this next session: discovering community service opportunities as outreach, organizing our Fall Festival, and other ways to get involved this Fall. We'd love for you to participate in the discussion with your questions, input, and ideas!

GriefShare 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, here on the Boise campus
- Begins September 5 (participants may join at any time during the 13 weeks)
- \$20 registration fee provides your own GriefShare workbook.

September Spiritual Growth Launch

How can you grow with God and others this Fall at Cross of Christ? Put some of these great opportunities on your calendar!

September 6

- CrossTrainers restarts (high school students): Wednesdays, 7pm, Boise campus (contact person: Pastor Snyder, 208-996-0862)

September 10 (both campuses, more info below)

- New worship series: IDENTITY (the book of Ephesians)
- Teen class restarts (Sundays, 9:45 am, Boise)
- Confirmation class begins
- Sunday school students move "up" a grade! (ages 2 - 6th grade)

September 11-15

- Growth Groups begin (info & sign-up link below)

Fall Worship Series: IDENTITY

"Who am I?" We're all trying to answer this question, one way or another... What's your answer? The gospel – the good news of God's grace – gives you the answer that simultaneously accepts you completely and transforms you totally: Christ. But what does it *mean* to find your identity in Jesus Christ?

Plan to be here for this series, starting September 10, to work through the Bible book of Ephesians and see Christ as the basis of our identity – as individuals, families, part of a church, and members of our society. And invite someone to come with you! (It'll make for great brunch conversations.)

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).*

Sunday School "New Year"

On Sunday, September 10, we'll kick off the next Sunday school year by gathering in our "new" age-level groups (officially recognizing that we're all a year older!) for more awesome Bible learning and faith building.

Boise campus	Nampa campus
Age 2 – 6th grade	Age 3 – 6th grade
9:45-10:45 am	10:45-11:45 am

Parents, if you expect your children to participate in Sunday school, at either campus, for this fall semester, please do register them here: tinyurl.com/CoCSUNDAYSCHOOLFall2023. This will help us enormously in planning & prepping for the year, particularly in making sure all classes are properly staffed! If you have any questions about any aspect of Sunday school, start by contacting Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org, 208-996-0862).

Fall Growth Groups: week of September 10

These small group Bible studies meet at church or in members' homes to connect with fellow Christians, study God's Word, and help each other live it out. Register for a group at tinyurl.com/COCGGFall2023 or on the Boise bulletin board. *New group added this week!* This session will run September-October.

Open Choir Singing Invitation

The Adult Choir will sing for Reformation worship, October 29; anyone high school & older is invited to participate! Any skill & experience level welcome. Choir will rehearse for six Wednesdays, Sept 20 – Oct 25, 6:15-7:15pm. Contact director Kristen Koepsell (kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org) to participate or get more info.

New Bible Class Opportunity: Digging Deeper

Do you want to know God better? See how he acts with grace and power? Then it's time to dig deeper into the Bible where our Lord clearly proclaims all these things and more!

This Fall we're starting a new Bible class opportunity called *Digging Deeper*. This will be a monthly class walking together through the entire Bible. Each meeting will require participants to complete Bible readings and study guides ahead of time. Then during class a pastor will lead the participants through a study of the big questions and applications from the reading.

Please contact Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org, 208-996-0862) you're interested in learning more about details and scheduling.

General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$122,089
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$86,635
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$6,514

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	52	42	94
Kids' Sunday School	18	n/a	18
Last Weekend's Worship	96+70	89	255
Livestream Views	6		
Cross Connections	n/a	3	3

Serving	Aug 27		Sept 3	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	K. Koepsell	L. Becker, K. Christianson	K. Koepsell	J. Hein, C. Masters
AV Tech	J. Malnes, J. Parsons	G. Light, C. Kennedy, M. Hartman	TBA	G. Light, K. Koepsell, J. Geary
Altar Care	n/a	D. McLain, C. Biggs	Guthmiller	K. Struthers
Ushers	n/a	J. Berrier, TBA	Whitaker	TBA
Open & Close	n/a	M. Johnson, H. Geary	n/a	KC Broyles, L. Manglos
Coffee	Guthmiller	C. Berrier, D. McLain	Whitaker	Ritger, Struthers
Flowers	n/a	Gruenhagen	n/a	Loring
Lawn Crew	n/a	R. Ochoa, J. Malnes	n/a	L. Dold, T. Russow
Cleaning	S. Wetzel	n/a	Olsoe	R&A Lange
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Ritger, Ford, Ashley	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller
Tellers	Rule, Christianson, Hudson		TBA	