



identity

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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October 15, 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 Responses

with “Shine into Our Night”

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

Congregation: Amen.

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.

**All: (♩) We are not what we should be,
We haven't sought what we should seek;
We've seen your glory, Lord, but looked away.
Our hearts are bent, our eyes are dim,
Our finest works are stained with sin,
And emptiness has shadowed all our ways.
Jesus Christ, shine into our night.
Drive our dark away, till your glory fills our eyes.
Jesus Christ, shine into our night.
Bind us to your cross where we find life.**

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not always lived as a child of the light and have instead often chosen the darkness of sin. Yet, the light of your grace shines in my life. You rescued me through the cross of Christ. May I daily live in the peace of your unfailing love.

**All: (♩) Still we often go astray,
We chase the world, forget your grace,
But you have never failed to bring us back.
Reveal the depths of what you've done,
The death you died, the vict'ry won.
You made a way for us to know your love.
Jesus Christ, shine into our night.
Drive our dark away, till your glory fills our eyes.
Jesus Christ, shine into our night.
Bind us to your cross where we find life.**

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the complete sacrifice for our sins. He eagerly welcomes us home into his family of grace and clothes us with the righteousness of Christ himself. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May he daily empower you to live as his child of the light.

Amen.

**All: (♩) Jesus Christ, only you give us life,
All our sin removed, clean and holy in your sight.
Jesus Christ, you alone make us right.
Help us honor you with our lives.**

God's Word

Genesis 39:1-10

¹Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.

²The LORD was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. ³When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did, ⁴Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. ⁵From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. ⁶So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph's care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.

Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, ⁷and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"

⁸But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. ⁹No one is greater in this house than I am. My master

has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" ¹⁰And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

God's Word

John 8:2-11

²At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

¹¹"No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

Children's Message

Song

"I Am Not My Own"

On screens, stanzas 1-4

Message from God's Word

Ephesians 5:1-20

¹Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ²and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

³But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.

⁴Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.

⁷Therefore do not be partners with them.

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹²It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light.

¹⁴This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Living Your Identity

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

"Washed by the Blood"

On screens, stanzas 1-3

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

"Forth in Your Name"

On screens, stanzas 1,3,5

Silent Prayer

Merciful God, you expose my sin by the light of your Word. Help me to not run from it, as uncomfortable as it may be. Instead, draw me closer to you so that I may rest in the peace of forgiveness and be filled with the joy of living in your light every day. 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

October 15, 2023

| Oct 15-22 | Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road) | Nampa (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 – Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School |
| Monday | 10:00am – Women’s Bible Study | 6:30pm – 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) | |
| Thursday | 6:30pm – Teen+ Volleyball <i>no Cross Connections tonight</i> | |
| Friday | | 10:00am – Mommy & Me (offsite) |
| Saturday | 9:00am – Fall Clean-Up | 10:00am – Grocery Outreach |
| 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

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.

New Sunday Adult/Teen Bible Study: Begins Today! 9:45 am in Chapel

Why a Bible study on sex? Because the world talks about it, and the Bible talks about it, but Christians and parents often don't. And when we do talk about it, there's a lot of assumptions and 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.

October Sunday School Offering

Sunday school offerings during October will be non-perishable food items for the Idaho Foodbank. If you'd like to donate, bring your food items with you to Sunday school and place them in the receptacle in the hallway.

Pacific Northwest District Conference

Pastors Steinbrenner (PNW District President), Snyder, Hein, and Wetzel (District Worship Coordinator) will be traveling to Centralia, WA, this coming week for the fall District Pastor/Teacher Conference. God's blessings to them during their travels and collaboration with other PNW called workers!

Teen+ Volleyball:

- 6:30-8:00 pm, third Thursday of the month, Boise campus gym
- Next Session: **this Thursday, October 19**
- Signup encouraged for email reminders (bulletin board or raymondjaydodd@gmail.com / 208-949-8787), but okay to just show up!
- Prior volleyball experience encouraged for more competitive play.
- Teens and adults only, please bring friends!

Mommy & Me: Field Trip to YMCA

Friday, October 20, 10 am, meeting at the Tomlinson South YMCA (5155 S Hillsdale Ave, Meridian). It's FREE! Those over 18 need a valid ID (driver's license) to enter the building. Kids' play place, two sensory rooms, kiddie pools (so bring a swimsuit if you would like!), and an outdoor park nearby if anyone wants to stay and bring a picnic lunch. So many options -- do what works best for you and your kids! Check out all the details at cocidaho.org/connect/mommy-and-me/.

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.)

Volunteer Opportunity: Worship AV

Technology is a blessing for worship: easy-to-read screens, sound amplification, live stream & sermon recordings. These take people to make them work, though!

Would you consider helping us all worship by volunteering on the AV team? The tasks involved are so important, yet (surprisingly?) simple and straightforward! All instruction & training provided; you could even sit in on a service to see what it's like before committing to anything. Sound interesting, want more info? Contact Kristen Koepsell (kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org).

UPCOMING

Fall Festival: October 29

Here's a way to be others-focused and contribute to building connections with our community and in our church family:

Participate in Fall Festival! **Sunday, October 29, 3:00 to 6:00pm on the Boise campus:** chili cook-off, picnic meal (brats & hot-dogs), crafts (not just for kids!), face-painting, games, and trunk-or-treat (3:30-4:30pm).

How to participate?

- Simply attend! (Costume optional. 😊)
- Invite a friend or neighbor family to come with you!

- Volunteer your time & assistance day-of (set-up, grilling, hospitality team, games, clean-up, etc): tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer.
- Decorate your vehicle's trunk and hand out candy. (Trunk-or-treat will run 3:30-4:30pm.) Please sign up: tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer.
- Donate candy so our trunk-decorators don't have to buy it all! tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations
- Compete in the chili cook-off: tinyurl.com/FFchilicookoff
- Contribute a dessert or side for the meal: tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations

Info & sign-ups also available on the lobby bulletin board. Direct questions to Mandy Watkins (amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com / 210-425-3270).

November Young Adult Meet-Up: Nov. 1, 7pm, Boise Campus

For folks roughly 18 (post-high-school) to early 30s – come hang out, make some connections, consider a discussion topic pertinent to your life.

Note the slight change in time – now 7pm – and this month's location, here on the Boise campus. Friends very welcome!

New Bible Class Begins in November

Digging Deeper will meet the second Saturday of each month, starting November 11, 9:30 am, on the Boise campus. This class will walk through the entire Bible, beginning with a study of the Life of Christ. Each class 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, contact Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org) to get your book & start reading!

| People in God's Word this past week | Boise | Nampa | Total |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study | 42 | 25 | 67 |
| Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation | 22 / 6 | 9 / 3 | 31 / 9 |
| Last Weekend's Worship | 96+76 | 83 | 255 |
| Men's Bible Study/Women's Bible Study | 7 / 8 | 7 | 22 |
| CrossTrainers | 13 | n/a | 13 |
| Livestream Views | 7 | | |
| Growth Groups | 7+8+7+7+4 | | |
| Cross Connections | 8 | 10 | 18 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| <i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i> | \$808,840 |
| General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD | \$228,917 |
| General Fund Offerings FYTD | \$173,996 |
| Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds) | \$12,338 |

| Serving | Oct 15 | | Oct 22 | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| | Nampa | Boise | Nampa | Boise |
| Music | R. Dodd | A. Lange, M. Biondi | K. Koepsell, C. Trull, Small Group | J. Hein, K. Christianson |
| AV Tech | J. Malnes, J. Parsons | G. Light, T. Russow | G. Light, C. Spackman | E. Christianson, J. Geary |
| Altar Care | Guthmiller | T. Yaka, L. Russow | n/a | T. Yaka, L. Russow |
| Ushers | Sullivan, Lobeck | B. Turley, TBD | n/a | TBD |
| Greeters | n/a | TBD | n/a | TBD |
| Open & Close | n/a | G. Whitlach, R. Lange | n/a | B. Masters, M. Brown |
| Coffee | Guthmiller | B. Robbins, N. Herberger | Guthmiller | B. Robbins, N. Herberger |
| Flowers | n/a | available | n/a | Loring |
| Lawn Crew | n/a | J. Trentz, J. Malnes | n/a | n/a |
| Cleaning | Giumento | Bafus | Fuller | n/a |
| Bulletins | n/a | Office staff | n/a | Ritger, Ford, Ashley |
| Tellers | Turley, Christianson, Butterfield | | Harris, Walden, Christianson | |