



CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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September 3, 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 by walking them in the lobby. Video & audio of the worship service are available in the lobby to assist families with their worship. A private parents' room is located in the alcove to your left as you exit the chapel.

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 online at cocidaho.org.



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Opening Song

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Hymn #538:1,2,3,5

Welcomed into the Family of God

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

Congregation: Amen!

Jesus promises that real forgiveness is available to all, and acceptance before God himself in heaven is possible! He invites us to come openly and honestly, lay all our sins before him, and find again our heavenly Father’s welcome.

Holy God, gracious Father, I acknowledge my brokenness and sins. Throughout my life, and in countless ways, I have sinned against you and others. My sins deserved your just punishment. Thank you for rescuing me from what I deserved. Thank you for sending me a Savior. I trust in Jesus alone for my forgiveness.

You are saved because of Jesus, and your sins are taken away forever! Jesus’ perfect life, innocent death, and resurrection to life have accomplished it all so you can be God’s holy child. By believing in Jesus, all is well with you and God. You are forgiven and set free! Live as God’s forgiven child.

Amen!

Prayer

Almighty God, you give life that never ends. Help us to always know Jesus better as the way, the truth, and the life. Lead us to boldly confess him as the true Savior and to walk steadfastly in the way that leads to eternal life. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Exodus 34:5-9

⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the Lord. ⁶And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

⁸Moses bowed to the ground at once and worshiped. ⁹"Lord," he said, "if I have found favor in your eyes, then let the Lord go with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people, forgive our wickedness and our sin, and take us as your inheritance."

God's Word

Romans 10:5-13

⁵Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: "The person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷"or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: ⁹If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. ¹¹As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." ¹²For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Children's Message

Song

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

Hymn #382:1-4

Message from God’s Word

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

¹⁴They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

¹⁵“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

**Who Is Jesus?
(and why it matters!)**

Statement of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer & 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.

The Lord's Supper

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians, united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask only those who have made that public confession of faith by being a member of our congregation or another WELS or ELS congregation come forward to receive Communion. Guests, please ask one of our pastors if you have questions. We are eager to listen and visit with you about the blessings of this Supper and of that unity at a convenient time.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy on us, and grant us your peace. Amen.**

Distribution Song

"In Christ Alone"

On screens, stanzas 1-4

Blessing

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Amen!

Closing Song

“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

Silent Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for this time together in your house. Let your Word be the lamp for my feet and the light for my path this week. Walk with me, be my comfort and strength, and guide me in your ways. 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

September 3, 2023

Sept 3-10	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
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)
Monday		
Tuesday	First Day of Preschool! 7:00pm - GriefShare	
Wednesday	<i>CrossTrainers resumes NEXT week</i>	
Thursday	6:30pm - Cross Connections 6:30pm - Boise SS Staff Meeting	
Fri-Sat		
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

THIS WEEK

Ministry Planning and Discussion Today

We will use today's Bible class hour (9:45am-10:45am) to discuss ministry opportunities, plans, and guiding principles at the Boise campus. Come participate in the discussion with your questions, input, and ideas! Specifically in this session:

- discovering community service opportunities as outreach,
- organizing our Fall Festival, and
- other ways to get involved this Fall.

GriefShare Begins This Tuesday, Sept 5

GriefShare is a support group for those who've lost a loved one to death. 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.

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!

Please contact Evangelism Councilman Justin Malnes (jdmalness110@gmail.com) to get more info and express your interest.

Cross Connections Class

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 to bring a friend! **Pick a session and get signed up today** at cocidaho.org/connect/cross-connections.

- **Boise: Thursdays at 6:30pm (began last week, you can still sign up!)**
- **Nampa: Tuesdays at 6:30pm (starting Sept. 19)**

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

CrossTrainers Teen Group: Sept 13

This group for high school students restarts NEXT week, Sept 13, and happens (almost) every Wednesday during the school year, 7pm on the Boise campus. Dinner provided, friends welcome! Contact person: Pastor Snyder (208-996-0862).

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 next Sunday, 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.)

Fall Growth Groups: week of Sept 10

TWO MORE groups added this week! 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. This session will run September-October.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Next Sunday we continue our End Times Bible study, meeting in the chapel 9:45-10:45 am. This study provides a thorough examination of what Scripture teaches about the topic of eschatology, which means "the end times". Upcoming topics:

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

Youth Confirmation Class: 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. *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": Sept 10

Next Sunday 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 helps us plan & prep for the year, particularly in properly staffing all classes! If you have any questions about Sunday school, contact Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org, 208-996-0862).

Dodgeball New Start Date: 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 is now September 15.** Please RSVP to Connor Mathis (mathisconnor97@gmail.com) -- and bring friends!

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.

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!

Save the Date: Parenting Workshops

Saturday, September 30, 9am-12pm, Nampa Campus
Saturday, October 7, 9am-12pm, Boise Campus

Save the Date: Anniversary Service at Sister Church

Messiah Lutheran Church's 50th Anniversary:
Sunday, October 1, 1:00 pm (534 W Iowa Ave, Nampa)

New Bible Class Opportunity: Digging Deeper

This Fall we're starting a new Bible class opportunity called *Digging Deeper*, which will walk through the entire Bible. Each monthly meeting will require participants to complete Bible readings and study guides ahead of time. Then at class a pastor will lead a study of the big questions and applications from the reading. Please contact Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org, 208-996-0862) if you're interested in learning more about details and scheduling.

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i>	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$137,350
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$96,832
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$10,249

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	51	28	79
Kids' Sunday School	20	n/a	20
Last Weekend's Worship	73+108	84	265
Livestream Views	10		
Cross Connections	n/a	2	2

Serving	Sept 3		Sept 10	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	K. Koepsell, E&J Parsons, C, L&A Trull, H&E Wetzell, S. Whitaker	J. Hein, C. Masters	L. Becker, B. Parsons	K. Koepsell, B. Evans, L. Neujahr, S. DeWall
AV Tech	S. Tews	G. Light, K. Koepsell, J. Geary	J. Malnes, G. Light	C. Klink, T. Russow, J. Geary, E. Christianson
Altar Care	Guthmiller	K. Struthers	Guthmiller	K. Struthers
Ushers	Whitaker	R. Seely	Whitaker	TBA
Open & Close	n/a	KC Broyles, L. Manglos	n/a	G. Whitlach, E. Christianson
Coffee	Whitaker	Ritger, Struthers	TBA	Ritger, Struthers
Flowers	n/a	Loring	n/a	Benedick
Lawn Crew	n/a	L. Dold, T. Russow	n/a	P. Jossis, M. Hartman
Cleaning	Olsoe	R&A Lange	TBD	n/a
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller	n/a	E. Prigge, R. Ritger
Tellers	Turley, Butterfield, Davidson		Harris, Christianson, Walden	