

TRANSFORMED BY
GRACE



Generosity

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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November 12, 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 on either side 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

“Come, People of the Risen King”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

A Dialogue of Repentance and Forgiveness

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 holy 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, I confess that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I do not always put you first in my life. Instead, I often put my love for the things of this world ahead of my love for you. Yet you have not hidden your face from me. You rescued me through the cross of Christ. May I daily live in the peace of your unfailing love.

Motivated completely by grace, our God put us first and gave his only Son to be the complete sacrifice for our sins. Through his gracious sacrifice, we are transformed as his children and generously given salvation and eternal life. 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.

Amen!

Prayer

Lord Jesus, for our sakes you became poor so that we, through your poverty, might become rich in your grace. Freely we have received from you. Help us to freely give, that in so doing we may show our thanks to you and help in your work; for you live and reign together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Malachi 3:6-10

⁶“I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them.

Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty.

“But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’

⁸“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

“But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’

“In tithes and offerings. ⁹You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. ¹⁰Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”

God's Word

Matthew 19:16-26

¹⁶Just then a man came up to Jesus and asked, “Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?”

¹⁷“Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, keep the commandments.”

¹⁸“Which ones?” he inquired.

Jesus replied, “ ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, ¹⁹honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’”

²⁰“All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?”

²¹Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²²When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

²³Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. ²⁴Again I tell you, it is easier for a

camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁵When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁶Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Children’s Message

Song

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

Message from God’s Word

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written:

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

¹²This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

¹³Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel

of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Generosity and Money

Song

“My Worth Is Not in What I Own

On screens, stanzas 1-5

Statement of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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.

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

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

Silent Prayer

Gracious God, your generosity in my life astounds me. Who am I that you would be so generous to me? Strengthen my trust in your faithfulness so that I may approach my opportunities to be generous without fear. I commit all that I am and all that I have to you, for all that I am and all that I have comes from you. 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

November 12, 2023

Nov 12-19	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship 1:00pm – All-Church Open Forum	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School
Monday	10:00am – Women’s Bible Study	6:30pm – Community Awareness Night: Fostering Idaho
Tuesday	6:30am – Men’s Bible Study 7:00pm – GriefShare	6:30pm – Cross Connections
Wednesday	7:00pm – CrossTrainers (HS)	
Thursday	6:30pm – Cross Connections 6:30pm – Teen+ Volleyball	
Friday		10:00am – Mommy & Me (offsite)
Saturday	9:30am – Rake Up Boise	
Sunday	8:30am – Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:45am – Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship w/ Holy Communion 2:00pm – Family Volleyball	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School

THIS WEEK

Current Sermon Series: Generosity – Transformed by Grace

What does generosity mean to you? We often tend to emphasize *feelings* of thankfulness, good will, and joyful generosity. However, for a child of God, these are so much more than seasonal sentiments. Being generous with who we are and what we have flows directly from the immense generosity first shown to us by our God. So let's go into the holidays this year with a firm grasp on God's powerful generosity and how that generosity transforms our life into something new.

	Nampa Campus	Boise Campus
November 12	Generosity & Gifts	Generosity & Money
November 19	Generosity & Money	Generosity & Gifts
Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 22, 6:30 pm at both campuses	Generosity & Gratitude	Generosity & Gratitude

Giving Planning Worksheet

How do you approach the thank offerings you give to God in worship? Our God guides us to give in a way that is *proportional* to what we've been given, *regular* in frequency, and *motivated* by love and thankfulness. We've put together a tool to assist you in doing just that: a personal giving plan form. We're encouraging you to

- pick up a form & envelope from the lobby,
- prayerfully reflect on what you plan to give in the next year,
- fill out the form, and
- place it, in the sealed envelope, in an offering plate at church by Thanksgiving Eve, Nov 22.

These envelopes will remain unopened, and in a year they will be mailed back to you. In this way you can reflect on this important fruit of faith between you and God in light of his faithfulness and grace. May God bless you in this process! You can contact the office (admin@cocidaho.org) with any questions.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Let's Go (Begins Today)

"I WANT to talk to my friends about my faith and about Jesus, but sometimes I just don't know HOW to do it." Let's work on that together! This study will use videos, discussion, and Scripture (of course!) in the framework of LOVE/LISTEN/LEAD to help us learn some simple, practical ways to connect with others on spiritual matters. Sundays at 9:45 am, November 12 – December 17.

Congregational Open Forum Today: November 12, 1pm, Boise campus

All members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and offer input as we take a look at updates on various important areas of ministry.

Community Awareness Night, Nampa Campus: November 13, 6:30pm

You're invited to the Nampa campus (6134 Birch Lane) this Monday for an evening with Fostering Idaho, to learn about the needs for foster care in the valley, ways we can support, and stories of impact and hope!

Mommy & Me Field Trip

Friday, November 17, 10:00 am – play date at Jabbers in Nampa. Cost is \$8 per child over the age of 12 months. Adults are free. Check it out and register at cocidaho.org/connect/mommy-and-me/.

Rake Up Boise! This Saturday, November 18

Meet at the Boise campus 9:30am, Saturday, November 18; bring gloves and a rake if you can. We'll gather around God's Word and then put our faith into action by serving others. Lunch is provided; **anyone can participate!** Please RSVP on the bulletin board or to Pastor Brad (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org / 208-996-0862).

In need of raking for your yard? Please contact the office (admin@cocidaho.org / 208-375-3992) and get on the list!

Diapers & Wipes Drive for the Wetzel Family

Pastor and Stephanie Wetzel recently became foster parents for two baby brothers, and we'd like to support them with a diaper & wipes drive! If you'd like to contribute, bring a pack of diapers (any size except newborn) or wipes or a gift card (preferably Walmart or Costco, for convenience) to church by Sunday, December 3. Place diapers in the basket by the lobby bulletin boards; place gift cards in mailbox #214. Questions can be directed to Andrea Becker (208-830-7763).

Job Opening with Cross of Christ

Part-time or full-time onsite administrative assistant for the Boise campus (20-40 hours/week, Monday-Friday). Contact Kristen Koepsell for a job description and additional details or with any questions you may have (208-922-8422 / kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org).

Gauging Interest for Active Seniors' Group

Would you be interested in joining other Cross of Christ active seniors in fun fellowship, dining, outings, adventure, etc.? (We can't let the young adult group have all the fun!) If this sounds like something you might enjoy participating in, please let the Boise office know (admin@cocidaho.org / 208-375-3992) so we can judge the interest level and proceed accordingly.

UPCOMING

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 22, 6:30 pm at both campuses.

Christmas Decorating: November 25

If you're already listening to Christmas music, this is for YOU: Help decorate the Boise chapel and lobby for Christmas! **Saturday, November 25, 10:00am** (most likely done by noon). Please RSVP to the Boise office (admin@cocidaho.org / 208-375-3992) to participate!

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	42	55	97
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	31/7	n/a / 3	31/10
Last Weekend's Worship	129+98	106	333
Men's Bible Study/Women's Bible Study	8 / 7	n/a / 8	8 / 15
CrossTrainers	11	n/a	11
Livestream Views	4		
Cross Connections	9	7	16

General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$289,962
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$221,925
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$11,392

Serving	Nov 12		Nov 19	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Altar Care	n/a	D. McLain, C. Biggs	Guthmiller	D. McLain, C. Biggs
AV Tech	G. Light, TBD	C. Klink, C. Kennedy, J. Meier	TBD	E. Christianson, T. Russow, M. Hartman
Bulletins	n/a	Whitlach, Ritger	n/a	Ritger, Ford, Ashley
Cleaning	TBD	Ochoa	Olsoe	n/a
Coffee	Hopkins	C. Berrier, D. McLain	TBD	C. Berrier, D. McLain
Flowers	n/a	Beaston	n/a	Seibel
Music	J. Lowry, L. Neujahr, R. Dodd, M. Dorn	A. Lange, A. Scott	K. Koepsell	J. Hein, A. Biondi
Open & Close	n/a	KC Broyles, R. Lange	n/a	G. Whitlach, M. Brown
Tellers	Rule, Christianson, Walden		Turley, Davidson, Morgan	
Ushers	n/a	J. Berrier, T. Stavenau, B. Turley	Sullivan, TBD	J. Berrier, L. Manglos, A. Manglos