

TRANSFORMED BY
GRACE



Generosity

CROSS OF CHRIST
Thanksgiving Worship 2023

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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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 connection 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

“Let All Things Now Living”

Hymn #260:1-2

Opening Dialogue with “Now Thank We All Our God”

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

Congregation: Amen.

Beloved people of God, we are here in the house of the Lord to give him all the thanks and praise he so rightly deserves. All around us, we see numerous expressions of his love for us. Greatest of all, he forgives our sins. Let us honestly reflect on our need for forgiveness as we take a moment to silently confess our sins to him.

We pause in silence to allow time for personal confession.

**All: (♩) Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom his world rejoices,
Who from our mother’s arms
Has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.**

Our heavenly Father is loving beyond our comprehension. He sent his own Son to be punished in our place by his death on the cross. By rising again to life, he has made us holy in his sight. Your guilt is removed and you are set free because of Jesus. You are God’s own child. Live with peace and joy – all is forgiven!

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever!

**All: (♩) Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in his grace
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.**

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit, lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**All: (♩) All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav'n adore!
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.**

God's Word

Philippians 4:4-9

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

God's Word

Matthew 14:13-21

¹³When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns.

¹⁴When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

¹⁵As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

¹⁶Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

¹⁷“We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

¹⁸“Bring them here to me,” he said. ¹⁹And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. ²⁰They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

²¹The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Children's Message

Song

“My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

Message from God's Word

1 Chronicles 29:10-14

¹⁰David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

“Praise be to you, LORD,
the God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.

¹¹Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.

¹²Wealth and honor come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.

In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all.

¹³Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.

¹⁴“But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.”

Generosity & Gratitude

Song of Faith

“All Praise to Him”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

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

“Abide with Me”

Hymn #588:1,2,7

Silent Prayer: Psalm 89:1-2,14-18

- ¹ I will sing of the LORD's great love forever;
with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known
through all generations.
- ² I will declare that your love stands firm forever,
that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself.
- ¹⁴ Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;
love and faithfulness go before you.
- ¹⁵ Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,
who walk in the light of your presence, LORD.
- ¹⁶ They rejoice in your name all day long;
they celebrate your righteousness.
- ¹⁷ For you are their glory and strength,
and by your favor you exalt our horn.
- ¹⁸ Indeed, our shield belongs to the LORD,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.



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.

Christmas Decorating: This Saturday, 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). All ages can help! Come on over for a festive morning.

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.

Christmas Worship at Cross of Christ

Never too early to think about who you'd like to invite to come with you!

The Sunday school students will participate in the 11:00 am service at Boise on Sunday, December 10, and possibly in the Christmas Eve services at Nampa.

	Nampa Campus	Boise Campus
Christmas Eve (Sunday) <i>no Bible studies / Sunday school at either campus</i>	9:30 am & 3:00 pm	11:00 am & 4:00 pm
Christmas Day (Monday) <i>Holy Communion at both campuses</i>	9:30 am	10:30 am
New Year's Eve (Sunday) <i>no Bible studies / Sunday school at either campus</i>	9:30 am	8:30 & 11:00 am

**Give
Thanks
to the Lord!**



**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.
