



identity

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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September 24, 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 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.



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Opening Song

“Drawn to the Cross”

Hymn #387:1-3

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.

Jesus receives us. He invites us to come. Though we have sinned and wandered from his ways, he still welcomes us home in God’s family. Again today, we can lay every burden and all regrets at the cross. Again today, we place our trust in Jesus alone for our forgiveness.

Vocalist: Once a slave to the fear and the darkness held within,

Oh, the weight of my sin, my shame.

By his grace purified, in redeeming sacrifice,

Living hope that won’t spoil or fade.

I am washed by the blood of the Son on the cross,

I am washed by the blood of the Lamb.

All my guilt, all my shame, were his wounds and his pain.

I am washed by the blood of the Lamb.

Just and merciful God, I confess my brokenness and sins. In countless ways, I have sinned against you and others, and I have failed to live as your child. But you didn’t treat me as I deserved. You rescued me when I was lost. I praise you for sending Jesus to be my Savior!

All: (♩) Now we know who we are, precious children called by God.

Let us serve and exalt our King,

With our hearts and our minds freely offer up our lives,

Run the race, fix our gaze on him.

We are washed by the blood of the Son on the cross,

We are washed by the blood of the Lamb.

All our guilt, all our shame, were his wounds and his pain.

We are washed by the blood of the Lamb.

All is forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Jesus' perfect life, innocent death, and resurrection to life have accomplished all that is required to remove your guilt forever. By believing in Jesus, you are God's holy child. May God daily guide you and empower you to live as his child.

Amen.

All: (♩) We will rise as he rose, for the grave no longer holds.

Every tear will be wiped away.

And the saints will be heard praising God forevermore,

Face to face with the One who saves.

We are washed by the blood of the Son on the cross,

We are washed by the blood of the Lamb.

All our guilt, all our shame, were his wounds and his pain.

We are washed by the blood of the Lamb.

Prayer

Lord God, you have shown us your love in Jesus, our Savior. And now you send us out to tell the world the good news of all that you've done. Give us boldness and every confidence as we walk in faith and use the gospel to impact lives for eternity; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

²Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.

³They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

⁴Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵ It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

⁶It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect,
refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.

⁸The precepts of the Lord are right,
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the Lord are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever.

The decrees of the Lord are firm,
and all of them are righteous.

¹⁰They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.

¹¹By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²But who can discern their own errors?
Forgive my hidden faults.

¹³Keep your servant also from willful sins;
may they not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless,
innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight,
Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

God's Word

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Children's Message

Song

“May the Peoples Praise You”

On screens, stanzas 1-5

Message from God's Word

Ephesians 3:6-21

⁶This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. ¹³I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.

¹⁴For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Identity with Purpose

Song of Faith “Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery”

On screens, stanzas 1-4

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

“Let It Be Said of Us”

On screens, st. 1-2

Silent Prayer

Gracious God, forgive me for how often I take my identity in you for granted. Strengthen my faith in you so that I may begin to grasp how loving and powerful you are. But you are not just for me. Lead me to boldly make known the gift of this new identity in the lives of others as well. 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 coidaho.org/give.

Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

September 24, 2023

| Sept 24-Oct 1 | Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road) | Nampa (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 2:00pm - Worship service for new pastor at Peace in Jesus (1253 N Cole Rd) | 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids' Sunday School |
| Monday | <i>2023 Ladies' Retreat Registration Deadline</i> | |
| Tuesday | 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 7:00pm - GriefShare | 6:30pm - Cross Connections |
| Wednesday | 6:15pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - CrossTrainers (HS) | |
| Thursday | 6:30pm - Cross Connections | |
| Friday | | |
| Saturday | | 9:00am - Parenting Workshop |
| 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 1:00pm - Messiah Anniversary Celebration | 9:30am - Worship w/Communion 10:45am - Monthly Ministry Meeting Confirmation Class (<i>no Sunday School</i>) 1:00pm - Worship service for 50th anniversary at Messiah (534 W Iowa Ave, Nampa) |

THIS WEEK

Fall Worship Series: IDENTITY

We're glad you're here today as we continue exploring the big question: "Who am I?" We try to answer it in all sorts of ways, but they generally fall short and leave us still a bit uncertain. Let's see how God answers it for us. Let's see what it means and what it looks like – and how it satisfies – to find our identity first in Jesus Christ. We hope you'll come back next week for the next message in the series.

Pastor Snyder Call Received

Pastor Snyder has been called by Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Grand Blanc, MI, to serve as their pastor. He welcomes your prayers and input as he considers the ministry opportunities God has put before him (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org).

Sunday Morning Spiritual Growth for All Ages, 9:45-10:45am

Adult/Teen Bible Study

End Times study continues today (in the chapel), examining what Scripture teaches about eschatology, which means "the end times".

- **Millennialism and Dispensationalism** (Sept 24)
- The Present Life in Light of Jesus' Future Coming (Oct 1)

Youth Confirmation Class

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

Sunday School

Age 2 – 6th grade (gym & classrooms, down the hall)

Worship Service for New Pastor at Sister Church Today, Sept 24, 2:00pm

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 to lunch today, Sept. 24, any time 12:00-1:30 pm, and to the bi-lingual Ordination/Installation service at 2:00pm. We hope you are able to join us!

Sisters in Christ Ladies' Retreat: Registration Deadline Tomorrow, Sept 25

Oct 13-15, in Donnelly, ID. Cost is \$100, for two nights' lodging, four meals, activities & materials. Further info & registration at cocidaho.org/retreat. Direct questions to Mandy Watkins (210-425-3270, amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com).

Parenting Workshop: Sept 30, Nampa Campus

You're invited to a free parenting workshop this coming Saturday, September 30, 9am-12pm, at our Nampa Campus (6134 Birch Lane) (also offered October 7 here on the Boise campus). We'll work through practical ways to manage difficult behavior, strengthen parent-child relationships, and harness the power of grace. Register at tinyurl.com/cocparentingworkshop. Free onsite childcare for ages 2+.

Volunteer Opportunity: Sunday Morning Ushering

By volunteering as an usher, you can serve others by

- being a welcoming presence for all who come to worship,
- greeting and seating guests,
- helping with simple requests, such as pointing out the restrooms or parents' room, and
- assisting with the reception of communion.

This role is open to all men, women, and teens of the congregation. It's an easy yet meaningful way to contribute to worship and make a difference for all who walk through our doors. Please consider serving in this way! To get more information or to volunteer, contact Worship Councilman Ty Stavenau (208-938-0886).

UPCOMING

Worship Service for Anniversary at Sister Church: Oct 1

Messiah Lutheran Church in Nampa (534 W Iowa Ave) invites our sister churches to a special worship service next 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: Oct 2 or 9

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

A Cross of Christ young adult gathering (roughly 18 to early 30s) is starting up! We'll meet the first Wednesday of each month (alternating campuses). The first meet-up is Wednesday, Oct 4 (6:30 pm) at our Nampa campus. We'll have a topic to consider, discussion, and food & fun after. Friends are welcome!

Mommy & Me: Wild Wild West

Friday, October 6, 10am, at the Nampa Campus (6134 Birch Lane). Check out all the details at cocardaho.org/connect/mommy-and-me/.

Parenting Workshop: Oct 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.

Volleyball at Cross of Christ

Family Volleyball:

- 2:00-3:30 pm, every second Sunday of the month, Boise campus gym
- *Beginning Sunday, October 8*
- No signup needed, just show up!
- All skill levels welcome
- Bring the whole family and invite some friends!

Teen+ Volleyball:

- 6:30-8:00 pm, every third Thursday of the month, Boise campus gym
- *Next Session: Thursday, October 19*
- Signup encouraged for email reminders, but okay to just show up!
- Prior volleyball experience encouraged for more competitive play.
- Teens and adults only, friends very welcome!

To participate in Teen+, please sign up on the lobby bulletin board or RSVP to Ray Dodd (raymondjaydodd@gmail.com / 208-949-8787).

Save the Date: Boise Campus Fall Clean-Up

Saturday, October 21, 9am-12pm

Fall Festival(s): October 29

At both campuses, we'll be hosting a Fall Festival on Sunday, October 29. Here at Boise it'll be **3:00 to 6:00pm**.

We'll have a chili cook-off, crafts, games, and trunk-or-treat! This is the perfect event to attend with an eye on hospitality and connecting with folks from our community—be sure to attend.

Check out the lobby bulletin board or below for important ways to get involved, and start inviting your family, friends, and neighbors!

How to contribute (info & sign-up): (tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer).

Want to talk to people?

- Run a carnival booth or hang out at the welcome table to greet everyone!
- Decorate your vehicle's trunk and hand out candy.

Rather be behind the scenes?

- Compete in the chili cook-off (tinyurl.com/FFchilicookoff).
- Contribute a dessert or side for the meal (tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations).
- Help with grilling or keeping the food tables supplied.
- Assist with setup or clean-up.

Nampa campus Fall Festival will be the same day, 3:00-5:30pm. If you'd like to help there, contact Chloe Whitaker for more info (nampa.admin@cocidaho.org).



| People in God's Word this past week | Boise | Nampa | Total |
|--|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study | 57 | 54 | 111 |
| Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation | 26/6 | na/2 | 34 |
| Last Weekend's Worship | 106+94 | 90 | 290 |
| Men's Bible Study | 6 | n/a | 6 |
| CrossTrainers | 10 | n/a | 10 |
| Livestream Views | 5 | | |
| Growth Groups | 8+10+10+5+4+3 | | |
| Cross Connections | 8 | 4 | 12 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| <i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i> | \$808,840 |
| General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD | \$183,134 |
| General Fund Offerings FYTD | \$134,232 |
| Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds) | \$11,289 |

| Serving | Sept 24 | | Oct 1 | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Nampa | Boise | Nampa | Boise |
| Music | J. Lowry | K. Koepsell, A. Scott | L. Becker, K. Wetzel | K. Koepsell, S. Hibbs |
| AV Tech | J. Malnes | G. Light, M. Hartman, J. Geary | G. Light | C. Klink, B. Berrier, J. Meier |
| Altar Care | n/a | K. Struthers | Guthmiller | T. Yaka, L. Russow |
| Ushers | n/a | B. Adams, Team Manglos | TBD | B. Adams, TBD |
| Greeters | n/a | K. Sigler, B. Ford, C. Hagedorn-Reilly, J. Hein | n/a | TBD |
| Open & Close | n/a | J. Breckon, M. Brown | n/a | M. Johnson, H. Geary |
| Coffee | Guthmiller | Ritger, Struthers | Whitaker | B. Robbins, N. Herberger |
| Flowers | n/a | T&C Masters | n/a | Watkins |
| Lawn Crew | n/a | R. Ochoa, P. Becker | n/a | N. Tessmer, J&M Welch |
| Cleaning | T. Strickler | n/a | Olsoe | D&B Doshier |
| Bulletin Folders | n/a | Ritger, Ford, Ashley | n/a | Bafus, Guthmiller |
| Tellers | Rule, Christianson, Hudson | | Turley, TBD | |