



**CROSS OF CHRIST**

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# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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## February 4, 2024

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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 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 Dialogue

with “Just as I Am”

*Hymn #397:1, 3, 5-6*

(♪) **Just as I am, without one plea  
But that thy blood was shed for me  
And that thou bidd’st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

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

**Congregation: Amen.**

We have gathered as God’s family. God invites us to come before him as we are. As we do, it’s good for us to be honest about our weaknesses and our unrest. God tells us to leave them at the cross. Let’s confess our sins together, trusting in Jesus for our forgiveness.

(♪) **Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

*(spoken)*

**Holy and gracious Father, I acknowledge my many sins. Throughout my life, I have disobeyed you and failed to live as your child. I deserved your just punishment forever. Thank you for sparing me from what I deserved. Thank you for sending Jesus to be my Savior!**

(♪) **Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Because Jesus has done it all for you to be righteous, you are forgiven and at peace with God. Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection have set you free. Your guilt is removed forever. God give you the strength to live in peace as his child.

**Amen.**

**(♪) Just as I am; thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

## God's Word

## 2 Kings 5:1-3, 9-14

<sup>1</sup>Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

<sup>2</sup>Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup>She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

<sup>9</sup>So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup>Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

<sup>11</sup>But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. <sup>12</sup>Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

<sup>13</sup>Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" <sup>14</sup>So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

## God's Word

## Acts 14:8-20

<sup>8</sup>In Lystra there sat a man who was lame. He had been that way from birth and had never walked. <sup>9</sup>He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed <sup>10</sup>and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.

<sup>11</sup>When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" <sup>12</sup>Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. <sup>13</sup>The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

<sup>14</sup>But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: <sup>15</sup>"Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only human, like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. <sup>16</sup>In the past, he let all nations go their own way. <sup>17</sup>Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." <sup>18</sup>Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

<sup>19</sup>Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. <sup>20</sup>But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.

## Children's Message

### Song

### "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

*Hymn #382:1-3*

## Message from God's Word

John 5:1-16

<sup>1</sup>Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals.

<sup>2</sup>Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. <sup>3</sup>Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. <sup>5</sup>One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

<sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

<sup>7</sup>“Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

<sup>8</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” <sup>9</sup>At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, <sup>10</sup>and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.”

<sup>11</sup>But he replied, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’”

<sup>12</sup>So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?”

<sup>13</sup>The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

<sup>14</sup>Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, “See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.” <sup>15</sup>The man went away and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well.

<sup>16</sup>So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jewish leaders began to persecute him.

### Miracle at the Pool

## Song of Response

“Create in Me”

*On screens*

## Song of Faith

“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”

*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.**

## 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

## “Take and Eat”

*On screens, stanzas 1-3,5*

## 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

## “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

*On screens, stanzas 1-2*

## Silent Prayer

Lord Jesus, lead us to know your power and lead us to trust your gracious work in our lives to heal, comfort, and protect us. And grant that this trust leads us to live with peace in our hearts. Amen.

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**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).*

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# Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

## February 4, 2024

<b>Feb 4-11</b>	<b>Boise</b> (11655 W. McMillan Road)	<b>Nampa</b> (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:45am – Ministry Discussion (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship w/ Holy Communion 1:00pm – All-Church Open Forum	9:30am – Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:45am – Monthly Ministry Planning Meeting Confirmation Class (no kids’ Sunday school)
Monday	10:00am – Women’s Bible Study	
Tuesday	6:30am – Men’s Bible Study	
Wednesday	6:15pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm – CrossTrainers (HS)	
Thursday		6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study 6:30pm – Men’s Bible Study
Friday		6:30pm – Valentine’s Dinner
Saturday	9:30am – Digging Deeper Class 5:00pm – Special Worship Service: Commissioning Idaho Falls Missionary	
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 Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School

# THIS WEEK

## **Monthly Ministry Discussion Today, 9:45 am**

All are welcome and encouraged to participate: This Bible study hour will serve as an excellent opportunity to ask or discuss any questions regarding our proposed bylaws and ministry structure changes. We also look forward to discussing other upcoming exciting opportunities to impact lives for eternity in our community!

## **Congregational Open Forum Today, 1:00 pm**

The leadership will officially present the plan for reworking our multi-site ministry structure and final changes to our bylaws for voter approval. All members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and offer input for these important changes! Printed copies of these documents are available in the lobby; virtual access for the meeting was emailed to members yesterday.

## **Get to Know Newer Cross of Christ Members**

Missed out on last Sunday's New Member Welcome event? Pick up a "get to know you" booklet from the lobby and use it to work on introducing yourself to all the folks who joined our Cross of Christ family last year!

## **Boise Campus Women's Bible Study**

Mondays, 10am, beginning tomorrow, February 5. We'll read and discuss "Soul Care" by Amber Albee Swenson. The book is provided. You can still sign up, online at [tinyurl.com/2024WBS](https://tinyurl.com/2024WBS) or on the lobby bulletin board, or just come!

## **Pastors at Conference**

All four of our pastors will be attending the District Missionaries Conference this week, in Anchorage, AK. While they will be out of town Monday afternoon through Thursday night, they are all available by email or phone. We ask God to bless their travels and their time learning & connecting with other Pacific Northwest pastors!

### **Pastor Steinbrenner: Call Accepted**

Pastor Steinbrenner has accepted his Call to serve as pastor for Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Oshkosh, WI. He will serve out the rest of his term as District President, through early June, and then make the transition. While we will miss him and Carrie, we praise and thank God for all the work he has done through them here in the Treasure Valley, and trust that he will continue blessing his kingdom through them in this next chapter of their lives!

### **Ministry Calls**

Pastor Wetzel ([kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org](mailto:kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org)) has returned (declined) his Call to serve as pastor for Rock of Ages Lutheran Church in Kansas City. We thank God for his continued service with us!

Please continue to keep Julie Hein in your prayers as she considers the Call to serve as Director for Cross of Christ Preschool. She welcomes your input and encouragement ([julie.hein.13@gmail.com](mailto:julie.hein.13@gmail.com)).

### **Special Worship Service: You're Invited**

Saturday, February 10, 5:00pm: A special worship service will be held here on our Boise campus to commission Pastor Paul Krueger as the missionary for our new sister congregation, Christ Alone Lutheran Church in Idaho Falls. All are welcome as we rejoice in this blessing for our fourth sister church in Idaho!

## **UPCOMING**

### **Upcoming Sunday Morning Bible Study**

Sundays, 9:45 am, in the chapel. Starting next Sunday, February 11, we'll explore the "bloodstained path to God" that his people experienced in the Old Testament. Religious festivals, strict worship rules, animal sacrifices, regulations for personal cleanliness? These aren't arbitrary rules from an erratic God, but intentional signposts pointing out the bloodstained path to the cross. Let's learn about them together.

### **Young Adult Group: Monday, February 12**

To avoid conflicting with midweek Lent services, we'll meet on different days in February and March. For folks roughly 18 (post-high school) through early 30s, to hang out, make connections, and discuss real-life topics. Friends very welcome!

- Monday, Feb 12, 7pm, Nampa Campus
- Thursday, March 7, 7pm, Boise Campus

### **Midweek Worship for Lent**

In less than two weeks, we'll set aside Wednesday evenings for worship during Lent, the six weeks leading up to Easter Sunday. The modern world often insists on putting God on trial – let's go back to the time God was literally on trial in the person of Jesus Christ, and rejoice in the depth of his love and his commitment to save us!

#### **Wednesdays on the Boise Campus**

**February 14 – March 20**

**Worship at 6:30 pm**

(Soup supper in the gym 5:00-6:15 pm)

### **Soup Suppers During the Season of Lent**

During Lent, dinner is provided at church, Wednesdays 5:00-6:15 pm, so it's easier for everyone to worship during this special season. *Please consider providing a soup, salad, dessert, or serving/clean-up assistance!* Sign up on the lobby bulletin board or at [tinyurl.com/LentSoupSuppers2024](https://tinyurl.com/LentSoupSuppers2024). This is a valuable service to our church family, so that worshipping our Savior can be our top priority! Contact the Boise office ([admin@cocidaho.org](mailto:admin@cocidaho.org) / 208-375-3992) with any questions.

### **Next Active Seniors Meet-Up**

All active seniors are invited to the next meet-up: Thursday, February 15, 10:00 am, on the Boise campus. Let's connect and make some plans for the rest of spring!

### **February Volleyball**

Family volleyball (all ages & levels of skill/experience welcome): Sunday, February 18, 2:30pm. In the Boise campus gym, friends very welcome!

## **Care Packages for College Students**

Living away from home for the first time has joys and challenges. Our congregation has several young adults away at college, and at this point the excitement of a new school year has passed, and the drag of winter is setting in. We want to reach out in support and encouragement and let them know they're loved by their church family – so we'll be sending them care packages next month!

Want to contribute? Bring the following items to the box in the Boise lobby:

- Skittles, goldfish crackers, beef jerky
- Homemade cookies
- Microwavable snacks that don't need to be refrigerated
- Dryer sheets
- Gift cards (\$5-10, fast food, coffee, Walmart/Target, etc.)

Want to help pack the boxes and/or write a personal note of encouragement? Contact Pastor Snyder ([brad.snyder@cocidaho.org](mailto:brad.snyder@cocidaho.org)).

## **Early Preschool Registration: February 15**

Cross of Christ Preschool will open early registration for next school year to *the families of current students and Cross of Christ members* on February 15. (General registration will open March 1.) Registration materials will be available soon!

## **Pacific Northwest Men's Retreat**

April 26-28, 2024, Fort Worden State Park near Port Townsend, WA. A weekend of biblical learning, spiritual growth, and mutual encouragement! Registration deadline is March 1; for more information, please contact the Boise office ([admin@cocidaho.org](mailto:admin@cocidaho.org) / 208-375-3992).

<b>People in God's Word this past week</b>	<b>Boise</b>	<b>Nampa</b>	<b>Total</b>
Last Weekend's Worship	92+115	93	300
Livestream Views	7		
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	41/9	35	76/9
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	28/7	11/5	39/12
Men's Bible Study/Women's Bible Study	8 / n/a	6/16	30
Cross Connections	5	4	9
CrossTrainers	7	n/a	7
Growth Groups	3+7+9		

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i>	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$457,834
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$411,603
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$15,720

<b>Serving</b>	<b>Feb 4</b>		<b>Feb 11</b>	
	<b>Nampa</b>	<b>Boise</b>	<b>Nampa</b>	<b>Boise</b>
Altar Care	Sexton	D. McLain C. Biggs	n/a	D. McLain C. Biggs
AV Tech	C. Whitaker, TBD	E. Christianson, C. Kennedy, D. Wilson	TBD	G. Light, C. Kennedy, T. Butterfield
Bulletins	n/a	Whitlach, Kimmel	n/a	Ritger, Ford, Ashley
Cleaning	TBD	Inman	TBD	n/a
Coffee	Sexton	C. Berrier, D. McLain	TBD	C. Berrier, D. McLain
Flowers	n/a	Loring	n/a	Butterfield
Music	K. Koepsell	A. Lange, T. Russow	L. Becker, K. Wetzel	J. Hein, L. Neujahr
Open & Close	n/a	B. Masters R. Lange	n/a	Breckon, Brown
Tellers	Harris, Davidson, Christianson		Rule, Davidson, Hudson	
Ushers	Sobolewski, Olsoe	Berrier, Manglos	n/a	Breckon, TBD