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**CROSS OF CHRIST**

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# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

(208) 375-3992 + [cocidaho.org](http://cocidaho.org)

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## September 10, 2023

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**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 the lobby 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](http://cocidaho.org).



**CROSS OF CHRIST**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Opening Song

## “His Mercy Is More”

*On screens, stanzas 1-3*

## 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.**

Our God invites us to come into his presence openly and honestly. There is no need to hide any part of us, because all of who we are is seen by him. Therefore, let us come before our Lord as we are, acknowledging our sinfulness and trusting in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**Holy and merciful Father in heaven, I acknowledge my brokenness and sins. In countless ways, I have turned away from you and failed to live as your child. For the ways I have disobeyed you and hurt others, I deserved your punishment. But you were determined to save me. Thank you for sending me a Savior. Thank you for Jesus, his cross, and his empty tomb!**

Before the world was even made, God knew how he would rescue you. From beginning to end, he has planned and accomplished it all for you to be a member of his holy family. Because of Jesus' sacrifice in your place, you are forgiven, you are set free, and you are loved: in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit!

**Amen.**

## God's Word

Genesis 1:26-28

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

<sup>27</sup>So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

## God’s Word

John 10:27-30

<sup>27</sup>My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. <sup>30</sup>I and the Father are one.”

## Children’s Message

### Song

“Who Am I?”

*On screens*

## Message from God’s Word

Ephesians 1:3-14

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, <sup>9</sup>he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure,

which he purposed in Christ, <sup>10</sup>to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

<sup>11</sup>In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, <sup>12</sup>in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

### **An Eternal Identity**

**Song of Faith**

**“All Praise to Him”**

*On screens, stanzas 1-3*

**Installation of Youth Education Staff**

**Song**

**“Pass the Promise”**

*On screens, stanzas 1-3*

**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

**“My Worth Is Not in What I Own”**

*On screens, st. 1-5*

## Silent Prayer

Lord, you have chosen me to be your own, and you promise to work out all things for my eternal good. Let my heart rest in your goodness and make me secure in the blessed identity you’ve given me through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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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](http://cocidaho.org/give).*

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# Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

## September 10, 2023

<b>Sept 10-17</b>	<b>Boise</b> (11655 W. McMillan Road)	<b>Nampa</b> (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School
Monday	6:00pm – Preschool Back to School Night 6:00pm – Council Meeting	
Tuesday	7:00pm – GriefShare	
Wednesday	7:00pm – CrossTrainers (High School youth group)	
Thursday	6:30pm – Cross Connections	
Friday	5:00pm - Dodgeball	10:00am – Mommy & Me (offsite)
Saturday		<i>Cross of Christ booth at Harvest Classic Fun Run</i>
Sunday	8:30am – Worship w/Communion 9:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship w/Communion	9:30am – Worship w/Communion 10:45am – Monthly Ministry Planning Meeting Confirmation Class

# THIS WEEK

## **Fall Worship Series: IDENTITY – starts today!**

Six weeks. Six chapters. Six explorations of one big question: “Who am I?” We try to answer that in all sorts of ways, but they generally fall short and leave us still searching, still a bit uncertain. Let’s see how God answers it for us, specifically in the Bible book of Ephesians. Let’s see what it means and what it looks like – and how it satisfies – to find our identity first in Jesus Christ. We’re glad you’re here! Come back next week for the next message in the series, and invite a friend.

## **Sunday Morning Spiritual Growth for All Ages**

**9:45-10:45am**

Adult/Teen Bible Study

Today, we continue our End Times Bible study (meets in the chapel), which provides a thorough examination of what Scripture teaches about the topic of eschatology, which means "the end times". Upcoming topics:

- **The Judgment** (Sept 10)
- Millennialism and Dispensationalism
- The Present Life in Light of Jesus' Future Coming

Youth Confirmation Class

7th grade & older, Room 5 (down the hall to the right)

Sunday School

Age 2 – 6th grade, meet in the gym today! (all the way down the hall)

## **Fall Growth Groups begin this week – sign-ups still open!**

These small group Bible studies meet at church or in members’ homes throughout the week to connect with fellow Christians, study God’s Word, and help each other live it out. Register for a group at [tinyurl.com/COCGGFall2023](http://tinyurl.com/COCGGFall2023) or on the lobby bulletin board. This session will run September-October.

## **CrossTrainers Teen Group: Sept 13**

This group for high school students restarts this week and happens (almost) every Wednesday during the school year, 7pm on the Boise campus. Dinner provided, friends very welcome! Contact person: Pastor Snyder (208-996-0862).



## **Dodgeball This Friday: Sept 15**

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 this Friday, September 15.** Please RSVP to Connor Mathis ([mathisconnor97@gmail.com](mailto:mathisconnor97@gmail.com)) -- and bring friends!

# SEPTEMBER

## **GriefShare Support Group**

This support group for those who've lost a loved one to death uses teaching videos, a workbook, and group discussion to help you move toward healing. **Register online at [cocidaho.org](http://cocidaho.org).** More program info at [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org).

- Tuesdays, 7:00pm, here on the Boise campus
- Began September 5 (participants may join at any time during the 13 weeks)
- \$20 registration fee provides your own GriefShare workbook.

## **Men's Morning Bible Study: Sept 19**

Tuesdays, 6:30-7:15am, Boise campus lobby

## **Cross Connections Class: new session begins Sept 19**

### **Tuesdays at 6:30 pm, on the Nampa campus**

This 10-week class 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 invite a friend! **Register at [cocidaho.org/connect/cross-connections](http://cocidaho.org/connect/cross-connections).**

## **Connecting with Guests**

When folks from our communities visit Cross of Christ for worship or an event, we want to get to know them better and stay connected with them, so they know they're important to us – and most of all – important to God!

To do that better, we're creating an intentional plan for following up with visitors that involves our members as well as our pastors. If you enjoy getting to know new people and offering connection & hospitality, if you like to think about how to make

people feel welcome, if you can send friendly emails/texts or make friendly phone calls...this is for you! **Contact Evangelism Councilman Justin Malnes** ([jdmalness110@gmail.com](mailto:jdmalness110@gmail.com)) to get more info and express your interest.

### **Worship Service for New Pastor at Sister Church: Sept 24**

Peace in Jesus Lutheran Church in Boise (1253 N Cole Rd) is pleased to announce the Ordination/Installation service for Tào Nguyễn, their new pastor. All are invited and welcome to a lunch on Sunday, September 24, any time 12:00-1:30 pm. The bi-lingual Ordination/Installation service will be held at 2:00pm. We thank God for the opportunity to celebrate this event and hope you are able to join us!

### **Parenting Workshop: Sept 30, Nampa Campus**

To call parenting challenging would be a tremendous understatement. Therefore, we want to offer support as parents and care givers carry out this important role. Join us on Saturday, September 30, 9am-12pm, Nampa Campus (and October 7 Boise campus), for a parenting workshop. We'll work through practical ways to manage difficult behavior and strengthen relationships. We'll also see how the power of grace heals and transforms the heart of both child and parent. Please **register at [tinyurl.com/cocparentingworkshop](http://tinyurl.com/cocparentingworkshop)**, and invite your friends, family, and neighbors! All are welcome.

## **OCTOBER**

### **Worship Service for Anniversary at Sister Church**

Messiah Lutheran Church in Nampa (534 W Iowa Ave) invites our sister churches to a special worship service on Sunday, October 1, at 1:00 pm, to celebrate 50 years of gospel ministry. Food will be served following the service. We hope you can come and worship with us and visit us for this special occasion!

### **Women's Bible Study**

All women are invited to come and connect with other Christian women as together we "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18) in a friendly, discussion-filled environment. This will be an 8-week session.

- Boise campus: Mondays, 10:00am, begins Oct 2
- Nampa Campus: Mondays, 6:30pm, begins Oct 9

**Young Adult Group: Oct 4 @ 6:30 pm**

We're pleased to announce the start of a young adult gathering at Cross of Christ (roughly ages 18 to early 30s)! We'll usually meet the first Wednesday of each month (alternating between Boise and Nampa campus). The first group will meet on Wednesday, October 4 (6:30 pm) at our Nampa campus. We'll have a topic to dive into, time for discussion and Q&A, and food and games after. Friends are welcome!

**Parenting Workshop: October 7 Boise Campus**

The same workshop listed on the previous page; choose the day that works for your schedule! Held on the Boise campus Saturday, October 7, 9am-12pm.

**Fall Festival: October 29**

Save the date for this fun family event!

Nampa Campus: 3:00-5:30 pm

Boise Campus: 3:00-6:00 pm

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i>	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$152,611
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$108,050
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$11,323

<b>People in God's Word this past week</b>	<b>Boise</b>	<b>Nampa</b>	<b>Total</b>
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	35	37	72
Kids' Sunday School	25	n/a	25
Last Weekend's Worship	60+97	93	250
Livestream Views	9		
Cross Connections	6	3	9

Serving	Sept 10		Sept 17	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	L. Becker, B. Parsons	K. Koepsell, B. Evans, L. Neujahr, S. DeWall	R. Dodd	L. Becker, K. Koepsell, small group choir
AV Tech	J. Malnes, G. Light	C. Klink, T. Russow, J. Geary, E. Christianson	G. Light, C. Spackman	E. Christianson, C. Kennedy, J. Meier
Altar Care	n/a	K. Struthers	Guthmiller	K. Struthers
Ushers	n/a	B. Zimmerman, B. Turley, J. Harris	Whitaker	B. Walters, T. Geary
Open & Close	n/a	G. Whitlach, E. Christianson	n/a	B. Masters, R. Lange
Coffee	Guthmiller	Ritger, Struthers	TBA	Ritger, Struthers
Flowers	n/a	Benedick	n/a	Loring
Lawn Crew	n/a	P. Jossis, M. Hartman	n/a	B. Turley, B. Zimmerman
Cleaning	Strickler	n/a	K. Fuller	n/a
Bulletin Folders	n/a	E. Prigge, R. Ritger	n/a	Kimmel, Whitlach
Tellers	Harris, Christianson, Walden		Turley, Butterfield, Hudson	