



*identity*

**CROSS OF CHRIST**

---

# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Greg Hein, Christian Life Pastor: (480) 433-3084, [greg.hein@cocidaho.org](mailto:greg.hein@cocidaho.org)

Rev. Brad Snyder, Christian Education Pastor: (208) 996-0862, [brad.snyder@cocidaho.org](mailto:brad.snyder@cocidaho.org)

Rev. Kurt Wetzel, Mission Pastor: (208) 996-2202, [kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org](mailto:kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org)

Rev. John Steinbrenner, District President: (208) 921-4748, [john.steinbrenner@cocidaho.org](mailto:john.steinbrenner@cocidaho.org)

## October 1, 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](http://cocidaho.org).



**CROSS OF CHRIST**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Opening Song

## “Come, O Come, Let Us Sing”

*On screens, stanzas 1-2*

## Opening Responses with “For What We Have Done”

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

### **Congregation: Amen.**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins to the Lord, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:8-9). Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All: (♩) For what we have done and left undone  
We fall on your countless mercies.  
For sins that are known and those unknown,  
We call on your name so holy.  
For envy and pride, for closing our eyes,  
For scorning our very neighbor.  
In thought, word, and deed we’ve failed you, our King;  
How deeply we need a Savior.  
  
Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy on us.**

Heavenly Father, I want to humbly confess that my life has been self-focused individuality. I have prided myself on individuality. You have made us to be unique creatures, but you didn’t create us to be isolated creatures. You made us to be interdependent creatures. We have followed the example of the world in our talk. We’ve followed the example of the world in our lack of kindness and followed the example of the world in holding grudges and lack of forgiveness. Forgive us for that. Make us confident in your forgiveness, that we may be motivated by it to show it to others.

**All: (♩) For what we have done and left undone  
We fall on your countless mercies.  
For sins that are known and those unknown,  
We call on your name so holy.  
For hearts that are cold, for seizing control,  
For scorning our very Maker.  
In thought, word, and deed, we've failed you, our King;  
How deeply we need a Savior.**

**Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy on us.**

Thank you for sending Jesus to come and rescue us, being completely obsessed and focused on us, to die in our place and to love us into making us part of his family – not loving us because we were part of his family, but to love us in order to make us part of his family. Help us now to live others-focused lives and not do it individually. Help us live others-focused lives together as a community of God's people, inviting others in to share in your glory.

**Amen.**

**All: (♩) For what you have done, your life of love  
You perfectly lived, we praise you.  
Though tempted and tried, you fixed your eyes,  
You finished the work God gave you.  
And there on the tree, a King among thieves,  
You bled for a world's betrayal.  
You loved to the end, our merciful friend;  
How pure and forever faithful.**

**Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy on us.**

## God's Word

## Psalm 133

<sup>1</sup>How good and pleasant it is  
when God's people live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>It is like precious oil poured on the head,  
running down on the beard,  
running down on Aaron's beard,  
down on the collar of his robe.

<sup>3</sup>It is as if the dew of Hermon  
were falling on Mount Zion.  
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,  
even life forevermore.

## God's Word

## John 17:20-23

<sup>20</sup>“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup>that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup>I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— <sup>23</sup>I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

## Children's Message

## Song

## “Oh, How Good It Is”

*On screens, stanzas 1-3*

## Message from God's Word

## Ephesians 4:1-16

<sup>1</sup>As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. <sup>2</sup>Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. <sup>3</sup>Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup>But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. <sup>8</sup>This is why it says:

“When he ascended on high,  
he took many captives  
and gave gifts to his people.”

<sup>9</sup>(What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) <sup>11</sup>So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup>until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

<sup>14</sup>Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup>From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

### Worthy of the Body

## 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

## "Behold the Lamb"

*On screens, stanzas 1-4*

## 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

## “May the Peace of God”

*On screens, stanzas 1-2*

## Silent Prayer

Merciful God, by rescuing us, you have brought us together as brothers and sisters, united by our faith in Jesus. Send us your Spirit. Lead us to love, serve, and be devoted to one another. Help us to always grow together toward greater maturity in Christ. 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 [cocardaho.org/give](http://cocardaho.org/give).*

---

# Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

## October 1, 2023

<b>Oct 1-Oct 8</b>	<b>Boise</b> (11655 W. McMillan Road)	<b>Nampa</b> (6134 Birch Lane)
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 Meeting Confirmation Class ( <i>no Sunday School</i> ) 1:00pm – Worship service for 50th anniversary at Messiah (534 W Iowa Ave, Nampa)
Monday	10:00am – Women’s Bible Study	
Tuesday	6:30am – Men’s Bible Study 7:00pm – GriefShare	6:30pm – Cross Connections
Wednesday	6:15pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm – CrossTrainers (HS)	6:30pm – Young Adult Group
Thursday	6:30pm – Cross Connections	
Friday		10:00am – Mommy & Me (onsite)
Saturday	9:00am – Parenting Workshop	
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Guest Speaker from Martin Luther College (Chapel) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship 2:00pm – Family Volleyball	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School

# THIS WEEK

## **Pastor Snyder Call Returned**

After prayerful consideration, Pastor Snyder has returned his Call to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Grand Blanc, MI. We thank God for his continued ministry with us at Cross of Christ!

## **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.

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

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

Adult/Teen Bible Study

Join us as we conclude our End Times Bible study today (meets in the chapel), examining what Scripture teaches about the topic of eschatology, which means "the end times". Today: **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 (gym & classrooms, down the hall)

## **Worship Service for Anniversary at Sister Church: today, Oct 1**

Messiah Lutheran Church in Nampa (534 W Iowa Ave) invites our sister churches to a special worship service today, 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!

## **Young Adult Group: Oct 4, 6:30 pm (Nampa Campus)**

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 this Wednesday, Oct 4 (6:30 pm) at our Nampa campus. We'll talk about trusting God for the future while living in the present moment. Food & other fun included; friends very welcome!

### **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 tomorrow, Oct 2**
- Nampa Campus: Mondays, 6:30pm, begins Oct 9

### **Mommy & Me: Wild Wild West**

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

### **Parenting Workshop: Oct 7, Boise Campus**

You're invited to a free parenting workshop this coming Saturday, October 7, 9am-12pm, at our 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](http://tinyurl.com/cocparentingworkshop). Free onsite childcare for ages 2+. All are welcome, share the info with some friends!

### **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

## **Guest Preacher & Presenter Next Sunday, Oct 8**

Martin Luther College is our church body's training college for pastors, teachers, and staff ministers – all of Cross of Christ's called workers attended there, and through the Congregational Partnership Program, we have also financially supported several members in their ministry training there as well!

On October 8 at both campuses, Pastor Dave Scharf (Professor of Theology) will bring us the message for the morning, and Mr. Mark Maurice (VP of Mission Advancement) will share information about the school and its ministry training programs during the Bible study hour.

Pastor Scharf will also be meeting up with any high school or college-age students interested in or willing to consider serving in ministry as a pastor, teacher, or staff minister. Contact Pastor Snyder ([brad.snyder@cocidaho.org](mailto:brad.snyder@cocidaho.org) / 208-996-0862) for more info and to get a conversation set up!

## **Volleyball at Cross of Christ**

### **Family Volleyball:**

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

## **Next Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study, Oct 15-29**

Why a Bible study on sex? Because the world talks about it. Christians often don't and parents often don't, but the Bible does. There's a lot of sexual sin and a lot of Christian sexual sinners. There are differing expectations but also differing strong opinions. There's a lot of assumptions and there's a lot of judgment. And it all easily leaves us with a lot of confusion.

Let's seek to learn what sex *is not* from the ways we've been victimized or by what we might witness online. Let's seek to know what sex *is* from the one who came up with the idea in the first place: We'll learn from God's Word, the ultimate authority, and gain a biblical perspective of what is true.

## **Boise Campus Fall Clean-Up: Oct 21**

Be one of the helpful many to do some seasonal work caring for our property. Saturday, October 21, 9am-12pm. Come for as little or as long as you can; all ages can help! Outdoor and indoor work, instructions and supplies provided. (Plus donuts and coffee, of course.)

## **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.

Take a look at the lobby bulletin board or below for important ways to get involved, and be sure to start inviting your family, friends, and neighbors!

How to contribute: ([tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer](http://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](http://tinyurl.com/FFchilicookoff)).
- Contribute a dessert or side for the meal ([tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations](http://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](mailto:nampa.admin@cocidaho.org)).

## **New Bible Class Opportunity: Digging Deeper**

Beginning November 11<sup>th</sup>, we will meet the second Saturday of each month at 9:30am in Boise for a new Bible class opportunity called *Digging Deeper*, which will walk through the entire Bible. The first class will start with a study of the Life of Christ. 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. If you're interested in participating, please be sure to get a book from Pastor Snyder.

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i>	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$198,395
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$144,301
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$10,196

<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	54	21	75
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	25 / 8	9 / 3	34 / 11
Last Weekend's Worship	88+95	81	264
Men's Bible Study	5	n/a	5
CrossTrainers	11	n/a	11
Livestream Views	12		
Growth Groups	9+12+9+13+5+8		
Cross Connections	8	8	16

Serving	Oct 1		Oct 8	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	L. Becker, K. Wetzel	K. Koepsell, S. Hibbs	J. Lowry	K. Koepsell
AV Tech	G. Light, C. Whitworth	C. Klink, B. Berrier, J. Meier	J. Malnes, J. Parsons	E. Christianson, C. Kennedy, J. Meier, M. Hartman
Altar Care	Wetzel	T. Yaka, L. Russow	n/a	T. Yaka, L. Russow
Ushers	M. Merklinger, C. Sullivan	B. Adams, J. Harris, B. Turley	n/a	B. Adams, TBD
Greeters	n/a	S&J Fogarty, TBD	n/a	TBD
Open & Close	n/a	M. Johnson, H. Geary	n/a	KC Broyles, TBD
Coffee	Whitaker	B. Robbins, N. Herberger	TBD	B. Robbins, N. Herberger
Flowers	n/a	Watkins	n/a	Beaston
Lawn Crew	n/a	N. Tessmer, J&M Welch	n/a	Team Geary
Cleaning	Olsoe	Office Staff	Merklinger	n/a
Bulletin Folders	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller	n/a	Prigge, Tweedy
Tellers	Rule, Turley, Davidson		Rule, Butterfield, Hudson	