

TRANSFORMED BY  
GRACE



*Generosity*

**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)

## November 19, 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 worshipping 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

## “In Christ Alone”

*On screens, stanzas 1-4*

## A Dialogue of Repentance and Forgiveness

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

**Congregation: Amen!**

We are here in the presence of God. He is our Creator, and we were made to love him and to serve the people around us. But sin has made us selfish. Our sins had separated us from God and hurt others. As we acknowledge this together, let's come with gratitude, trusting in Jesus, because God has saved us from our sins.

**Holy and compassionate God, in countless ways, I have disobeyed you and failed to love others. I am naturally selfish, and my sins deserved your just punishment. But you were determined to rescue me. Thank you for Jesus. Thank you for the cross. I trust in Christ alone for my forgiveness.**

All is forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Your sins were placed on Jesus, who died for you and came back to life. By believing in him, you are welcomed home in God's family. God delights in you and calls you his holy child. Live in love as a child of God!

**Amen!**

## Prayer

Almighty God and Savior, you bless each of your children with the gifts and abilities you've uniquely selected for us. Lead us to see them as further expressions of your grace, and move us to use the gifts we've received to serve others in love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## God's Word

## Luke 10:25-37

<sup>25</sup>On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>26</sup>"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

<sup>27</sup>He answered, " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

<sup>28</sup>"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

<sup>29</sup>But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

<sup>30</sup>In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

<sup>36</sup>"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

<sup>37</sup>The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

## God's Word

Acts 9:36-42

<sup>36</sup>In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. <sup>37</sup>About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup>Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

<sup>39</sup>Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

<sup>40</sup>Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

## Children's Message

### Song

**"I Am Not My Own"**

*On screens, stanzas 1-3*

## Message from God's Word

**1 Peter 4:10**

<sup>10</sup>Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

### **Generous with Our Gifts**

Song

“Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly”

*Hymn #484:1-3*

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

## "This Broken Bread"

*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

**“Jesus, Thank You”**

*On screens, stanzas 1-2*

## Silent Prayer

God, thank you for this time today in your house. Thank you for filling my soul with your Word and sacrament. Walk with me this week. Lead and guide me to use each gift you’ve given me to serve and bless my neighbor. 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](http://cocidaho.org/give).*

---



# Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

## November 19, 2023

<b>Nov 19-26</b>	<b>Boise</b> (11655 W. McMillan Road)	<b>Nampa</b> (6134 Birch Lane)
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 w/ Holy 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	6:30 pm – Thanksgiving Worship	6:30 pm – Thanksgiving Worship
Thurs-Sat		
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	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School

# THIS WEEK

## Current Sermon Series: Generosity – Transformed by Grace

For a child of God, thankfulness, good will, and joyful generosity 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.

	<b>Nampa Campus</b>	<b>Boise Campus</b>
November 19	Generosity & Money	Generosity & Gifts
<b>Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 22, 6:30 pm</b> 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](mailto:admin@cocidaho.org)) with any questions.

## Sunday Morning Bible Study: Let's Go 9:45 am, now through December 17

"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 in the framework of LOVE/LISTEN/LEAD to help us learn some simple, practical ways to connect with others on spiritual matters.

## **Thanksgiving Eve Worship**

This 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). Contact the Boise office ([admin@cocidaho.org](mailto:admin@cocidaho.org) / 208-375-3992) to participate!

## **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).

## **Change in Preschool Staff**

Carrie Steinbrenner shared last weekend that she plans to step away from full-time teaching at Cross of Christ Preschool after this school year. Here is an excerpt of the letter Mrs. Steinbrenner submitted to the church leadership: "After months of prayer and conversations, I have decided that this [2023-2024 school year] will be my final year serving as the teacher at Cross of Christ Preschool. I wanted to submit this letter sooner so leaders at Cross of Christ could plan accordingly, but the decision has been difficult. Still, I'm confident that this gives everyone ample time to prepare for the future of the preschool. ... I'm deeply thankful for the privilege of teaching these many years. ... I will be praying that God blesses the preschool's future with the comfort and confidence we all share in him, 'I am with you, declares the Lord' (Haggai 1:13)."

## **Call Meeting December 10**

Cross of Christ will hold a Call Meeting for a Preschool Director/Lead Teacher on Sunday, December 10, 1:00 pm at the Boise campus. (Virtual access will not be available due to restrictions on sharing candidate information online.)

# UPCOMING

## **Advent Worship Series: Great Expectations**

**November 26 – December 17**

What are you expecting this Christmas season? Are you expecting the celebrations to take away the disappointments of the past year, calm the stress of the present, and show a future that will turn out all right? Unfortunately, nothing we do at Christmas can do that. And expecting it leads only to more disappointment.

But what if your great expectations could be met? What if there was someone perfect who wouldn't let you down, and you were given gifts that perfectly satisfy? What would you do to prepare for *those* celebrations? Worship at Cross of Christ this Advent season and reorient your heart to the one who meets (and exceeds) our great expectations: Jesus, our Savior.

## **Mommy & Me: Happy Birthday, Jesus!**

Friday, December 1, 10:00 am at our Nampa campus. We'll learn about the nativity and sing some Christmas songs! This activity is perfect for kids five and under with a caregiver, and a great way to meet other moms and kids! If it's your first time attending, please register at [cocidaho.org/connect/mommy-and-me/](http://cocidaho.org/connect/mommy-and-me/).

## **Young Adult Meet-Up Wednesday, Dec 6, 7pm, Nampa 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. This month we're meeting at the Nampa campus (6134 Birch Lane). Friends very welcome!

**Ladies' Christmas Party: Advent by Candlelight  
Sunday, December 10, 5-7 pm, Boise campus**

All women middle school (6<sup>th</sup> grade) and older are invited to gather for this special evening of food, fellowship, Word, and song, to help us prepare our hearts for the Advent season. Please invite your female family members, friends, and neighbors for a Christ-centered evening!

Dinner's main course will be provided; feel free to bring a sweet or savory treat or beverage to share. (Gluten-free & other allergy-friendly options will be available if noted on your RSVP.)

To aid in planning dinner, we ask that you RSVP as soon as possible, even if it's tentative, including guests you may bring. You can do so on the Boise lobby bulletin board or online at [tinyurl.com/LadiesChristmas2023](http://tinyurl.com/LadiesChristmas2023).

**Preschool Service & Christmas Cookies Needed**

The Cross of Christ Preschool students will present the good news of Jesus' birth on **Thursday, December 14, at 6:30 pm**, on the Boise campus. All are welcome to attend this special service!

The students, families, and guests enjoy treats and fellowship in the lobby after the service -- would you be willing to provide some Christmas cookies for this evening? If baking is your gift, please deliver your cookies to the Boise kitchen by **noon on Wednesday, December 14**. (Allergy-friendly options are always welcome; please label nut-free, gluten-free, etc.)

**New Year Growth Groups**

The winter session of Growth groups will start the week of January 7, which is earlier than usual, so keep an eye out for sign-ups coming before Christmas!

<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	39/8	35	82
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	29/5	12 / n/a	46
Last Weekend's Worship	94+92	88	274
Men's Bible Study/Women's Bible Study	8/7	n/a	15
Digging Deeper	38	n/a	38
CrossTrainers	9	n/a	9
Livestream Views	11		
Cross Connections	6	6	12

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i>	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$305,223
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$233,521
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$11,893

Serving	Nov 19		Nov 26	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Altar Care	Guthmiller	D. McLain, C. Biggs	Guthmiller	D. McLain, C. Biggs
AV Tech	C. Whitaker, J. Parsons	E. Christianson, T. Russow, M. Hartman	TBD	G. Light, T. Butterfield, J. Meier
Bulletins	n/a	Ritger, Ford, Ashley	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller
Cleaning	Giumento	n/a	TBD	Boltz
Coffee	TBD	C. Berrier, D. McLain	TBD	C. Berrier, D. McLain
Flowers	n/a	Seibel	n/a	Loring
Music	K. Koepsell	J. Hein, A. Biondi	L. Becker, K. Wetzel	K. Koepsell
Open & Close	n/a	G. Whitlach, M. Brown	n/a	B. Masters, H. Geary
Tellers	Turley, Morgan, TBD		Harris, Rule Butterfield	
Ushers	Olsoe, TBD	J. Berrier, L. Manglos, A. Manglos	n/a	J. Berrier, R. Seely